

APPLICATION FOR THE TOWN OF HAMILTON COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING
WINTHROP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – OPERATION PLAYGROUND

1. Project Description: *Please give a detailed project description, including specific objectives.*

Operation Playground has come about via the Friends of Winthrop Parental Support Group (501c3 # 20-4525386) for a few different reasons: 1) Winthrop Elementary in South Hamilton, MA desperately needs a centrally located (safety/child monitoring) playground that has ADA approved equipment which is deemed safe and age appropriate. Most of the current equipment scattered haphazardly around the Winthrop School is broken/unsafe, not age appropriate (ages 5-12 or the entire student population), and NONE of the pieces are ADA approved. 2) Winthrop sets itself apart as an elementary with a 20% “Select Population” or students that require some form of special needs; over half of this population (12%) has severe disabilities. These children deserve to be able to “play” as learning comes through play. 3) The Hamilton Wenham School District is overcome with building costs in order to bring the school building of Winthrop to code. The HWSD has had to raise money via bonds over the past few years in order to make physical property changes to the elementary that will keep the children safe as well as have them learn in a healthy environment.

The HWSD has admitted that it will not be able to fund a safe, ADA-approved, and age appropriate playground anytime in the near future. Thus, the only way all students at Winthrop Elementary in South Hamilton, MA will get a new playground is privately via Operation Playground.

2. Goals: *How does this project accomplish the goals of the CPA?*

a. The project is practical and feasible and can be implemented expeditiously and within budget.

Operation Playground—is being run by a team of volunteers that completed the Patton Park Playground project. This volunteer committee is working with the Winthrop Elementary School Staff and School Committee on all aspects and has developed a well-researched project budget and fundraising goal and projected completion for fall 2016. Operation Playground has already raised over 35% of the playground improvement budget. We are currently in the midst of a corporate campaign and a community-wide fundraising campaign to raise the remaining funds. By concluding the fundraising campaign by March 2016, initiating the bidding process in April 2016, Operation Playground and the Town have created a time frame that allows for an RFP process to be completed and playground materials to be built and installed for the beginning of the school year 2016.

b. Leverage additional public and/or private funds.

- Private Funding

Private Donations (ongoing) =	\$40,000
Corporate Campaign (ongoing) =	\$35,000
<u>Grants (applied) =</u>	<u>\$20,000</u>
Private Funding Total =	\$95,000

- Future Fundraising Goals

Hamilton Community Preservation Funding (applied) =	\$100,000
<u>Wenham Community Preservation Funding (applied) =</u>	<u>\$25,000</u>
Public Funding Total =	\$125,000

c. Preserve or utilize current town-owned assets.

Operation Playground is relocating existing equipment that is in good condition to be reused. The only equipment that will be removed is any piece that is unable to be relocated and the swing sets that are dilapidated and in poor condition.

d. Receive endorsement by other municipal boards or departments.

Operation Playground has gone before the Hamilton Wenham School Committee to ask for permission to begin this private fundraising effort. The Committee is in constant contact with Jeff Sands, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Administration on all marketing and planning. Operation Playground is aware that we must present this gift of funds raised to the HW School Committee for acceptance before purchasing equipment or beginning the bid process.

e. Address goals of Community Preservation Plan and Recreation Plan: "Locate parks, playgrounds, and athletic fields near population centers in order to assure their accessibility to the elderly, persons with disabilities and those that do not drive."

- Winthrop Elementary School Playground is within a short walk or bike ride of the town centers of Hamilton and Wenham, Hamilton Wenham Senior Center, the Hamilton MBTA commuter rail station, the Hamilton Housing Authority property on Railroad Avenue, and The Shoppes at Hamilton Crossing (grocery, pharmacy and other stores).
- The Winthrop Elementary School playground improvements will increase accessibility and include only ADA compliant equipment.
- The project includes adding benches, picnic tables, and landscaping to make the playground area of the park enjoyable for all off school hours.

3. Timeline: *What is the schedule for project implementation, including a timeline for all critical milestones? Will this be a multi-year project?*

- March 1, 2016 – All fundraising complete
- Mid March 2016 – Purchase Equipment. Design has been complete by New England Recreation Group. They are a preferred approved vendor under State of Massachusetts Contract FAC 79 as well as the Massachusetts Higher Education Consortium (MHEC) for Municipal. Government and Public School procurement of Playground, Park, Recreation, Safety Surfacing, Site Amenity and Outdoor Athletic Equipment.
- April 2016 – RFP process for construction
- June 2016 – August 2016 – Playground equipment will be built, site work completed, equipment installed, landscaping finished.
- September 2016 – Playground completed and open for the school year

4. Budget: *Please provide a full budget including the following information, as applicable.*

a. Total amount of the project cost, with itemization of major components.

The total cost of the project is budgeted to be \$219,775.

Budgeted Numbers:

Playground Structures & Equipment: (all ADA approved pieces)	\$89,200
Freight	\$8,575
Installation	\$36,500
Rubber Safety Surface	\$85,500

Total Cost of Operation Playground: \$219,775

b. Additional funding sources. Please include those that are available, committed, or under consideration.

Please refer to response 2.b. above.

c. Describe the basis for your budget and the sources of information you used.

Operation Playground has collected data from other recently built playgrounds, obtained public bid results from similar installations, requested informal proposals from leading playground designers and reviewed equipment catalogs and price sheets from several manufacturers.

5. Support:

a. Have the appropriate Town Boards and Commissions expressed support and/or approved the project?

Yes, the Hamilton Wenham School Committee is in support of our private fundraising efforts and plans.

b. What is the nature and level of community support for this project?

The project has already received approximately \$75,000 in donations from locally owned and/or operated businesses and many community households. With continual press coverage and fundraising achievements, the support for this project continues to grow.