

Point Elementary School Garden Club Opens Water Pond

The Point Elementary School Garden Club recently expanded its Outdoor Education Lab with the addition of a pond. The new water feature includes a pond, stream and working waterfall. The pond was created to allow teachers to make the curriculum come alive with hands-on learning for all students. The pond area provides the opportunity for students to learn about and build on their innate interest in nature, using dynamic hands-on activities which provide sensory stimulation and student-led lessons.



Science experiments will be taking place in this Outdoor Lab as the students learn how to care for the water in the pond by using ultraviolet lamps and processes for water treatment. Students will discover how natural algae and fungi grow and how aquatic plants are used to create a healthy water ecosystem. The Outdoor Education Lab has an accessible pathway for all students.

The fourth and fifth grade students, under the guidance of fourth grade teacher Melissa Vandeven, helped with

the installation of the pond. The student-led Outdoor Education Club will oversee the pond maintenance and care for the fish that will be added soon.

A tremendous amount of service and donations for the pond were provided by Aaron Burchet, Vice-President of Operations for PONDMARKET. This business was responsible for overseeing the installation, pond maintenance training and general direction of the pond design.

The landscape rocks for the outer portion of the pond, the stream and the waterfall were donated by another generous business, Ideal Landscape Group.

Point Elementary would like to thank these two businesses for partnering with the school to make this exciting project possible.