

SETH BOYDEN PTA THANKS...

Those who dared to dream big and laid the foundation for this project:
Lorraine Gibbons; Chamie Baldwin; Peri Smilow; Heather Puglisi

200+ volunteers who moved mountains, planted, mulched, weeded, watered

SOMA School District, especially Cheryl Schneider and Bill Kyle

Previous Committee Members, Allies and Supporters

Susie Adamson, Pat Bell, Sandy Goijburg, Anna Herbst, Amy Higer, Huzefa Irfani, Virginia Lamb, Steve Latz, Michael Paris, Carrie Puglisi, Amelia Reikenberg, Kathryn Reilly, Andrew Riss, Claire Shields, Scott Sinkler, Caryn Rosenberg, Maggie Touhy

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SPONSORS:

PLATINUM

Maplewood Open Space Trust Fund
Rotary Foundation/ Rotary Clubs of Maplewood & South Orange
Sustainable Jersey / NJ Education Association

GOLD

Glenn's Landscaping
Lowe's Toolbox Grant
South Orange Open Space Trust Fund
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Woolley Home Solutions

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mycommunityedition.com
Rosie's Wine Bar
Stop & Shop
Target
United Methodist Women at
Morrow Memorial UMC Church

SUPPORTERS

Able Baker; Abril Cocina; Gigi's Cupcakes; Innovative Tile & Stone; Kimaya Kama; Maplewood Stationers; Mapleleaf Diner; Parkwood Diner; Roman Gourmet; Village Ice Cream Parlor



**SETH BOYDEN DEMONSTRATION SCHOOL
OUTDOOR LEARNING CENTER**



**OUTDOOR CLASSROOM GRAND OPENING
September 16, 2016**



Program

Welcome

School Principal Damion Frye

A brief history of the OLC and its design

OLC Co-Chair Tia Swanson

School Song

Seth Boyden chorus

Acceptance of the OLC by the school district

Superintendent John Ramos

Acceptance of the grounds as a public space

Maplewood Mayor Vic DeLuca and

South Orange Village President Sheena Collum

Thanks and Conclusion

Seth Boyden PTA Co-President, Rachel Fisher

The Seth Boyden Outdoor Learning Center

The Seth Boyden Elementary School Outdoor Learning Center (OLC) was initiated more than 15 years ago when parents commissioned a plan for turning the school's backyard – then largely open and empty -- into an educational wonderland. Through several generations of parents and iterations of the plan, the OLC gradually took shape and now features three play structures, a track, parcours, playing stones, the 'Strawberry Fields' fruit and vegetable garden and kitchen, and open playing field.

Today we celebrate the long awaited addition of the open air classroom, arboretum and the renewed habitat garden which furthers Seth Boyden's focus on nature-based learning. Multiple studies show that moving education outdoors results in significant positive increases in academic achievements, reduced discipline problems, and increased enthusiasm for learning. We look forward to the positive impact it will have on our students for years to come!

Seth Boyden's OLC was only possible because of the work of parents, teachers and community members, as well as the generosity of individuals, local businesses, organizations, foundations and governments. The community is forever indebted to these neighbors, friends and visionaries.

Outdoor Learning Center Committee Members

Matthias Ebinger – Co-Chair

Tia Swanson – Co-Chair

Caryn Emmons

Elizabeth Ebinger

Kevin Kraft

Rachel Fisher

Lizete Monteiro

Outdoor Classroom Design & Construction Team

William Scerbo, Landscape Architect

Evergreen Landscaping (Classroom)

Glenn's Landscaping (Arboretum and Habitat Garden)

Thompson Carpentry (Blackboard and Sundial)

John Benjamin Kaufman (Teacher's Desk)

Huzefa Irfani (Initial design)

David Anstatt (PTA Construction Expert)
