Final Abstract

Final Report Approved on September 30, 2026

M.L. 2023 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2026

Project Title: Minnesota Community Schoolyards

Project Manager: Anna Callahan

Affiliation: The Trust for Public Land

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Funding Source:

Fiscal Year:

Legal Citation: M.L. 2023, Chp. 60, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 08i

Appropriation Amount: $1,433,000

Amount Spent: $1,421,905

Amount Remaining: $11,095

Sound bite of Project Outcomes and Results

Trust for Public Land launched the Minnesota Community Schoolyards program with an inaugural geographically-diverse cohort of 5 schoolyard projects. This showed a replicable model for transforming underutilized schoolyards into restored native habitat, expanded tree canopy, and enhanced outdoor educational spaces; and engaging the next generation of environmental champions.

Summary of Project and Outcomes

Across Minnesota, schools face many environmental, learning, and social challenges, including habitat and tree canopy loss; extreme heat and rain events; learning loss; mental health and behavioral issues; teacher burnout; and disconnection from the outdoors. Only a fraction of schoolyards are designed as quality outdoor spaces to protect and preserve the environment.

Utilizing M.L. 2023-135 ENRTF funding, Trust for Public Land launched the Minnesota Community Schoolyards program with an initial project cohort to demonstrate Community Schoolyards as a statewide solution to address the lack of quality nearby nature opportunities at schools and untap schoolyards' ecological potential. Community schoolyards add

native plants, pollinator habitats, green infrastructure for stormwater management, trees, outdoor classrooms, gardens, nature play, porous surfaces, and hard surface removal.

Due to funding provided by the ENRTF as recommended by LCCMR, Trust for Public Land:
-Completed nature-based improvements at 5 schoolyards across Minnesota (Red Lake, St Paul, Crystal, Brooklyn Center, and Rochester) demonstrating a replicable model across diverse geographies (urban, suburban, and rural)
-Engaged over 3,000 students in a robust participatory design process, specific to MN's climate and local context, and connected over 14,000 residents within a 10-minute walk to new nature-based community schoolyards.
-Supported schools in launching robust stewardship programs, including the formation of student and community stewardship groups to help care for new schoolyard nature spaces.
- Stewarded a broad coalition of partners across agencies, counties, and school districts, cultivating interest and capacity in schoolyard improvements through resource sharing and technical assistance.
-Hosted the inaugural Minnesota Community Schoolyard Summit in partnership with the MN-DNR and the Minnesota Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Coalition, bringing together over 100 education leaders, community partners, technical experts, and environmental champions to showcase the benefits of nature-based schoolyards on student learning, health, and the environment.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

-Online across program (www.tpl.org/our-work/community-schoolyard-renovation-application) and project pages (www.tpl.org/our-work/brooklyn-center-elementary-steam-schoolyard)
-through educational and interpretive signage at each project site
-at ribbon cuttings, community events, planting days, and site visits with partners
-Statewide schoolyard mapping resource, hosted online, has been shared widely to partners and school agencies: web.tplgis.org/communityschoolyardsmap.
-At webinars, conferences and meetings including, Ecological Landscape Alliance (August 2026); National Community Schoolyards Summit (July 2026); Minnesota School Boards and Administrators Associations (March 2026); Minnesota Community Schoolyards Summit (November 2025); Metro Conservation Network (2024); Urban Sustainability Directors Network (2024)

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2023 Approved Final Report

General Information

Date: October 28, 2026

ID Number: 2023-135

Staff Lead: Michael Varien

Project Title: Minnesota Community Schoolyards

Project Budget: $1,433,000

Project Manager Information

Name: Anna Callahan

Organization: The Trust for Public Land

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Web Address: https://www.tpl.org/

Project Reporting

Final Report Approved: September 30, 2026

Reporting Status: Project Completed

Date of Last Action: September 30, 2026

Project Completion: June 30, 2026

Legal Information

Legal Citation: M.L. 2023, Chp. 60, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 08i

Appropriation Language: $1,433,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with The Trust for Public Land to engage students and communities to create nature-focused habitat improvements at schoolyards across the state to increase environmental outcomes and encourage outdoor learning.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2026

Narrative

Project Summary: Minnesota Community Schoolyards will create at least 10 nature-focused habitat improvement projects at schoolyards across the state; engage students and the community in environmental stewardship; and encourage outdoor learning.

Describe the opportunity or problem your proposal seeks to address. Include any relevant background information.

Minnesota's schools face many environmental, learning, and social challenges, including habitat and tree canopy loss; flooded and muddy fields; extreme heat and rain events; learning loss; classroom behavioral issues; amplified screen time; and disconnection from the outdoors.

Only a fraction of Minnesota's 2,500 schoolyards are designed to protect and preserve the environment. Conventional schoolyard design can unintentionally contribute to Minnesota's environmental challenges. In fact, many schoolyards are often hotter than the surrounding neighborhood due to the lack of shade trees and the presence of hard surfaces. A survey conducted by TPL found that only 4% of school administrators reported well-shaded playgrounds.

And our students are less connected to nature than even a generation ago. In recent years, time spent outdoors has plummeted while screen time, behavioral issues, isolation, and mental health issues have skyrocketed. The correlation to achievement gaps, teacher burnout, and parent exhaustion is not lost. The lack of adequate facilities like outdoor classrooms and learning habitats prevents teachers from bringing students outdoors to learn, explore, and burn off energy.

One of the best strategies to address these issues is beyond the classroom – and out in the schoolyard. Our schoolyards deserve overdue attention. They need an outdoor boost.

What is your proposed solution to the problem or opportunity discussed above? Introduce us to the work you are seeking funding to do. You will be asked to expand on this proposed solution in Activities & Milestones.

The benefits of time outdoors are immense. When children spend more time outdoors, behavior issues drop, and learning improves. Outdoor experiences help students better understand their environment, develop skills, and improve long-term civic behaviors. More time learning outdoors makes better students and helps lay the foundation for future generations of nature stewards. The best connections happen without WiFi. It's not only nice to step away from our screens sometimes but necessary.

TPL's Community Schoolyard program engages students in designing new outdoor spaces. Students explore and apply environmental topics to a place they care about – their schoolyard. This impactful project-based learning model highlights the power of civic involvement, collaboration, and environmental stewardship.

Moreover, it untaps the ecological potential of the land on which schools sit. Schools will be able to choose from a menu of environmental site improvements, including but limited to landscaping, habitat, stormwater management, trees, mini-forests, outdoor classrooms, gardens, nature play, green roofs, porous surfaces, and hard surface removal.

Currently, TPL has two active schoolyard projects in Faribault and Brooklyn Center. Schools from Lake City to Alexandria, South St. Paul to St. Cloud and Walnut Grove have expressed interest in participating if funding is available.

What are the specific project outcomes as they relate to the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's natural resources?

1. Fund the development of 10 nature-based Community Schoolyard projects. Projects will include community-designed improvements that enhance air, water, and habitat and the expanded enjoyment of the outdoors and natural resources.

2. Engage students, teachers, and community in the design of new schoolyard spaces. This includes education about the importance, need, and impact of nature incorporation at school sites.
3. Build program awareness; provide schools with resources; build a network of schools and organizations advancing nature-based schoolyard projects
4. Evaluate project impact and outcomes

Project Location

What is the best scale for describing where your work will take place?

Statewide

What is the best scale to describe the area impacted by your work?

Statewide

When will the work impact occur?

During the Project and In the Future

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Local nature-based schoolyard improvements selected through competitive RFP

Activity Budget: $808,000

Activity Description:
A statewide survey of school administrators revealed that two out of three schools expressed interest in the Community Schoolyards initiative. Through a competitive RFP process, we'll select 5 school sites to participate in the program and receive funding for nature-based habitat projects.

Level Two sites, limited to 5 projects, will receive approximately $150,000 for nature-based improvements. Additionally, they'll receive TPL support with classroom curriculum and project-based learning, project management, design technical assistance, an immersive learning field trip to support student learning and exploration, and stewardship and activation guidance.

Sites will be selected based upon:
1. Geographic diversity – at least half dedicated to Greater Minnesota school sites
2. Local needs based upon TPL's statewide assessment
3. Strength of partnerships, readiness, and local funding match

Schools will be expected to secure long-term maintenance commitments, regular use of outdoor classrooms, and provide community access outside of regular school hours.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Development of grant criteria, application process, and release Cohort 1 RFP	July 31, 2023
Cohort 1: Review and score proposals, select five (5) Level Two project sites	September 30, 2023
Cohort 1: Finalize school site work plans, timeline, budgets, partnership agreements, and contracts	October 31, 2023
Cohort 1: Student Leader Class field trips	June 30, 2024
Cohort 1: Work with schools to complete and finalize schoolyard designs, budgets, and secure approvals	October 31, 2024
Cohort 1: Complete construction of demonstration projects, celebrate schoolyard grand opening	September 30, 2025
Cohort 1: Collect and share lessons learned, evaluations, and success stories	June 30, 2026

Activity 2: School support, technical assistance, and educational programming

Activity Budget: $539,000

Activity Description:
Building a community schoolyard is impactful enough. But engaging students in the design of that schoolyard space is a lifelong learning opportunity. TPL's unique approach leverages the undertaking as a project-based learning opportunity. With lessons taught by TPL, students learn about natural resources while exploring the design process and related trades/careers in construction, design, engineering and land management.

In addition to its expertise, TPL will engage a contracted landscape architect to offer design solutions and project support as needed. Children & Nature Network, with its focus on school policy, will be on-hand to share policy solutions that support greater use of the outdoors.

To highlight the support of LCCMR, signs will be provided to each of the 5 project sites. Level Two sites will receive

support to activate and maintain the site. Grand opening celebrations will bring project awareness while gathering community members, local leaders, and media.

Additionally, TPL will provide limited technical assistance to non-funded schools/districts interested in pursuing schoolyard projects and policies. These efforts will support local leaders, expand the number of schools planning for eventual nature-based improvements, and integrate environmental stewardship into school curriculum.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Prepare and execute lesson plans/project-based learning and site programming plans	October 31, 2024
Conduct classroom learning, participatory planning and design efforts with Cohort 1	May 31, 2025
Support data analysis, resource dissemination, and technical assistance	June 30, 2026
Provide technical assistance to nascent Community Schoolyard programs	June 30, 2026

Activity 3: Building statewide momentum through cross-sector partnership, outreach, and education

Activity Budget: $86,000

Activity Description:
Since 2020, TPL-Minnesota has convened a multidisciplinary advisory committee that has fostered the development of the Minnesota Community Schoolyards program. Members represent conservation and natural resource organizations, education, public health, nonprofits, and state agencies. The Advisory Committee supports schoolyard programs, policies, and initiatives; supports evaluation and data collection; disseminates resources to program partners; and connects interested individuals and organizations. The Advisory Committee will continue to pursue efforts to sustain and expand the program's impact, leading to long-term statewide implementation.

We'll host a Community Schoolyard convening with school partners to build momentum and local capacity. The convening will gather school leaders, technical experts, and outdoor champions to build understanding and awareness; share best practices; and build statewide networks. This will be an opportunity for funded projects to share lessons learned and celebrate success. To showcase the LCCMR-funded schoolyard project at Jefferson Elementary, the event will be held in Faribault, MN.

Finally, this activity will include efforts to build awareness of the benefits of nature-based habitat improvement projects, outdoor learning, and engagement. We'll gather marketing materials and resources to share with partners. The statewide schoolyard assessment conducted in 2021 will be updated.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Hold Year 1 quarterly Advisory Committee meetings	June 30, 2024
Hold Year 2 quarterly Advisory Committee meetings	June 30, 2025
Begin convening planning	August 31, 2025
Host Community Schoolyards Convening	May 31, 2026
Update statewide schoolyard assessment and survey	June 30, 2026
Hold Year 3 quarterly Advisory Committee meetings	June 30, 2026
Maintain Minnesota Community Schoolyards website	June 30, 2026

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Jaime Zaplatosch	Children & Nature Network (C&NN)	Children & Nature Network will be on the Advisory Committee. Jaime will provide technical assistance to the school districts undertaking schoolyard projects. She will help facilitate the advisory committee and other statewide planning efforts alongside TPL. C&NN leads a global movement to increase children's access to nature.	Yes
Jeremy Vann	Minnesota Department of Health - SHIP	Advisory Committee member representing Minnesota Department of Health Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP). SHIP supports community-driven solutions to expand opportunities for active living, healthy eating and commercial tobacco-free living, working directly with local SHIP staff who represent 41 Community Health Boards, covering all 87 counties.	No
Jonee Brigham Kulhman	University of Minnesota - GreenStep Schools	Advisory Committee member representing GreenStep Schools which is a free and voluntary statewide best practices framework and recognition program for public and private K-12 schools and districts to reduce environmental impact and costs, and provide effective environmental and sustainability education. GreenStep Schools is housed at the University of Minnesota.	No
Laura Duffey	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - School Forests	Advisory Committee member representing Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - School Forests Program. The Minnesota School Forest Program is a partnership between the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and Minnesota schools. The program provides a variety of benefits to increase outdoor education activities.	No
Anna Lynn	Minnesota Department of Health	Advisory Committee member representing Minnesota Department of Health Child and Family Health (CFH) division. CFH provides collaborative public health leadership that supports and strengthens systems to ensure healthy families and communities.	No
Jill Chamberlain	Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota	Advisory Committee member representing a community-oriented business perspective, preventative health expert with deep statewide connections and experience with Safe Routes to School work. The Center for Prevention works statewide tackling the leading causes of preventable disease to increase health equity, transform communities, and create a healthier Minnesota.	No
Dave Cowan	Minnesota Department of Transportation - Safe Routes to School	Advisory Committee member representing Minnesota Department of Transportation - Safe Routes to School.	No
TBD - Recent Retirement	Minnesota Department of Education	Advisory Committee member representing classroom curriculum standards.	No

Dissemination

Describe your plans for dissemination, presentation, documentation, or sharing of data, results, samples, physical collections, and other products and how they will follow ENRTF Acknowledgement Requirements and Guidelines.
We have several dissemination plans, including resource creation and distribution, attending and presenting at existing conferences and webinars, maintaining a project website, hosting the schoolyard advisory committee, creating a project video, providing technical assistance to new schoolyard programs, and hosting a convening of project partners. Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund will be acknowledged through the use of the trust fund logo or attribution language on project print and electronic media, the Minnesota Community Schoolyards website, publications, signage, and other communications per the ENTRF Acknowledgment Guidelines.

Long-Term Implementation and Funding

Describe how the results will be implemented and how any ongoing effort will be funded. If not already addressed as part of the project, how will findings, results, and products developed be implemented after project completion? If additional work is needed, how will this work be funded?

We envision a future where Community Schoolyards become the standard practice for outdoor school spaces, serving as a hub for improved education and health, nature-based resiliency, civic involvement, and environmental stewardship. The Minnesota-based projects we propose will demonstrate opportunities, grow awareness, and create resources, helping to bring the schoolyard model to additional Minnesota school districts.

We are exploring federal, state, and local funding sources that could further Community Schoolyards work and supportive policies like shared-use agreements and design guidelines. As a nonprofit, we are also pursuing private funding opportunities and matches to support program expansion.

Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
Minnesota Green Schoolyards	M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 08g	$250,000

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	$ Amount	$ Amount Spent	$ Amount Remaining
Personnel										
Program Staff		Project management and support, classroom learning delivery, technical assistance provider, advisory committee coordination, data analysis support			48%	1.5		$195,000	-	-
Research & Innovation Evaluator		Evaluation of schoolyard site projects and statewide assessment			48%	0.05		$4,350	-	-
Project Assistant		Project and community engagement support, technical assistance			48%	1.5		$221,000	-	-
Legal Staff		Legal documents and agreements			48%	0.1		$19,500	-	-
Finance Staff		Finance support, invoicing			48%	0.15		$37,000	-	-
							Sub Total	**$476,850**	**$476,850**	**-**
Contracts and Services										
Undetermined	Service Contract	Landscape architecture and engineering consultant to support site-specific schoolyard design.				0.5		$183,800	$183,755	$45
TBD School Partners - 5	Subaward	Five schools will be selected to receive Level 2 nature-based improvement project support at $155,000 each - $150,000 for site improvements and $5,000 for project management and coordination. Documented and reported through tracking sheet and project photography.				0.12		$760,000	$749,034	$10,966
							Sub Total	**$943,800**	**$932,789**	**$11,011**
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies										
	Tools and Supplies	Classroom teaching aids	Supplies for student learning, projects, and classroom exercises.					$1,000	$985	$15

							Sub Total	**$1,000**	**$985**	**$15**
Capital Equipment										
							Sub Total	**-**	**-**	**-**
Acquisitions and Stewardship										
							Sub Total	**-**	**-**	**-**
Travel In Minnesota										
	Miles/ Meals/ Lodging	Estimation - Number of miles dependent on project locations. Assume at least two on-site check-ins for Level 1 projects and ten on-site meetings for Level 2 projects.	Check-in, classroom delivery, and engagement meetings/events.					$6,350	$6,281	$69
							Sub Total	**$6,350**	**$6,281**	**$69**
Travel Outside Minnesota										
							Sub Total	**-**	**-**	**-**
Printing and Publication										
	Printing	Printing of project materials, engagement boards, resources	Student workbooks, teacher resources, display boards, hand outs, maps, and other engagement					$5,000	$5,000	-
							Sub Total	**$5,000**	**$5,000**	**-**
Other Expenses										
							Sub Total	**-**	**-**	**-**
							Grand Total	**$1,433,000**	**$1,421,905**	**$11,095**

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request

Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	$ Amount	$ Amount Spent	$ Amount Remaining
State						
Cash	BWSR Pollinator Pathway Grant Program	Support for Franklin Elementary schoolyard project, TPL staff time. Funding also supported pollinator projects in city parks and residential sites.	Secured	$114,000	$70,596	$43,404
Cash	DNR Centering Communities in Canopy Solutions	Endazhi-Nitaawiging Schoolyard Project	Secured	$85,015	$20,389	$64,626
			State Sub Total	**$199,015**	**$90,985**	**$108,030**
Non-State						
Cash	Local School Match	Franklin Elementary Schoolyard project	Secured	$25,000	$25,000	-
Cash	Blue Cross Blue Shield	Blue Cross is supporting the development of TPL Community Schoolyards program	Secured	$19,634	$19,634	-
Cash	Private Philanthropy	TPL will work to fundraise for expansion of habitat projects and maintenance	Secured	$1,369,961	$1,088,130	$281,831
Cash	Shingle Creek Watershed Commission	Support for Brooklyn Center and FAIR School schoolyard projects	Secured	$60,000	$50,000	$10,000
Cash	Hennepin County Healthy Tree Canopy Grants for Non-Profits	Brooklyn Center Elementary Schoolyard Project	Secured	$10,000	-	$10,000
Cash	USFS Forested Community Schoolyards	Brooklyn Center Elementary Schoolyard Project	Secured	$176,802	$176,802	-
Cash	Capitol Region Watershed District	Maxfield Elementary Schoolyard Project	Secured	$5,000	$5,000	-
			Non State Sub Total	**$1,666,397**	**$1,364,566**	**$301,831**
			Funds Total	**$1,865,412**	**$1,455,551**	**$409,861**

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: 16026186-f41.pdf

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Visual display of potential schoolyard improvements and outcomes, including project-based learning, career exploration, nature stewardship, water capture, habitat, outdoor learning, tree canopy, science gardens, and nature play. Provide project website: https://www.tpl.org/our-work/minnesota-healthy-community-schoolyards...

Financial Capacity

File: 6a545f59-975.pdf

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
TPL Letter Authorizing LCCMR Proposal	fcd57695-190.docx

Supplemental Attachments

Capital Project Questionnaire, Budget Supplements, Support Letter, Photos, Media, Other

Title	File
National Park Service - Letter of Support	6a46b007-09c.pdf
Children & Nature Network - Letter of Support	1e4a2872-f3d.pdf
Brooklyn Center Elementary - Letter of Support	48585c76-147.docx
Jefferson Elementary Faribault - Letter of Support	5baf50b1-d8f.docx
Project Tracking Sheet	150b2bfd-ff1.xlsx
Signed Background Check	ba0fd25a-367.pdf
Brooklyn Center Elementary Community Planting Day_Flyer	aae6e57c-981.pdf
Brooklyn Center Elementary_BEFORE	0db75146-f69.jpe
Brooklyn Center Elementary Schoolyard_ConceptPlan	a1cbc93c-303.pdf
EndazhiNitaawigingCharterSchool_BEFORE	37b16be8-008.jpe
FAIRSchoolCrystal_BEFORE	552b3c99-b51.jpe
FranklinElementarySchool_BEFORE	b4644b56-fe8.jpe
MaxfieldElementarySchool_BEFORE	c44cdec3-6d9.jpe
MaxfieldElementary_ConceptPlan	7ed1a04b-841.jpe
EndazhiNitaawigingCharterSchool_ConceptPlan	32b9e13e-a9b.jpe
FAIRSchoolCrystal_ConceptPlan	b7dafb3c-cb8.jpe
FranklinElementary_ConceptPlan	d7278941-032.pdf

Media Links

Title	Link
Minnesota Community Schoolyard Webpage	https://www.tpl.org/our-work/community-schoolyard-renovation-application
TPL brooklyn-center-elementary-steam-schoolyard webpage	https://www.tpl.org/our-work/brooklyn-center-elementary-steam-schoolyard
TPL Maxfield Webpage	https://www.tpl.org/our-work/maxfield-elementary-community-schoolyard
TPL FAIR Crystal Webpage	https://www.tpl.org/our-work/fair-school-crystal-schoolyard
TPL Franklin Webpage	https://www.tpl.org/our-work/franklin-elementary-community-schoolyard

TPL Endazhi-Nitaawiging Webpage	https://www.tpl.org/our-work/endazhi-nitaawiging-charter-schoolyard
Minnesota Community Schoolyards Summit Event Page	https://events.tpl.org/mnschoolyardsummit/

Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

To better accommodate the window of construction during the summer months and better support schools, we've extended our project from two to three years. Due to rising inflation and project costs, we've adjusted the total number of projects and allocated more funding to Level Two projects. We've also reallocated some of our budget to add resources to Activity 2: School Support and Technical Assistance. We've learned from our initial demonstration schoolyards in Faribault and Brooklyn Center that more staff time has been needed to provide technical assistance and support engagement and programming.

Additional Acknowledgements and Conditions:

The following are acknowledgements and conditions beyond those already included in the above workplan:

Do you understand and acknowledge the ENRTF repayment requirements if the use of capital equipment changes?

N/A

Do you understand that travel expenses are only approved if they follow the "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Management of Budget or, for University of Minnesota projects, the University of Minnesota plan?

Yes, I understand the Commissioner's Plan applies.

Does your project have potential for royalties, copyrights, patents, sale of products and assets, or revenue generation?

No

Do you understand and acknowledge IP and revenue-return and sharing requirements in 116P.10?

N/A

Do you wish to request reinvestment of any revenues into your project instead of returning revenue to the ENRTF?

N/A

Does your project include original, hypothesis-driven research?

No

Does the organization have a fiscal agent for this project?

No

Do you understand that a named service contract does not constitute a funder-designated subrecipient or approval of a sole-source contract? In other words, a service contract entity is only approved if it has been selected according to the contracting rules identified in state law and policy for organizations that receive ENRTF funds through direct appropriations, or in the DNR's reimbursement manual for non-state organizations. These rules may include competitive bidding and prevailing wage requirements

Yes, I understand

Work Plan Amendments

Amendment ID	Request Type	Changes made on the following pages	Justification For Amendment Request (word limit 75)	Date Submitted	Approved	Date of LCCMR Action
1	Amendment Request	• Budget - Professional / Technical Contracts • Activities and Milestones • Budget - Personnel • Budget - Other • Budget - Non-ENRTF Funds Contributed	To better align with both our and ENRTF's missions, we've proposed consolidating the six level 1 sites originally proposed into an additional level 2 site—bringing the total number of level 2 schoolyards in Activity 1 to five. Based on overall national best practices, we see greater long-term impacts in increasing youth access, activity, and interest in the outdoors when the green schoolyard model is coupled with deep student and community education, engagement, and buy-in.	August 31, 2023	Yes	September 8, 2023
2	Amendment Request	• Other • Budget - Professional / Technical Contracts • Budget - Travel and Conferences • Budget - Other • Budget - Personnel • Budget - Non-ENRTF Funds Contributed	As we enter the final year of our three-year grant, we are proposing adjustments to our budget to ensure that we maximize impact, reflect actual costs of professional services, and deliver on our work plan objectives successfully. Staffing costs remain the same but funding is redistributed to better reflect costs and staffing roles.	October 1, 2025	Yes	October 9, 2025
3	Amendment Request	• Budget - Other • Budget - Personnel • Budget - Professional / Technical Contracts • Budget - Capital, Equipment, Tools, and Supplies • Budget - Travel and Conferences	This proposal adjustment reflects deviations in implementation and actual subaward costs. Costs for printing and installation of signage were included in the RFP-contracted scope of work for individual school sites. Costs for resource creation and dissemination were covered through staff time instead of a professional contract, as the original proposal envisioned.	May 1, 2026	Yes	May 16, 2026
4	Amendment Request	• Activities and Milestones • Budget - Professional / Technical Contracts	This amendment request to our LCCMR work plan updates the non-ENRTF matches with final financial and fundraising	August 14, 2026	Yes	September 2, 2026

		• Budget - Capital, Equipment, Tools, and Supplies • Budget - Travel and Conferences • Budget - Printing and Publication • Budget - Non-ENRTF Funds Contributed	information and updates the numbers for the spending report in the rest of the budget.			

Status Update Reporting

Final Status Update August 14, 2026

Date Submitted: August 14, 2026

Date Approved: September 2, 2026

Overall Update
Our initial cohort of Community Schoolyards was successful thanks to the support from LCCMR and the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund. We supported nature-based improvements at 5 geographically diverse sites with over 3.2 acres of trees and 1.9 acres of native plantings. We engaged over 3,000 students in a robust participatory design process and connected over 14,000 residents within a 10-minute walk to new nature-based community schoolyards. We also continued building a broad coalition and cultivated interest and capacity in schoolyard improvements through resource sharing and technical assistance.

Activity 1
Following a competitive call for schools process with 25 applicants, we received 25 applications and based on geographic diversity, local needs based on TPL's statewide assessment, strength of partnerships, readiness, and local funding match, a short list of schools were selected for further consideration. Interviews were conducted, and 5 selected.

We completed a nature-based schoolyard improvements at five school sites across the state: Franklin Elementary in Rochester MN; Maxfield Elementary in St Paul, MN; Brooklyn Center Elementary STEAM in Brooklyn Center, MN; FAIR School in Crystal, MN; and Endazhi-Nitaawiging, an Ojibwe-led School in Red Lake, MN. These sites were selected through a competitive RFP process with interest from schools in urban, suburban, and rural settings across the state. Selection was made based on geographic diversity, local needs based on TPL's statewide assessment, and strength of partnerships, readiness, and local funding match.

Following robust participatory design processes, landscape architects were contracted through competitive bid to translate vision and goals into a realistic construction-ready design. Improvements across all five sites included community gathering and outdoor learning spaces, trees, native plants, seating, interpretative signage, and green infrastructure improvements, like rain gardens.
(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)

Activity 2
With our LCCMR funding, we prepared and executed Student Leader Class curriculum, activities, and assignments—one specific to Minnesota's climate and local context. We also developed and refined our broader community engagement process to streamline participatory design in future schoolyard projects.

During our LCCMR grant, we heard interest from schools across the state in developing their own community schoolyards—and provided guidance and support to schools interested in transforming their spaces into Community Schoolyards. Overwhelmingly, the largest limitation we've heard from these schools has been lack of resources and funding.

With nature improvements completed at our project sites, we supported schools in launching robust stewardship programs, including the formation of student and community stewardship groups to help care for new schoolyard nature spaces. Schools integrated regular activities such as watering trees, tending gardens, and organizing seasonal clean-ups into classroom and community events—encouraging long-term ownership of these spaces, building confidence in outdoor spaces, and continuing hands-on environmental learning. We also continue to provide technical

assistance through quarterly check-ins with school leaders and staff, offering guidance on integration of schoolyard spaces into outdoor learning and school curriculum.
(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)

Activity 3
TPL continued its efforts in developing a network of statewide partners and leaders to advance the Community Schoolyards movement to all MN schools in partnership with schools, community partners, and the Minnesota Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Coalition.

In November 2025, we hosted the inaugural Minnesota Community Schoolyard Summit in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Coalition. This convening brought together over 100 education leaders, community partners, technical experts, and environmental champions to showcase the benefits of nature-based schoolyards on student learning, health, and the environment. This convening showcased LCCMR-funded schoolyard projects across the state, demonstrating how this work can be replicated across rural, urban, and suburban communities. In the opening and closing plenaries, school leaders shared lessons learned and stories of the impacts these spaces are already having on their students. Panel discussions allowed participants to dive deeper into specific topics and connect with peers to develop strategies for greening schoolyards in their own communities.
(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)

Dissemination
LCCMR acknowledgement continues to be featured prominently across our program and project webpages, through educational and interpretive signage at each project site, and at ribbon cuttings, community events, and planting days. We've hosted site visits of current and future schoolyards to share about our work with key partners. Online, our MN schoolyard program website and associated project pages details the program and their benefits. We also disseminated the statewide schoolyard mapping resource widely to partners and school agencies and presented the tool to a handful of webinars and groups. We've also promoted LCCMR and the Minnesota Community Schoolyards at National Community Schoolyards Summit (July 2026); Minnesota Community Schoolyards Summit (November 2025); Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) Leadership Conference (January 2026); DNR School Forest Conference (February 2025 and 2026); Minnesota School Gardens Conference (March 2026); Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA) Conference (March 2026) and in a series of online webinars targeted to school administrators and leaders interested in schoolyard improvements.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update April 1, 2026

Date Submitted: April 1, 2026

Date Approved: May 16, 2026

Overall Update
Over the last quarter, we have made great strides both in our cohort 1 schoolyard projects—which are transitioning from construction to stewardship and site activation—and in building statewide cross-sector partnerships and outreach.

Phased construction at two sites, Maxfield and Brooklyn Center, wrapped up this fall. Planting and signage at Endazhi-Nitaawiging will be completed this spring by June 2026. Franklin Elementary in Rochester and FAIR School in Crystal, open since September, have transitioned into stewardship and evaluation.

In November, we hosted the inaugural Minnesota Community Schoolyards Summit, bringing together education, health, and environmental leaders from across the state to build momentum for the Community Schoolyards movement. The event raised awareness of the LCCMR-funded Minnesota Community Schoolyards as a leading example of community-driven nature-based schoolyard design.

This winter, Robbinsdale Public Schools shared they would be repurposing the FAIR School Crystal site for its Robbinsdale Highview Academy program due to the district's budget deficit. Highview's principal and teachers are excited to integrate these outdoor learning spaces into their curriculum—and offer their alternative-learning students opportunities for hands-on coursework. The schoolyard will continue to be open and used by community members and maintained by the district.

Activity 1
Phased construction at two sites—Maxfield and Brooklyn Center—wrapped up this fall. At Maxfield Elementary in St. Paul, students have been enjoying the new "nature ramble" path packed with trees, native plants, and log-seating. This space now provides a hands-on environmental learning space for students and a welcoming green space for the surrounding Rondo neighborhood. At Brooklyn Center Elementary STEAM, 75 fifth-grade students and community members helped plant over 350 bare-root seedlings that will form the microforest along the edge of the schoolyard.

At Endazhi-Nitaawiging Charter School in Red Lake, work continues on the LCCMR-funded phase of the project. Project includes nature play, community gathering space, trees, and native plants, with completion anticipated by June 2026.

We are currently working on educational and interpretative signage for Endazhi-Nitaawiging and Brooklyn Center Elementary that will be installed this Spring. These signs will educate community members and students about plants, pollinators, and urban wildlife found in their new nature spaces while highlighting the impact of the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund.

Activity 2
We continue to provide technical assistance and support to Minnesota Community Schoolyard sites—and to schools and districts across the state who are interested in pursuing their own projects and outdoor learning policies. With nature improvements completed at four of five schools, we are supporting schools in launching robust stewardship programs, including the formation of student and community stewardship groups to help care for new schoolyard nature spaces. Schools are beginning regular activities such as watering trees, tending gardens, and organizing seasonal clean-ups. This encourages long-term ownership of these spaces, building confidence in outdoor spaces, and continuing hands-on

environmental learning. This spring, we will host a series of events across project sites including planting days, schoolyard clean-ups, and a milestone celebration which will continue to activate these newly transformed schoolyards.

We also continue to provide technical assistance through quarterly check-ins with school leaders and staff, offering guidance on integration of schoolyard spaces into outdoor learning and school curriculum.

Activity 3
In November 2025, we hosted the inaugural Minnesota Community Schoolyard Summit in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Coalition. This convening brought together over 100 education leaders, community partners, technical experts, and environmental champions to showcase the benefits of nature-based schoolyards on student learning, health, and the environment. This convening showcased LCCMR-funded schoolyard projects across the state, demonstrating how this work can be replicated across rural, urban, and suburban communities. In the opening and closing plenaries, school leaders shared lessons learned and stories of the impacts these spaces are already having on their students. Panel discussions allowed participants to dive deeper into specific topics and connect with peers to develop strategies for greening schoolyards in their own communities.

Dissemination
LCCMR acknowledgement continues to be featured prominently across our program and project webpages, as well as at ribbon cuttings, community events, and planting days. In addition, since our last update, we have promoted LCCMR-funded Minnesota Community Schoolyards at:

-Minnesota Community Schoolyards Summit (November 2025)

-Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) Leadership Conference (January 2026)

-DNR School Forest Conference (February 2026)

-Minnesota School Gardens Conference (March 2026)

-Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA) Conference (March 2026)

LCCMR will also be acknowledged on educational and interpretive signage at each project site.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update October 1, 2025

Date Submitted: October 1, 2025

Date Approved: October 9, 2025

Overall Update
Since April 2025, we've made exciting progress on the Minnesota Community Schoolyard program and our first cohort of projects at Franklin Elementary in Rochester, Maxfield Elementary in St. Paul, Brooklyn Center Elementary STEAM, FAIR School in Crystal, and Endazhi-Nitaawiging, an Ojibwe-immersion charter school in Red Lake.

We broke ground at four schools in May and June and construction was underway this summer. Schoolyard improvements at FAIR School and Franklin Elementary were completed by the start of school and celebrated with ribbon cuttings in September. Phased construction at Maxfield and Brooklyn Center is wrapping up this fall, including a community tree planting day at Brooklyn Center in October. Construction and planting at Endazhi-Nitaawiging is anticipated to begin this fall and carry over into the spring with completion by June 2026. Over the 2025-2026 schoolyear, we will launch stewardship activities with students and community partners.

Beyond individual projects, we continue to strengthen a statewide network of partners and leaders advancing the Community Schoolyards movement in Minnesota, in partnership with schools, communities, and the Minnesota Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Coalition. We are also preparing for our inaugural Minnesota Community Schoolyard Summit on November 6, 2025, bringing together education, health, and environmental leaders.

Activity 1
Since April 2025, we have advanced nature-based schoolyard improvements across our first cohort of Minnesota Community Schoolyard sites through competitive RFP processes.

At FAIR School in Crystal, construction was completed in September 2025, including a new outdoor classroom and community gathering space already seeing heavy use this school year, along with a nature path, native plantings, trees, and a rain garden.

At Franklin Elementary in Rochester, new features include a nature-based play area, outdoor classroom, prairie area, rain garden, and trees, celebrated with a ribbon cutting this fall.

At Maxfield Elementary in St. Paul, a "nature ramble" path packed with trees and native plants is under construction,to be finalized this fall.

At Brooklyn Center Elementary, prairie plantings are nearly complete, a new nature exploration area was installed, and continued progress on a microforest that will be planted in November 2025.

At Endazhi-Nitaawiging in Red Lake, federal funding enabled completion of a nature play and outdoor classroom area this summer, while the LCCMR-funded phase will advance in October 2025-June 2026 with trees, landscaping, and a traditional Ojibwe medicinal and edible garden.

Activity 2
Since April 2025, we have continued to provide school support, technical assistance, and educational programming across our Community Schoolyard sites. Stewardship plans are being drafted at each school to guide long-term care and

activation, with student and teacher input shaping site-specific strategies. We have also launched ongoing quarterly check-ins with school leaders to provide technical support and ensure alignment with curriculum and community goals.

Community planting days and Earth Day clean-ups will be engaging students, families, and neighbors in hands-on stewardship and environmental education. These activities not only improve the green infrastructure but also build community ownership of the new spaces.

We are continuing to pilot and refine our evaluation framework, collecting pre- and post-construction data on academic, behavioral, physical, environmental, and engagement indicators. Teacher surveys and school-level assessments are underway to track student outcomes, climate resilience benefits, and community use. Early findings will help refine both design and program strategies.

Additionally, schools are beginning to integrate the new outdoor classrooms, gardens, and play spaces into their curriculum, providing opportunities for nature-based learning.

Activity 3

We continue to build statewide momentum for the Community Schoolyards movement by convening partners, sharing best practices, and cultivating cross-sector leadership. A central focus this year is the inaugural Minnesota Community Schoolyards Summit on Thursday, November 6, 2025, at Westwood Hills Nature Center. This event will bring together education leaders, policymakers, funders, health and environmental advocates, and community partners to explore how schoolyards can be powerful tools for student success, health equity, climate resilience, and expanded park access. The Summit will showcase the first cohort of demonstration projects, highlight lessons learned, and provide a platform for local leaders to share their stories. The agenda includes an opening plenary with statewide education leaders, panel discussions with school and community partners, and breakout sessions that allow participants to connect with peers and develop strategies for greening schoolyards in their own communities. A networking lunch will foster relationship-building and future collaboration. Planning for this event has included outreach to legislators, school districts, and statewide organizations, as well as alignment with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and MN Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Coalition. The Summit will catalyze new champions and lay the groundwork for expanding the Community Schoolyards movement across Minnesota.

Dissemination

Since April, we have continued to share the Minnesota Community Schoolyards program and highlight the support of LCCMR through events, convenings, and site-based signage. This fall, we are preparing to showcase the program at the Minnesota Community Schoolyards Summit on November 6, which will bring together cross-sector leaders to advance the movement statewide. In September, we also presented at the Carlson Uplifting Youth Convening, where we shared lessons learned from participatory design and stewardship planning with educators, nonprofit leaders, and youth advocates.

On the ground, permanent educational and interpretive signage has been installed at FAIR School in Crystal and Franklin Elementary in Rochester, helping to tell the story of the transformation and acknowledge LCCMR's support. Additional signage is currently in design for Maxfield Elementary, Endazhi-Nitaawiging, and Brooklyn Center Elementary, and will be installed as construction phases are completed.

In addition, LCCMR acknowledgement continues to be featured prominently across our program and project webpages, as well as at ribbon cuttings, community events, and planting days. These efforts ensure broad recognition of LCCMR's role in advancing climate resilience, habitat restoration, and equitable access to nature through community schoolyards across Minnesota.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update April 1, 2025

Date Submitted: April 1, 2025

Date Approved: May 27, 2025

Overall Update
Over the last year, we've made significant progress on our Minnesota Community Schoolyard program and the first cohort of demonstration projects at Franklin Elementary in Rochester MN; Maxfield Elementary in St Paul, MN; Brooklyn Center Elementary STEAM in Brooklyn Center, MN; FAIR School in Crystal, MN; and Endazhi-Nitaawiging, an Ojibwe-led School in Red Lake, MN. We completed a robust participatory design process last spring, contracted landscape architects through competitive bid over the summer, and compiled input into a construction-ready design before going out to bid earlier this year (2025). Construction will occur over the summer.

At Brooklyn Center Elementary, we broke ground on Phase 1 on nature-based improvements, including prairie restoration, rain garden, and microforest and plan to celebrate the completion this spring or summer. We have also begun to pilot an evaluation framework and stewardship plan for long-term site activation and care. Meanwhile, we continue efforts to develop a network of statewide partners and leaders to advance the Community Schoolyards movement to all MN schools in partnership with schools, community partners, and the Minnesota Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Coalition. We have begun to plan for the Community Schoolyard Convening that will be tentatively held this November.

Activity 1
At Brooklyn Center, our selected landscape contractor, Landbridge Ecological, broke ground in Summer 2024 on Phase 1 of nature-based improvements, including prairie restoration area, rain garden, native plantings, trail, and trees/microforest. Remaining site work is being completed this spring with a community planting day. We celebrated this groundbreaking and other privately-funded schoolyard improvements with students and community at a back-to-school milestone event in August 2024. We are planning to host another milestone celebration this spring or summer. We have also begun designing a small nature exploration area and classroom space to be incorporated into the landscape improvements.

Through a competitive RFP process, we hired landscape architects to complete site assessments, concept plans, and construction-ready designs throughout the summer and into fall 2024 for our remaining four schoolyard sites—Franklin Elementary (Rochester), FAIR School (Crystal), Maxfield Elementary (St Paul), and Endazhi-Nitaawiging (Red Lake). These projects then went out to competitive bid earlier this year (2025) for contractors. Construction will break ground at the end of the school year and be completed over the summer. We plan to celebrate with the community, school, and funders, including LCCMR, at groundbreakings this spring and ribbon cuttings/milestone events this fall.

Activity 2
Last Spring, we completed our 7-session student leader class program in our Rochester, Crystal, and Red Lake schools. Over the summer, we were out in community at summer events and site walks to gather additional input. This feedback was synthesized into an initial concept plan which was refined over the fall into a construction-ready design.

We have begun piloting an evaluation framework and collecting pre-construction data at each school to demonstrate and document impact. Information being collected includes a variety of academic, behavioral, physical, environmental, and engagement indicators. We have also begun working with students and teachers on the creation of site-specific stewardship plans and school steward groups to support long-term care and activation of the spaces.

In addition, TPL continues to provide guidance and support to schools and districts interested in pursuing schoolyard projects and policies. These efforts will hopefully expand the number of schools adopting a green schoolyard model. We continue to hear that lack of funding and resources are a major obstacle to implementation.

Activity 3

TPL continues efforts to develop a network of statewide partners and leaders to advance the Community Schoolyards movement to all MN schools in partnership with schools, community partners, and the Minnesota Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Coalition. We are currently planning a schoolyard convening for fall 2025 that will build awareness and excitement for community schoolyards as a model, share best practices and challenges, and cultivate a network of champions and implementors at schools and districts, in communities, and statewide. This convening will foster collaboration for future projects and advocate for greening schoolyards through data and research.

Dissemination

Over the last year, we've attended various partner events and meetings, such as Minnesota DNR's School Forest Summit and Metro Conservation Network's All-Network meeting, to showcase Minnesota Community Schoolyards program and the support of LCCMR in this work. In October, we hosted members from the Urban Sustainability Directors Network on a site visit and tour of Brooklyn Center Elementary as part of their annual convening. LCCMR acknowledgement is present on both program and project webpages—and signage at events. We are also finalizing permanent educational and informational signage with LCCMR logo/acknowledgement for Brooklyn Center and our other sites.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update October 1, 2024

Date Submitted: September 30, 2024

Date Approved: October 23, 2024

Overall Update
This status update is waived per guidance from LCCMR staff provided on August 13, 2024.

Activity 1
This status update is waived per guidance from LCCMR staff provided on August 13, 2024.

Activity 2
This status update is waived per guidance from LCCMR staff provided on August 13, 2024.

Activity 3
This status update is waived per guidance from LCCMR staff provided on August 13, 2024.

Dissemination
This status update is waived per guidance from LCCMR staff provided on August 13, 2024.

Status Update Reporting

Status Update April 1, 2024

Date Submitted: April 1, 2024

Date Approved: June 21, 2024

Overall Update
Progress is well underway and we've made great strides toward the goal of creating nature-focused habitat improvement projects at schoolyards across Minnesota. Over the summer/fall 2023, following a competitive call for schools application process, we selected our first cohort of 5 Minnesota Community schools across the state: Franklin Elementary in Rochester MN; Maxfield Elementary in St Paul, MN; Brooklyn Center Elementary STEAM in Brooklyn Center, MN; FAIR School in Crystal, MN; and Endazhi-Nitaawiging, an Ojibwe-led School in Red Lake, MN.

In August 2023, we formally launched our community schools program here in Minnesota with a celebration at Brooklyn Center Elementary, which will have its first phase break ground this summer. In October 2023, Maxfield Elementary was honored at the American Society of Landscape Architects' national conference as the 2023 Legacy Project. This spring, we've been leading participatory design with students in Rochester, Crystal, and Red Lake to develop initial designs. Over the summer, we'll work to develop concept plans, which will be further reviewed and vetted by the community in Fall 2024. Meanwhile, we continue efforts to develop a network of statewide partners and leaders to advance the Community Schoolyards movement to all MN schools.

Activity 1
Over the summer, following a competitive call for schools process, we received 25 applications and based on geographic diversity, local needs based on TPL's statewide assessment, strength of partnerships, readiness, and local funding match, a short list of schools were selected for further consideration. Interviews were conducted, and 5 selected.

At Brooklyn Center Elementary (Brooklyn Center, MN), after finalizing a concept plan, we released a competitive RFP in January 2024 to select a vendor to complete nature-based improvements at the site. A local firm, Landbridge Ecological, was selected. The scope of work includes a prairie restoration area, new rain garden, native plantings, and trees/microforest, and other green infrastructure. Site work is slated to begin over the summer and the majority of the work completed later this year.

Maxfield Elementary (St Paul, MN) was selected as the Legacy Project for the 2023 American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) Conference in October. Local landscape architects and students volunteered their time and expertise to develop an initial concept plan based on community feedback. We are now working with the district to raise additional funds, conduct additional engagement, and bid and select professional services to right-size and refine this ambitious initial design.

Activity 2
Our 7-session student leader class is currently underway in Rochester, Crystal, and Red Lake which includes sessions on stormwater, extreme heat, changing climate, native plants, and community leadership. Each session highlights green careers, such as horticulturalist, and includes a hands-on activity, like a schoolyard site assessment. In Red Lake, we have been adapting our curriculum materials to incorporate traditional knowledge, cultural values, history, and Ojibwe language to be responsive to the community and their culture. We have also been engaging teachers, parents, and community members through targeted workshops, online surveys, small group listening sessions, and at school and community events.

Over the summer, we'll synthesize this feedback to develop initial concept plans, which will be further reviewed and vetted by the community in Fall 2024. Our goal is to release an RFP for nature-based improvements at each of these schools by early 2025.

In addition to our cohort, we continue to provide guidance and support to schools and districts interested in pursuing schoolyard projects and policies. These efforts will hopefully expand the number of schools adopting a green schoolyard model. Overwhelmingly, the largest limitation we've heard from these schools has been lack of resources and funding.

Activity 3

We continue to pursue policy, system, and environmental change at the local and state level. With our first cohort underway, we are eager to share this work and lessons with others in the months to come. We are currently still working on formalizing and convening a community schoolyard focused advisory committee. In the interim, we continue to connect with cross-sector partners at cities, counties, and school districts across the state.

Dissemination

Our biggest dissemination about our work was the celebration and formal launch of our program at Brooklyn Center Elementary in August 2024. We were so grateful to Becca Nash and our other program partners for joining us and sharing many kind words about our work.

We have also created a project webpage for our MN Schoolyards Cohort Application which details the program and its benefits and project pages for each of our schoolyard projects.