

A4LE brings community together at Madison Elementary School

Day of Service at Madison brings volunteers and over \$80,000 in upgrades



Everett—April 20 was a *Day of Service* filled with beauty bark, playground equipment, benches, carpet, paint and over 140 volunteers helping install upgrades at Madison Elementary School. Association for Learning Environments (A4LE) selected Madison Elementary to receive over \$80,000 for upgrades to their school and they organized the labor as well.

Beginning the previous weekend, volunteers from Skanska General Contractors, Weisman Design Group, and Mahlum Architects prepped the school site by removing and disposing of the old play structure and pouring concrete footings to prepare for the big day. When volunteers arrived at 9 a.m. on April 20 they checked in and received a special t-shirt, put on their gloves and went to work.

“Wow that’s a lot of footings!” shared Christen Sanders, volunteer from Coughlin Porter Lundeen, who was thankful for the prep work so the concrete had time to dry.

A4LE volunteers, worked alongside Everett Public Schools facilities and maintenance staff, Madison students and staff and community members. They installed a new kindergarten play structure, concrete pavers, interior and exterior furniture, new walk-off mats at the main entry, weeded and placed beauty bark in landscaped areas, and installed new plastic slats in the generator enclosure fence.

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Madison Elementary teacher, Julie Smith shared, "This is the most meaningful activity I have ever been a part of at Madison."

"We're grateful for the willing volunteers and accommodating district and school staff that helped our Day of Service become a success. We hope the kids and families will enjoy the improvements for years to come," added Will Shrader, volunteer from Weisman Design Group.

A4LE is a professional, nonprofit association whose mission is to improve the places where children learn, and whose members locally include many professionals associated with the school design and construction industry.

Everett Public Schools Deputy Superintendent Joyce Stewart stated, "It's amazing to see what we can do when we all come together as a community."

"What a great day at Madison Elementary!" said Darcy Walker, director of facilities and planning at Everett Public Schools. "I want to extend my sincere appreciation to A4LE and to all the volunteers that made this amazing gift to the Madison Elementary community possible."

Watch [Day of Service at Madison Elementary](http://bit.ly/A4LEMadisonES2019). (<http://bit.ly/A4LEMadisonES2019>)

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