# Creekside Elementary

Schoolyard Design

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#### Concept

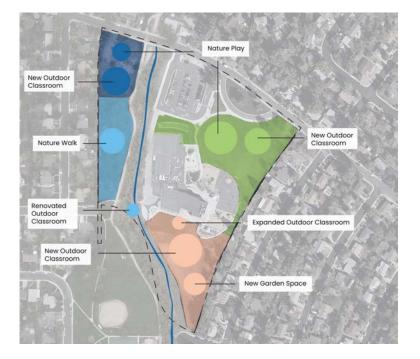
Our design aims to improve the connection between the students and the natural systems that surround them.

Using ecologically themed areas, we aim to intuitively teach kids about the ecosystems that Bear Creek has helped shape.

### Ecosystem Zones

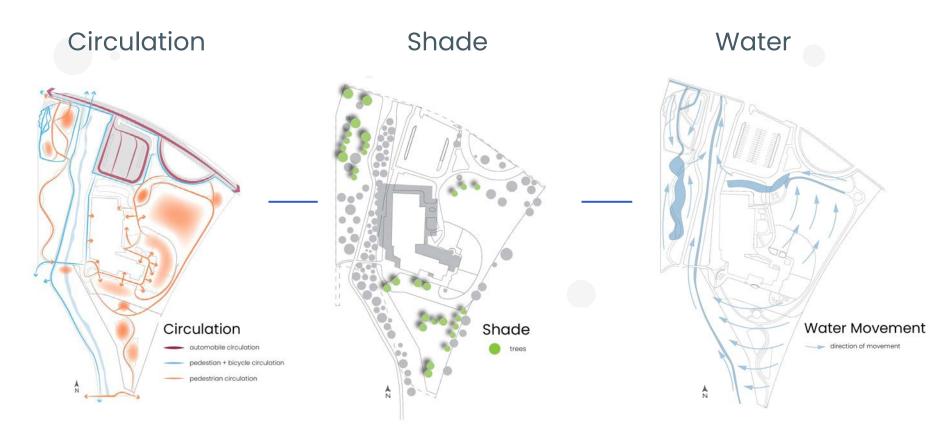


### Diagrammatic Master Plan





#### **Improved Site Conditions**



# Foothills Zone

3

2

1111

1":30

- 1 Foot Bridge
- 2 Seating
- 3 Extended Rain Garden
- 4 Wood Deck Covering Drainage Rocks

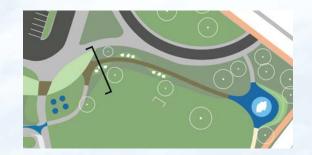
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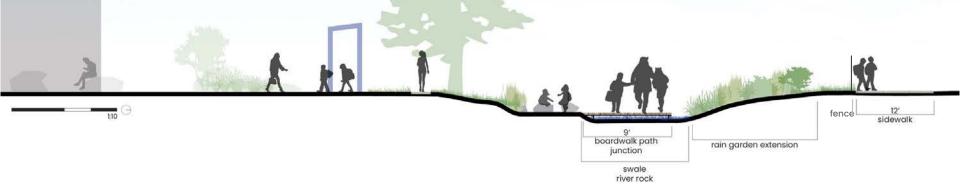
- 5 Rock Play
- 6 Flagstone Path
- 7 Artificial Climbing Boulder
- Grassy Hill

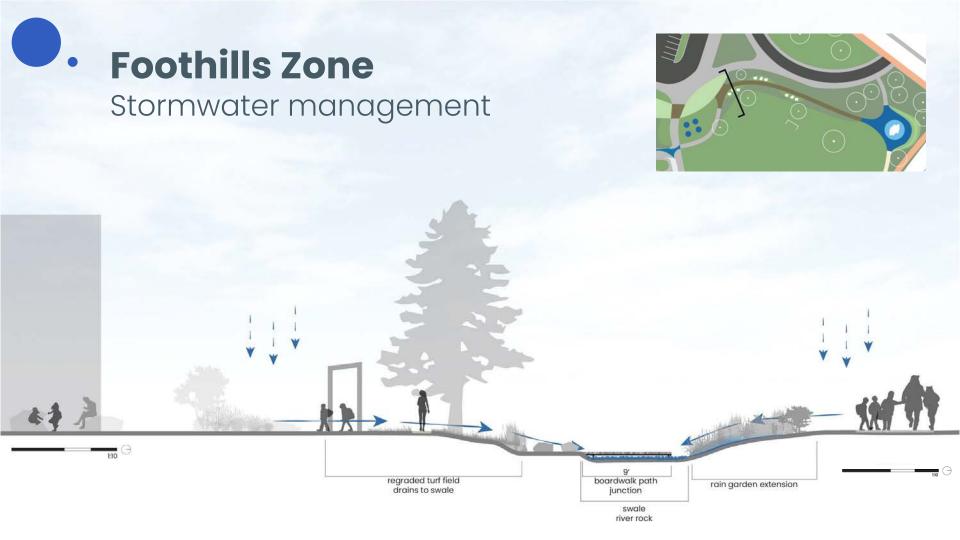
+2'

Gate To Bus Loop









### • Foothills Zone Plantings



Curl-leaf mountain mahogany Cercocarpus ledifolius

**Red osier dogwood** *Cornus sericea* 

> Mexican feathergrass Nasella stipa tenuissima

Little bluestem Schizachyrium scoparium

> **Canada anemone** Anemone canadensis

Purple coneflower Echinacea purpurea

> **Mixed fescue** Festuca

Buffalograss Bouteloua dactyloides



# Foothills Zone

# Prairie Zone

Existing Student Gardens
Outdoor Classroom/Gardens

2

N 1":30"

4-

3

3 Seating

4 Solar Field

5 Shed

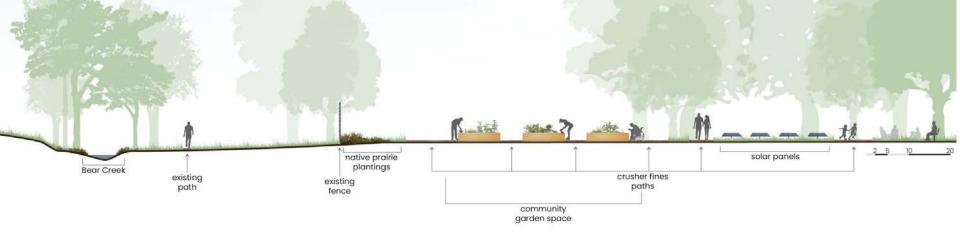
6 Community Garden Plots

7 Pollinator Planters

Fruit Trees

Community Gateway

#### **Prairie Zone** Community Gardens





#### **Prairie Zone** Outdoor Classroom



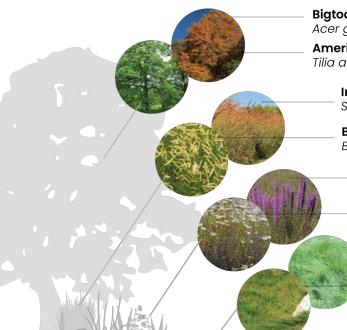
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native lawn alternative	raised garden beds 30 outdoor	student garden plots	crusher fines path	native prairie plantings
	classroom	1":8'		

#### **Prairie Zone** Outdoor Classroom



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a).	native lawn	raised garden beds 👓	student garden	crusher	native prairie
	alternative	outdoor	plots	fines path	plantings
		classroom	1":8'		

#### **Prairie Zone** Plantings



**Bigtooth maple** Acer grandidentatum **American linden** Tilia americana

> Indiangrass Sorghastrum nutans

**Blue grama** Bouteloua gracilis

> **Dotted gayfeather** Liatris punctata

**Spreading buckwheat** *Erigonium effusum* 

> \_ **Mixed fescue** Festuca

Buffalograss Bouteloua dactyloides TIT **Fruit Trees Deciduous Trees Pollinator Plantings** Native Prairie Perennial Mix Low-water Turf Alternative **Community Gardens** Student Gardens A 1930

# Prairie Zone

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#### Montane Zone

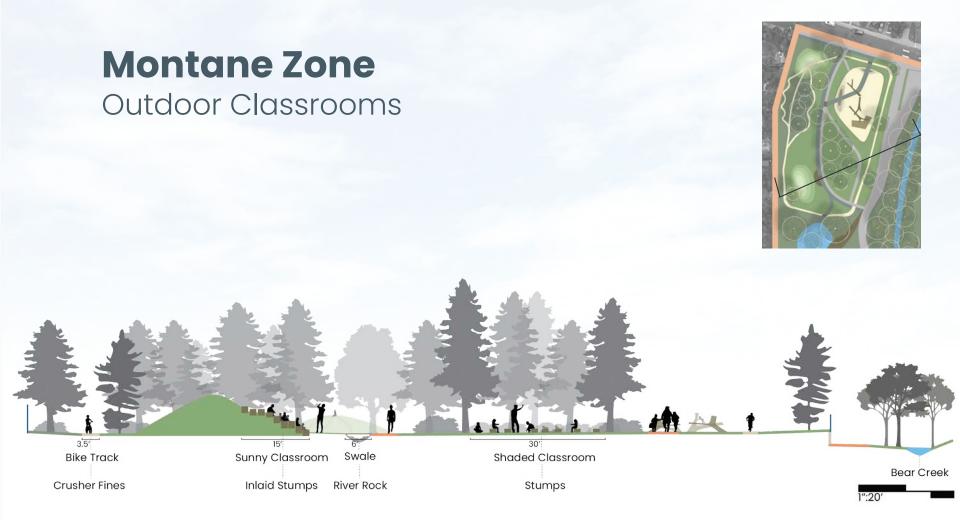
- Swale
   Bike Track Starting Hill
   Seating
- 4 Nature Play Area
- 5 Shaded Outdoor Classrom
- 6 Sunny Outdoor Classroom
- 7 Stepping Stone Connection To Boardwalk

3

4

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1":50



# Montane Zone

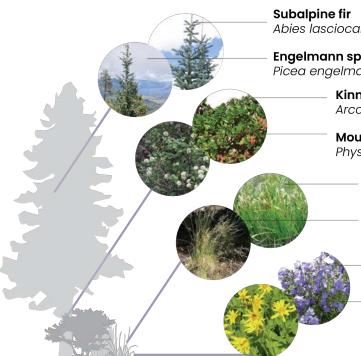
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# Montane Zone Nature playground

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Abies lasciocarpa

**Engelmann spruce** Picea engelmannii

> Kinnikinnick Arcostaphylos uva-ursi

Mountain ninebark Physocarpus monogynus

> Elk sedge Carex geyeri

Mountain muhly Muhlenbergia montanus

> **Bluebell bellflower** Campanula rotundifolia

Heartleaf arnica Arnica cordifolia



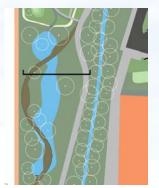
### **Riparian Zone**

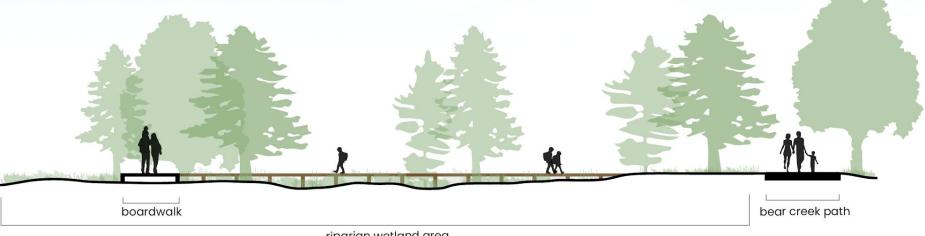
- Swale
   Culvert
   Stepping Stone Overflow Dam
   Existing Riparian Ecosystem
- 5 Boardwalk
- 6 Existing Culvert





# **Riparian Zone** Nature Walk





riparian wetland area

#### Funding Support and Opportunities

By 2025 The Trust for Public Lands aims to expand their Green Schoolyard initiative and "advocate at the federal, state, and local levels to increase funding sources for green schoolyards, support policies like shared-use agreements, and build recognition of the importance of green schoolyards in improving educational outcomes, cooling neighborhoods, and managing floodwaters."





"GOCO invests a portion of Colorado Lottery proceeds to help preserve and enhance the state's parks, trails, wildlife, rivers, and open spaces. Our independent board awards competitive grants to local governments and land trusts, and makes investments through Colorado Parks and Wildlife."



We will generate more than \$10 billion in funding for land protection and establish 500 protected places for public benefit, deploying innovative tools to advance community conservation goals.



We will put a quality park within a 10-minute walk of five million people who currently lack access by creating new parks or transforming underutilized parks in the communities of greatest need and by activating local and national

partnerships.



We will grow our schoolyards program to expand park access for nearly 6 million people across the country and open green schoolyards in 20 underserved school districts. TRAILS

We will connect more than 3 million people to 1,000 miles of local and national trails and greenways.



# Funding Support and Opportunities

Thorne NATURE Experience

#### Goals

All Boulder County youth regardless of race, ethnicity, and income are provided the opportunity to connect with nature.

Boulder County youth are the most environmentally literate in the United States.

Sources

Peaceful Playgrounds provides a list of available School Playground Grants, many of which Creekside Elementary would qualify for!

#### Shade Structures Grant Program

Organization: American Academy of Dermatology

Purpose: Purchase of permanent shade structures designed to provide shade and UV ray protection for outdoor areas.

Amount: \$8,000

Fruit Tree 101 Program Organization: Fruit Tree Planting Foundation

Purpose: Provides 20-25 trees on school grounds, including materials, installation, and on-site curriculum.

Amount: 20-25 Fruit Trees

Healthy Kids Initiative Organization: Whole Foods Foundation

Purpose: school/community native plant garden, a forest improvement project, a stream-side restoration plan, a recycling program...

Amount: \$15,000-\$25,000

https://thornenature.org/about/mission/

https://peacefulplaygrounds.com/playground-and-garden-grants/

# Thank you!