

## ELWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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October 26, 2022

Dear Elwood Community Friends and Family,

A child's occupation is to PLAY. Therefore, it is crucial that EVERY child is given the opportunity to learn through play. Outdoor play is especially important for childhood development. As educators, it is our job to make sure we provide our children with the correct tools for success, but our playground is lacking the ability to provide an inclusive space for all of our students to come together and play. We currently have some students that are unable to access any of our playground equipment. Could you imagine being a child playing at recess without ever being able to access a play structure, slide, or swing?

An *adaptive playground* encourages inclusive play by providing children a variety of activities at different levels of difficulty within the same space. The features of Elwood Public School's future adaptive playground can be seen on the attached page. There are many benefits of an adaptive playground such as inclusion, strengthening childhood development through outdoor play, improving physical fitness, helping fight chronic diseases, improving mental health, and boosting community health and wellbeing.

The playground will cost \$186,563 plus the cost of a fence around it. The fence is for student safety and to follow regulations for allowing the preschool students access to this space. As a committee, we are looking to **raise \$30,000**, and the school has graciously agreed to cover the remainder of the expense.

Being part of the Elwood community is something to be proud of. Having an adaptive playground will provide a positive gathering space for the community and a space where friends from afar can come to spend time together.

We are asking you to consider giving a tax-deductible donation to the ***Elwood School Adaptive Playground during Give Big on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022***. Donations can be made online at <https://www.givebiglexington.org/story/Elwoodschoollplayground>. There will be a donor sign at the playground thanking those who give \$50 or more. Thank you for helping make this a possibility!

Sincerely,

Adaptive Playground Committee

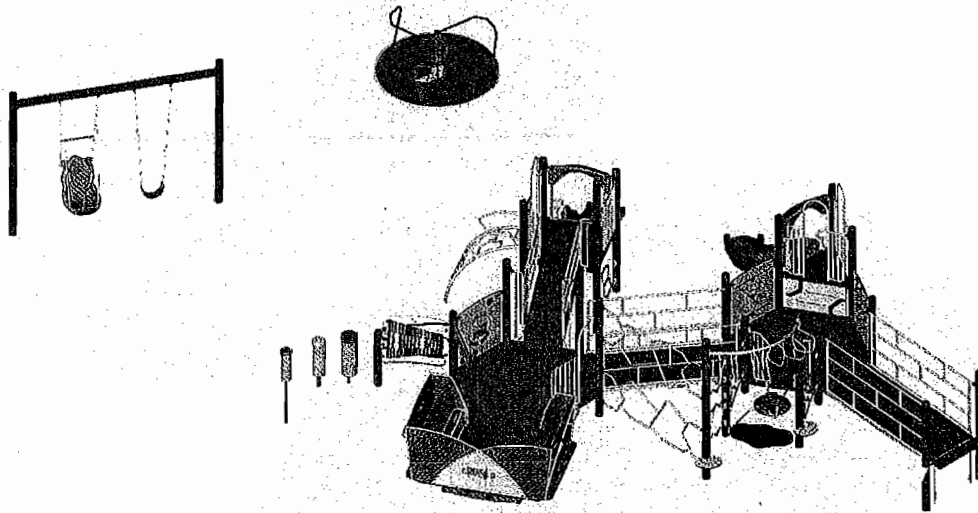
*Shelby Borden, Trish Hakonson, Daren Hatch, Corinna Horkey, Mikayla Lauby,  
Skyler Roemmich, and Teresa Shipp*

**"HOME OF THE PIRATES"**

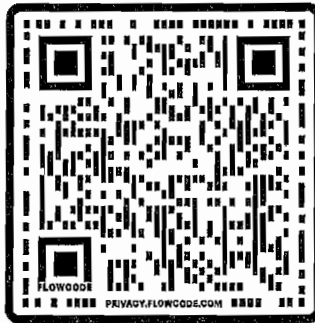
## Elwood Public School's Adaptive Playground

An *adaptive playground* encourages inclusive play by providing children a variety of activities at different levels of difficulty within the same space. The features of Elwood Public School's future adaptive playground will include ramps to allow all children to reach elevated play components, inclusive slides, ground level play activities, sensory activities, musical activities, an inclusive swing, an inclusive spinner orbit, and pour-in-place surfacing to provide a smooth, soft surface for ease of walking on or rolling an assistive device over.

The image below shows the different play structures that will be included in the new playground. All structures will be on the same pour-in-place surfacing and will be surrounded by fencing.



*Scan here to donate:*



*Thank you!*