COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: February 24, 2020
AGENDA NUMBER: 7
ITEM: Water Education Grant – Planting Seeds of Math for Clean Water

POLICY IMPACT: Policy
FISCAL IMPACT: Budgeted

REQUEST
Review Water Education grant application and award grant of $1,000 for materials, curriculum development and consultant to provide new, hands-on math project for 6th Grade Math Intervention students to sort, plant and count seed success of native plants into a stormwater pond buffer area at the Northtown Library stormwater pond as a demonstration site.

BACKGROUND
In September 2019 the Board budgeted $3500 for water education grants. The Board had originally approved the Activity Description for Water Education projects in December 2007.

On 2/9/2020 Angela Skauge, Math Academic Specialist at Westwood Intermediate & Middle School applied for a $1,000 Water Education grant to cover the cost of materials and hire consultant Growing Green Hearts to develop and lead curriculum to provide math skills while sorting, growing, and planting native plants from seed into a stormpond buffer demonstration site at Northtown Library. The goal is two-fold: provide hands on math activity while learning about use of plants in preventing stormwater pollution. Math targets are customized per student. Targets will heavily focus on measurement, fractions, decimals, units of measurement and may also include area, budgeting with money (addition and subtraction), ratios, percentages, and slope with angles. A letter of support from the Northtown Library staff has been received.

ISSUES/CONCERNS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Available Funds</th>
<th>$3500</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Request</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eligibility</td>
<td>Government agencies within CCWD</td>
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<td>Eligible Expenses</td>
<td>The project is eligible.</td>
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| Evaluation Criteria | Priority will be given to proposals which:  
1. Information to the public and decision-makers regarding water resources  
2. Opportunities for the public to participate or volunteer in water quality activities  
3. Educational opportunities for K-12 children concerning water quality | 1. Yes; Public-teachers, parents, library staff, and students  
2. Yes; several hands-on educational activities  
3. Yes; 6th grade Math Intervention students who will share their “Water Care” story. |

**RECOMMENDATION**

Approve Water Education grant application for $1,000 to cover the cost of materials and hire consultant, Growing Green Hearts, to develop and lead curriculum providing math skills while sorting, growing, and planting native plants from seed into a stormpond buffer demonstration site at Northtown Library.
February 5, 2020

Coon Creek Watershed District
13632 Van Buren St NE
Ham Lake, MN 55304

Anoka County Library would like to express its enthusiasm for the Water Education Grant application in partnership with Westwood Intermediate School and Growing Green Hearts. The Northtown Library staff are excited about the opportunity to explore how environmental care connects with literacy at our site and how plants can help the library manage and solve water issues. Additionally, staff believe that programming around the installation can build leadership and environmental literacy skills for Westwood students and that their work will impact the greater community. As a demonstration spot, the plantings can support beauty, education, and engagement beyond the initial program dates.

The mission of the library is to connect our community to ideas, information and inspiration. Through this letter we would like to show our support for the proposed partnership where Westwood students will grow plants at school and eventually transplant them to a designated site to help with water management. As a partner in the grant, the Anoka County Library-Northtown Branch is prepared to offer space next to the library’s storm pond for a “planting for clean water” demo spot. The library will also provide in-kind staff time to determine the final demo spot location and support student leaders and hands-on learning during the planting day, led by Stacey Hendren, Branch Manager and Theresa Schroeder, Children’s Librarian.

In conclusion, Anoka County Library fully supports the efforts of Westwood Intermediate School as they seek funding to support students in connecting math concepts with water quality and literacy through enviroSTEM service learning and installation of the “planting for clean water” demo spot at the Northtown Library. We highly recommend this project for funding and look forward to hearing about its success.

Jacquie Kramer
Assistant Library Director
Anoka County Library

CC: Anoka County Library Board