COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: February 12, 2018
AGENDA NUMBER: 13
ITEM: Water Education Grant – Sand Creek Elementary summer water education programming

POLICY IMPACT: Policy
FISCAL IMPACT: Budgeted

REQUEST
Review Water Education grant application and award grant of $1000 for funding hiring of consultant to give water resource educational programs to summer school Adventures Plus attendees.

BACKGROUND
In September 2017 the Board budgeted $3500 for Water Education grants. The Board had originally approved the Activity Description for Water Education projects in December 2007.

On 1/17/18 Bonnie Paul, Adventures Plus Site Coordinator for Sand Creek Elementary School, applied for a $1000 Water Education grant to cover the hiring of Lawnchair Gardener Creative Service to provide 3 STEAM-based programs on water resources.

Expected number of students is typically around 85.

See Program Objectives & details on following pages.

ISSUES/CONCERNS:
This is a pilot program for CCWD. The consultant is a licensed teacher and also well-versed in water resources education as former Education Coordinator with Rice Creek Watershed District.

It could be a nice tie-in with the school for their past-permit recommendation of a butterfly garden for Leonard’s Skipper habitat mitigation.

Also, this could be a nice tie-in regarding a proposed Middle Sand Creek Restoration project located very close to Sand Creek Elementary School, and intended to continue the success of the Lower Sand Creek Restoration project currently in progress.

Criteria:

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<tr>
<td>Available Funds</td>
<td>$3500</td>
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| Request         | $1000| Balance = $2500
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<th><strong>Recommended</strong></th>
<th>full</th>
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<td><strong>Eligibility</strong></td>
<td>K-12 schools within CCWD</td>
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<td>Yes, School within CCWD boundary</td>
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<td><strong>Eligible Expenses</strong></td>
<td>The project is eligible.</td>
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<td>Educating students about water, watersheds, water cycle, groundwater through targeted programs</td>
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<td><strong>Evaluation Criteria</strong></td>
<td>Priority will be given to proposals which:</td>
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<td>1. Information to the public and decision-makers regarding water resources</td>
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<td>2. Opportunities for the public to participate or volunteer in water quality activities</td>
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<td>3. Educational opportunities for K-12 children concerning water quality</td>
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<td>1. Yes, to students &amp; their parents</td>
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<td>2. Yes in a summer school-type setting.</td>
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<td>3. Yes.</td>
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**RECOMMENDATION**
Approve Water Education grant application for funding of $1000 to hire Lawnchair Gardener Creative Services to provide water education-specific programming for Sand Creek Elementary Adventures Plus attendees.
ALL ABOUT WATER!
Exploring the importance of water, the water cycle, and our own watershed

STEAM Objectives:
1. Students can describe how important water is to their life and to other living things.
2. Students can describe how the water cycle works.
3. Students can describe what a watershed is.
4. Students can explain why native plants help slow water runoff down.
5. Students can identify where the rainwater from the school parking lot goes.

Activities:
1. View a short video about water use in other countries where it is scarce.
2. Act out the water cycle with a game.
3. Use a hands-on watershed model to see how water travels through a watershed.
4. Go outside to see where the water flows.

HEALTHY WATER, HEALTHY PEOPLE
Keeping lakes, rivers, and drinking water clean

STEAM Objectives:
1. Students can identify potential water pollutants.
2. Students can describe where their drinking water comes from.
3. Students can describe what stormwater runoffs are.
4. Students can list at least two things they can do to help keep water clean.
5. Students can describe what a rain garden is and how it helps keep water clean.
6. Students can identify a few native plants.

Activities:
1. Using the watershed model, students add "pollutants" to see where those pollutants end up.
2. Play "clean water" charades (e.g. sweep up grass clippings, rake leaves, shovel instead of using salt, etc.).
3. Learn about plants' "likes" and "dislikes" and identify which plant students are most similar to. Create flower costumes using those traits.

WATER USE & CONSERVATION
Digging into groundwater: how water is used in our communities and ways to conserve water

STEAM Objectives:
1. Students can identify how water is used by households, schools, and businesses.
2. Students can describe the relationship between water use and groundwater supplies.
3. Students can describe several innovative ways people are working to conserve water.
4. Students can describe why some plants need more water than others.
5. Students can describe which landscape plants are drought tolerant and why.

Activities:
1. Solve a puzzle to reveal water uses.
2. View a groundwater model demo to learn about groundwater.
3. Discover inventions that reduce water use.
4. Use Blue Thumb-Planting for Clean Water display to learn about root lengths and which plants are most drought tolerant.
5. Perform a skit using concepts learned in this program.
PROGRAM OPTIONS

CONNECTING KIDS TO THEIR FOOD
- $1,100

CONNECTING KIDS TO THEIR WATER
- $1,100

CONNECTING KIDS TO THEIR FOOD & WATER
- $2,000

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

01 TEACHING FEE INCLUDES:
- 5 hours of coordinating and scheduling with partner extended care and/or summer programs
- 1.5 hours of student contact time per lesson
- 6.0 hours of prep. set-up, take-down per lesson
- 0.5 hours developing content, photos and/or video for social media from each lesson
- Press release for each school program funded (1 hour staff time in writing and distributing)
- Mileage (not to exceed 60 miles round trip from 50120 zip code)
- Weekly Total: 21 hours of labor: $308
  Hourly rate of only $18.75!

02 SUPPLIES FOR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES
- Plant seeds, soil, pots, drinking straws, headbands, chenille stems, pom-poms, blocks, etc.
- Weekly Total: $66.67

AVERAGE WEEKLY PROGRAM COSTS: $367

CONNECTING KIDS TO THEIR FOOD & WATER THROUGH STEAM-BASED NATIVE PLANT, WATER & POLLINATOR EDUCATION

PROGRAM TITLES
- Bees: A Buzzing Life
- Connecting the Building Blocks of Our Food
- Puppet Show: Mason Meets a Mason Bee
- All About Bees
- Healthy Water, Healthy People
- Water Use & Conservation

PROGRAM TITLES
- Bees & Blooms
- Connecting the Building Blocks of Our Food
- Puppet Show: Mason Meets a Mason Bee
- All About Bees
- Healthy Water, Healthy People
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3 NATIVE BEE PROGRAMS
- Includes a puppet show and author book reading

3 WATER PROGRAMS
- Includes interactive displays

ALL 6 NATIVE BEE AND WATER PROGRAMS
- Save $200 with a comprehensive program that includes all of the food and water programs