

February 2017:

We are moving forward with playground upgrades! We are extremely excited to have recently hired Hornbeam Contracting to proceed with our first phase of playground construction. You will see them working on the school grounds soon. They will be fixing drainage issues, removing some areas of pea gravel and replacing it with WoodCarpet, and building a hill slide, climbing wall, rainbow maze and more into the small hill. All or parts of the playground will be fenced off so work can proceed and our children can still play outside, safely.

To date with your generous support, the Home and School and Playground Committee have fundraised more than \$7000 for the playground. Plus, \$107,000 (wow!) in grants have been approved for various parts of the project (including planning and design, paths, trees, and construction). The kids have big dreams for the playground, and together we are helping to make those dreams a reality!

During Phase 1 paths were built and 14 trees were planted. We continue to fundraise and apply for grants to obtain an additional \$50,000-\$60,000 to reach our goal for Phase 2 which is a total of approximately \$175,000. Phase 2 includes addressing drainage issues before new equipment is put in place, building fun pieces into the small hill and on the upper terrace, and planting more trees and plants.

We invite you to help! Interested in sponsoring part of the playground? Maybe you would like to help transform the hill into a hill slide, timber climbing wall, or rainbow log maze. Do you have large rocks, flat rocks or big logs that you could donate? We will use these to create obstacle courses, borders, and climbers! Or, maybe you would like more information about making a cash donation which we would put toward purchasing and installing what is needed. No contribution is too small. (Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$10 or more.) Please contact us for details about sponsorship and donations. Gail [902-673-2426](tel:902-673-2426), Hilary [902-673-2381](tel:902-673-2381), or Amanda at BES [902-673-5050](tel:902-673-5050). Playground sponsorship information is also on the school website: <http://bes.ccrsb.ca>

We appreciate the support of school families and the community in creating a better place to play and learn. On behalf of BES students, thank you!

We'll keep you posted! Check Facebook for updates.