



# Read Playground Project

www.readplayground.com  
#itsmorethanaplayground

*Updates as of 10/30/2023*

## Playground Updates

Thanks to the generous support of community, donors, and volunteers, Read has begun its transformation into a thriving space. With more to come this spring, we wanted to take the opportunity to share our progress with those who have been instrumental in our changes. Thanks for helping make all of this a reality!

You can stop by to see any of the changes yourself, but if you aren't in town or don't have time we wanted to share some of the improvements with you in this format.

Here are the new features:

- Fire truck playground (front)
- Swings (front)
- Musical instruments (front)
- Stage (front)
- Outdoor classroom (front)
- Community garden beds (front)
- Free library (front)
- Tree to tree walk (front)
- Transformer wrap (front)
- Ninja playground (back)
- Swings (back)
- Read Rockets Banner (back)
- Candyland and parking lot games (back)

For more updates go to:  
[www.readplayground.com](http://www.readplayground.com)



Oshkosh Fire Fighter John visited Read school to check out the new equipment.



Classes can now go outside and learn in the new outdoor classroom space! This is a great place for our school family and community alike!

An area that struggled to grow plants, is now a stage where kids can present and perform to audiences.



The back of the school includes a new ninja playground with poured in place, and the front has new garden beds thanks to the talents of a Read parent.







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## Community Shout Out!

On August 15, over 100 women and girls showed up at Read to work on projects both inside and out to make the school more welcoming for students and staff. Due to the sweat equity of these volunteers, and support from the Women's Fund, Discover Oshkosh, and 4imprint the day was a success! Due to the efforts of these volunteers the grounds were updated with bright red bike racks, spaces without weeds, and a candyland game and other games were painted on the back parking lot. Volunteers created Read Rocket signage, fixed curtains, made a tree to tree walk, planted in the community gardens, and installed positive affirmations in student bathrooms. Thank you to all the amazing women and girls who helped make Read welcoming for all!



## Upcoming Projects

Come spring/early summer be on the look out for:

- Mural on the back of the school
- Book walk in the front complete with tulip chairs to sit in
- A cedar outdoor play house
- Improved landscaping
- New historical fence

For more information go to our website: [www.readplayground.com](http://www.readplayground.com)



## Upcoming Fundraiser

11/7-11/9, 5-9pm at Jeff's on Rugby  
(1005 Rugby St.) Jeff's is raising funds for the Read Playground Project. Enjoy good food and support a good cause!





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## Volunteer Shout Out!

Jim Van Sistine and Darrell Rothe took our vision of a firetruck and need for a new little free library, and built us a one of a kind box!

Stop by and take a book, or share a book for our community. Kids look daily to see what's new for them to read. Thank you for promoting a love of reading!



The success of this project is due to the many individual donors, company gifts, foundation grants, and in-kind gifts. Our gratitude will be shown on a plaque near the playground as well as at our celebration in June 2024. More details to come.

Thank you for believing in our kids!

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**We are at 96.5%  
of our goal!**

To help us reach the  
finish line,  
[please donate here.](#)

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## Funder Shout Out

On October 10, Principal Emily Eisenschink was able to present to the Women Who Care group to help raise funds for the book walk project to be implemented in Spring. Thanks to the generous donations of many women, the group raised \$15,500! This was the largest gift ever given by the group. We are so appreciative to these amazing women who are helping the next generation love to read!





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There are many ways that our community can support Read Elementary. You can volunteer, purchase items on the teacher wish list, donate funds to help the school community group provide events for students, or show up for Read events. If you have any questions or would like to be involved, contact [build@readplayground.com](mailto:build@readplayground.com).



## Donor Shout Out!

Thanks to the creativity and generosity of Art City Wraps, Read was the recipient of a new transformer wrap. It not only includes Read's new logo, but a fun and innovative design for our kids.

Also, thanks to the Community Arts Program through the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation we were able to purchase new musical equipment that includes drums, a xylaphone, and chimes. Thank you for sharing a love of music with our kids!



## Teacher Wish List



- Clorox wipes (90)
- Head phones (60)
- Snacks for students (unlimited)

With many students not able to purchase school supplies or snacks, teachers tend to pick up the tab. If you're interested in helping, you can drop off any of these items at Read's front office or purchase these items via amazon and have them shipped directly. Search "[Read Elementary](#)" under wish lists.

## Volunteers Needed

Read staff need help with:

- Recess duty
- Cutting/copying
- Reading with students
- Playing math games with students
- Scholastic Book Fair
  - 11/16, 3-6:30pm
  - 11/20, 3-6:30pm

If interested in volunteering, please contact: [build@readplayground.com](mailto:build@readplayground.com)