

MINNEOTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Viking Playground Project

Play Today. Grow Tomorrow.

Parent Informational Night

Meet Our Team











Our Current Challenges

- **Surface Limits:** Wood chips are hard to maintain and hinder mobility.
- **Safety Concerns:** Aging equipment requires repairs - and we can no longer weld the equipment.
- **Heat Exposure:** Lack of shade makes the space unsafe; we spend at least 30 minutes outside every day.
- **Exclusion:** The current site does not support students with sensory or physical needs.



Why the Wood Chips Must Go

Accessibility

Modern poured-in-place rubber allows wheelchairs, students on crutches, families with strollers, and walkers to move freely across the entire site.

Cleanliness

No more wood chips in shoes, pockets, or stuck in clothing. Minimal upkeep. Woodchips need replacing each year and continuous upkeep.

Safety

Superior fall protection that doesn't "thin out" in high-traffic areas like swings and slide exits. Reduces trips and falls. No splinters and no mud when wet. Does not attract critters.



Dreams of Our Students

We asked our 4th-grade students to imagine the future. Their visions and ideas weren't just about fun—they were about **inclusion**.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fauaVcEmDJkV8OIXCwiB8i0p4AV3wGM1NT2pwy_aNpM/edit?tab=t.0

The New Overall Site Plan



Designed to Last

- Multi-level play structures
- Integrated shade canopies
- Inclusive play
- Sensory play

A Space for Every Ability

Inclusion isn't just about ramps. It's about designing play features that engage all five senses and different physical strengths.

- **Quiet Spaces:** For students who need a sensory break.
- **Ground-Level Play:** Engaging activities accessible to everyone.
- **Adaptive Structures:** Safe, supportive seating for all sizes.



Built for Safety and Comfort



Integrated Shade

Our students spend 30+ minutes outdoors daily. The new design incorporates shade structures built directly into the equipment towers.

This lowers surface temperatures and protects skin and keeps equipment cooler.

Progress Toward Our Goal

Progress toward our goal: 285,271.16

Remaining Funds Needed: 214,278.84

Grants Secured	Donations and Gifts	Elementary School Fundraiser
$195,000	$81,500	$9,221.16

Community Impact & Legacy

A Destination for Families

This isn't just a school playground. On evenings and weekends, this becomes a community hub for all of Minneota.

It's a space where grandparents can bring their grandkids, and families from neighboring towns can see the investment we make in our children's future.



Questions?

How can we build this vision together?

Next Steps:

- Pick up a packet on your way out
- Follow the Viking Playground Project on Social Media
- Join our Planning Committee

Together, we can make "Play Today. Grow Tomorrow." a reality.