

District Grant Final Report Form

This report must be completed and uploaded on matchinggrants.org within 30 days after completion of the project but no later than 2 years after the date of approval of the project. For scholarships, the report is due 30 days after payment of funds.

Rotary Year 2024-2025

District Grant # P-5218

Rotary Club: Greeley Centennial Rotary

Project Title: Poudre Learning Center (PLC) Water Education Grant (Phase II)

Project Description: The purpose is to support the PLC in phase II of a multi-phase water education project, including landscaping and ADA accessibility for an educational water feature focused on hydrology, geomorphology, water behavior, and water stewardship for students in grades K-12.

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1. Is this a scholarship governor's grant report? Yes ☐ No ☒ (If yes, go directly to line 16)
 2. Briefly describe the project. What was done and where did the project activities take place? Explain how the beneficiaries and other community members were involved?

From the Project Narrative: The Poudre Learning Center (PLC), a Greeley-Evans District 6 STEM school teaching appreciation of natural resources and stewardship of essential community open space, is currently in design and implementation of the Dick Bond Confluence Patio for water education, for which our local Rotary clubs have been a strong supporter. Upon completion the Dick Bond will be an attractive outdoor classroom with multiple teaching tools focused on water resources, and is named after Dr. Dick Bond, a local hero in the fields of zoology and K-college education, and also a committed Rotary club member. A portion of this project involves establishment of three different prairie grassland biomes representative of local, historical prairies in Northern Weld County.

A major hurdle in establishing the grasslands surrounding the Patio is management of invasive cheatgrass. Cheatgrass competition with native prairie is the biggest management challenge for prairie ecologists, and a great deal of work has been expended developing best management practices for managing cheatgrass. Our pastures at the Poudre Learning Center are young (25 years old) established upon completion of gravel extraction. Therefore, the pastures are prime for cheatgrass invasion. Under the best of

circumstances, cheatgrass management takes rigorous management with multiple steps over several years. the process is chemical intensive and requires reseeding/interseeding of beneficial grasses/forbs with application in critical time frames. Poudre Learning Center is using guidelines suggested in *Field Guide for Managing Cheatgrass in the Southwest*, US Forest Service publication TP-R3-16-04. PLC needs funding to keep on track with upcoming herbicide treatments and seeding.

To obtain control of cheatgrass on the Bond pasture PLC will need to apply management strategies to adjacent pasture, therefore seed to be ordered is increased above the number of acres for the project. Additionally, on this project all seeding will be done by hand, for which the application rate should be doubled. Finally, the amount of flower seed is high, but establishing forb diversity on the PLC is desirable so we sow flower seed at a higher than normal rate.

Describe the benefit to the community and/or improve lives:

This project will primarily support the area of focus of Rotary International of Education. Providing water education to K-12 students will increase understanding and problem solving capacity as water shortages continue to challenge the western United States.

Sustainability:

Members of our Greeley Centennial Rotary Club have a long-standing history and relationship with the Poudre Learning Center. The PLC has a strong network of volunteer support, in addition to financial support from numerous school districts in Northern Colorado, and organizations such as our own. The PLC is the flagship project of the Greeley Centennial Rotary Club.

Active Rotarian Involvement:

The Greeley Centennial Rotary Club continues to be active in collaborating with the Poudre Learning Center, and there are a few Rotarians who are members of the PLC Foundation Board. Our continued investment in the PLC and the proximity of the PLC to our community enables many Rotarians to provide active hands-on service and education in the ongoing operations at the PLC.

Total Project Budget: \$1,000.00

\$1,000.00 from the Greeley Centennial Rotary and the 5440 District, consisting of \$334.00 club dollars with matching funds of \$666.00 from our district.

3. How many Rotarians participated in this project? 8 Rotarians participated in this project.
4. What did they do? Please give at least two examples. Rotarians coordinated efforts with this project from Greeley Centennial Rotary. This work included planning, communications, and organizing of materials and people. Additionally, this included the physical work and operation of equipment at the Poudre Learning Center. Multiple work party days were scheduled, completing the seeding project in spring 2025.

5. How many non-Rotarians benefited from this project? Thousands upon thousands. The PLC hosts thousands of local school children and community members annually. This project is part of a larger water education installation along the Bond Patio at the InSTEM center at the PLC, which is an outdoor education and cultural/social center for our community of 125,000. Staff from the Poudre Learning Center report that the PLC currently supports around 7,000-10,000 school-aged students annually, hundreds of college students, and countless visitors who frequent the area as part of the Poudre River Trail system.
6. Who are the beneficiaries and what is the expected long-term community impact of this project? The immediate beneficiary of this project is the Poudre Learning Center, and tens of thousands of school-aged students will benefit from this project in the years to come. This marks the completion of phase II of a three-phase project, all of which support the Bond Patio water education project. Water is an essential resource in northern Colorado (and the world), and educating our youth about the critical need for sustainable water usage will have a long-term impact beyond the PLC project and the Rotarians who have worked on it.
7. If a cooperating organization was involved, what was their role? The Poudre Learning Center and Greeley-Evans School District Six are the cooperating organizations and beneficiaries of these grant funds. The PLC helped to ensure that the dollars were spent to fulfill the intent of the grant and ensure that phase I of the project was completed and that students and the community are provided access to this new area.
8. Income:

Income Item	Description	Total
1	Greeley Centennial Rotary Club	\$ 334.00
2	District 5440 Match	\$ 666.00
Total Income		\$1000.00

9. Expenditures: (number receipts starting with 1 and indicate a receipt # (s) for each expenditure) (Do not include travel expenses)

Expense Item	Description	Total
1	Pasture Pro Herbicide \$160/2.5 Gallon/container X 2 containers	\$ 320.00
2	PBSI native prairie seed mix \$16/lb, 15lbs/acre, 5 lbs	\$ 160.00
3	PBSI Foothills native mix \$9.50/lb, 25lbs/acre, 25 lbs	\$ 238.00
4	Native Prairie wildflower mix \$50/lb, 1/3lb/1,000 sq ft , 4lb	\$ 200.00
5	Spring/summer cover mix \$1.70/lb, 25lb/acre, 25lb	\$ 43.00
6	Safety equipment, and general supplies	\$ 38.00
Total Expenses		\$1000.00

Project supplies were purchased by staff from the PLC. Proof of funds dispersal are documented through a canceled check from our Centennial Rotary Foundation and the Poudre Learning Center:



Check Image

FOR SECURITY PURPOSES, THE FACE OF THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS A COLORED BACKGROUND AND MICROPRINTING IN THE BORDER.

The Centennial Foundation Operating Account PO Box 337426 Greeley, CO 80633-0624	First National Bank Oak Office Fort Collins, CO 80522-0578	11150
DATE		10/01/2024
PAY TO THE ORDER OF		WCSD6/Poudre Learning Center
One thousand and 00/100		\$ **1,000.00
		DOLLARS
WCSD6/Poudre Learning Center 1025 9th Avenue Greeley, Co 80634		
MEMO <u>Water Education Grant, Phase II</u>		<i>[Signature]</i>
SECURITY FEATURES INCLUDED. DETAILS ON BACK.		



10. Please explain any variance of more than 5% between the budgeted amount and the actual amount including the reason for the variance and why the alternative was chosen. N/A

11. Project score (5=strongly, 4=agree, 3= neutral, 2=disagree, 1=strongly disagree)

	Project Score	Comments
The overall project was successful	5	Native grasses have grown throughout the spring and summer
The grant process worked well	5	
My interaction with partner clubs was good	N/A	The experience with fellow Rotarians was rewarding.
We achieved the results we expected	5	The project was completed as expected.

12. Did you upload photos in your project on matchinggrants.org under the Photos tab?
(If not, please do so) **Yes.**

13. What worked well on this project and why? This project was successful as it helped to support the needs of a non-profit organization that provides an essential educational and recreational service to the Northern Colorado communities. Many Rotarians were engaged in this project, which was great for providing community service and camaraderie. The grant writing process is well understood and went well, too.

1. What did not work well and how would you suggest improving it? Overall, the project went smoothly with no suggested improvements.

14. How was this project publicized? Opportunities to participate in the service work party were advertised during club meetings, our World Community Service committee meetings, via our weekly newsletter, and on our club website. A project update was presented to club membership in January 2025.

15. Scholarship Governor's grant only **N/A**

a. Name of scholarship awardee _____

b. Current school _____

c. University of college they will be attending _____

d. Course of study _____

e. Starting date _____

Project Inventory

Please list all items provided in this grant that are over \$500 in value and are not expendable. N/A

Item Purchased	Date of Purchase	Cost	Initial Destination/ Location	Comments

By signing this report, I confirm that to the best of my knowledge these District Grant funds were spent only for eligible items in accordance with Trustee-approved guidelines, and that all the information contained herein is true and accurate. Receipts for all grant-funded expenditures are attached. I also understand that all photographs submitted in connection with this report will become the property of RI and will not be returned. I warrant that I own all rights to the photographs, including copyright, and hereby grant the District, RI and TRF a royalty free irrevocable license to use the photographs now or in the future, through the District and the world in any manner it so chooses and in any medium now known or developed. This includes the right to modify the photographs as necessary in the District's and RI's sole discretion. This also includes, without limitation, use on or in the web sites, magazines, brochures, pamphlets, exhibitions and any other promotional materials of the District, RI, and TRF.

Please attach all receipts or an invoice and a copy of the check used to pay the invoice. Funds over \$100 not used must be returned to the district grants treasurer.

Certifying signature of primary contact:



Date: 08/31/2025

Print name: Matt Thompson, World Community Service Chair, Greeley Centennial Rotary

Upload this report on matchinggrants.org in .pdf format only