

Volunteer Opportunities for McKinley Elementary School's Garden and Farm-to-School Projects

Activity	Description	Frequency	Est. # hours	Location	Day? Eve? Anytim	Comments
Garden/F2S Steering Committee Member	Attend meetings with other parents, school and district staff, to discuss and plan for garden calendar, Farm-to-School meals, garden events, curriculum development, community outreach, and general short- and long-term direction of these projects.	twice a month, usually in the afternoon	1-2 hours	school	Days, usually - but we may be organizing monthly evening meetings.	Most of the members of the garden committee volunteer for additional tasks as well. Serving on this committee provides opportunities for project leadership and organizational skill development.
Garden Work Party Volunteer	About once or twice a quarter, parents and children get together to clean and prep the garden and orchard areas.	once or twice during each school quarter	1-2 hours	school	Usually days, but may organize these during evenings during spring and summer	If you would like to be on the list to be notified of these events so you can just "show up" when you can, please contact us!
Parent-Classroom Liaison	Work with individual teachers through the year to design or gain access to garden related activities and curricula. Driven by teacher interest and needs. Possibly coordinated with SKED garden coordinator.	weekly-biweekly	Depends on interest and level of engagement (suggested 2-4 hours/week)	school	Days, usually	Members of Garden committee can help with ideas, curriculum, etc. This task may also be done in with another parent/volunteer. Must have criminal background check when working with children.
PTC Liaison	Attend monthly meetings with the McK Parent-Teacher Club monthly, and report on the activities, plans, and needs of the Garden F2S projects to the other PCT members.	Monthly	1-2 hours/month	school	Evenings	This is the perfect job for someone who wants to be involved with both the PTC and the F2S-Garden effort
Project Builder	Build/assist in building structures and systems that the garden needs.	monthly	1-4 hours	school	Days, usually	Fencing, espalier structure, garden boxes, low-water irrigation are all examples of projects that have been/are being built by volunteers in this project. We will certainly have more projects to inspire and confound you!
Project Item Procurement	Find and purchase small items that help a garden or classroom project go smoothly, such as small cups for smoothie tasting or popsicle sticks for garden markers	As needed	1	home/shop ping trip	Anytime	The Garden-F2G effort has its own budget/treasury so expenditures would be reimbursed. Duties may also include trips to Fed Ex for copying documents, etc
Farm-to-School Liaison	Works with Bon Appetit, local farmers, possibly Salem-Keizer SD to advocate for and organize Farm-to-School efforts	monthly	1-3 hours	home/school	Days, usually	This is a role that can be shared by more than one person.
Blog contributor	Write or provide links and photos for the McK "Cultivating Curiosity" garden blog editor to post	As desired	depends on interest	home	Anytime	We'd love to receive your submissions to the school's garden blog

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Event Photographer	Take photos of garden related activities and events	as needed	2 hours/month?	school	Days, usually	Would need to supply own photo equipment and preferable be acquainted with digital photo management. Appropriate for upper middle school or high school student.
Summer garden maintenance	This role includes watering the garden through the dry months, weeding, spreading hog fuel and mulch, etc	according to summer schedule mostly	1 hour/day	school	Anytime but in summer mornings and evenings preferred	This is an essential role during the summer. It's a great time to "zone out" with your i-pod, or bring your kids to run around the field while you water, or come with a friend - one waters, one weeds, etc.
Grant Writer	write the text and compiles the supporting information needed to apply for local and federal grant programs relating to Farm 2 School and/or Garden activities.	as needed	4-8 hrs/week when meeting deadline	home	Anytime	Often requires intensive focus and expanded time commitment close to application deadline. School staff and garden committee available to help supply support materials.
Grant Researcher	Research availability of grants that could fund garden or farm to school related projects.	1-4 hours/month?	as needed	home/public library	Anytime	City of Salem, State of Oregon often have community related grants available.
Media Liaison	Make sure the Statesman and SKEF newsletters carry the news of events in our garden/F2S program.	depends on need	1 hour	home/school	Days, usually	Reaching out to the Media is often overlooked in the last moments of a project. This is why it would be nice to have a Media Liaison.
Fundraising	Organize and implement Mother's Day Summer Flower Planter sales and similar events to raise money specifically for the Garden F2S effort	Once or twice during school year?	1-6 hours	home/school	Anytime	This role can certainly be shared by more than one person. Good planning skills are desirable. You can use your imagination for fundraising activities!
Event Organizer	Through the year, the Garden/F2S committee hosts several events. Each event needs at least one leader to delegate/take on responsibilities and actions to make the event happen successfully.	as needed	4-12 hours/week when meeting deadline	school (usually)	Anytime	This is another opportunity that encourages the development of marketable skills. Events during the school year have included Fall and Spring Farm to School dinners, the Spring Garden party, "tasting tables", and school assemblies. You will have the assistance and support of the F2S Garden Committee
Your job here!	If you have a particular interest or skill you would like to share with the Garden F2S effort that you don't see listed here -- create your own job!	As desired	Your choice	Your choice	Your choice	If you have something you would like to do -- let us know! If you want ideas, come talk or email to F2S committee members, or talk to your child's teacher.

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