



**Horace Allen School**

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"Achieving our personal best in a safe and caring environment"



September 11, 2024

Dear Friends,

We are very grateful for your ongoing help and support of our "Peaks to Prairies Outdoor Learning Environment" project! We hope you will attend our upcoming celebration and fundraising event, "Festival on the Field"! This "Welcome Back" family and community evening will be held on Thursday, September 26 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. We have planned wonderful live music by our talented local ladies, Becky Pichurski, Chantelle Bowie, and Suzanne Scott as well as Second Fiddle String Jam, a BBQ sponsored by HAS Parent Council, snacks available for cash purchase, a silent auction, children's activities, a chance to tour the recently completed nature features and possibly harvesting our garden produce!

We are hoping to have representatives attend this event from organizations that have helped with the funding and work that has been completed in the most recent phase of developing the mountain/alpine and forest/foothills replica ecosystems! We would appreciate your feedback on our ongoing work in this schoolyard nature space! We are all learning how to 'Take care of the Environment' (Horace Allen Goal number three) by connecting with professionals in the field of Environmental Science - locally with Brandy Fisher, Native Species Specialist from Grumpy's Greenhouse and Gardens who taught students about suitable native shrubs for the mountain/alpine garden and globally, by learning about the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Eco initiatives.

This long-term project we have undertaken is changing our school physically, by creating a schoolyard nature-space, and philosophically, by focusing staff professional development on current research and practices of outdoor learning.

All of us at Horace Allen, present and future, sincerely appreciate your support!

Kindest regards from,

Horace Allen Outdoor Classroom Committee

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\*\*\*If you would consider a donation item (any size) for the silent auction to be held at the Festival on the Field event, it can be brought to the school by September 24 and will be on display before the auction. The merchant or donor's name will be listed next to the item for advertising and acknowledgment. All proceeds will go towards future outdoor development! Our next phase will be planning the 'prairie' ecosystem with hopes for a dig site including local historical artifacts like dinosaur fossils, coal mining items, minerals, and Indigenous tools.

Auction Item \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_