

## Heather Tschaekofske

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**From:** Laurence Reeves <laurence@capitolandtrust.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2024 11:28 AM  
**To:** Heather Tschaekofske  
**Subject:** FW: Children's environmental education center

Hi Heather, here's my email response to Sandra. I also left her a voicemail but haven't yet talked with her. Laurence

**From:** Laurence Reeves  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2024 11:26 AM  
**To:** SandyBahr@comcast.net  
**Subject:** FW: Children's environmental education center

Greetings Sandra, I wanted to follow up on the voicemail I left you yesterday, to make sure your questions get answered. I'm also happy to talk with you about this as well. It might be best first to describe what it is we're hoping to do with our Inspiring Kids Preserve. Our intent is to have the property be an "outdoor classroom" and not have enclosed structures on the property. We have already had numerous classes from North Thurston School District visit the property over the last several years for outdoor learning experiences, and one of the big constraints that we identified is there isn't a place where buses can pull off of Johnson Point Rd so that students can safely enter and exit the school buses. As you know, people drive fast along that section of Johnson Point Rd, so having the buses stop in the road to unload and load kids is not ideal. Thus, the main infrastructure that this project hopes to develop is a driveway and parking area on the property where buses can pick up and drop off students, and park; and have limited parking for visitors coming in cars. There will be an open-sided pavilion where students can gather before heading out onto the property, and a porta potty, but there isn't going to be an enclosed education building or indoor classrooms.

In terms of the timing, we've been waiting for over three years to get the permits to build the driveway and parking area, so it's hard for me to give you a solid timeline. However, it is our hope to have it completed by 2026. Once the entrance and parking area is completed it will be open to the public. We currently have smaller events there now that are open to the public, and we would love to see you and your grandkids come to one (or more) of our events. You can check our website at [WWW.CapitolLandTrust.Org/Events](http://WWW.CapitolLandTrust.Org/Events) to see when we have events scheduled at Inspiring Kids Preserve (we are actually having an MLK event out there on Monday.)

In terms of WSU Cooperative Extension, I don't know much about the programs they offer. I will certainly connect with them to see if there are ways they can support our programming and goals for the property.

Thank you again for contacting us and for your support of the project. Please don't hesitate to contact me if there's any more information you need. Best regards, Laurence

Laurence Reeves  
 Conservation Director  
 Capitol Land Trust  
 Direct/Text: 360-819-1460 | [CapitolLandTrust.org](http://CapitolLandTrust.org)  
 Pronouns: *he/him*  
 \*\*NEW\*\* Mailing Address: PO Box 14065 Tumwater, WA 98511  
 Contact me to schedule in-person or virtual meetings.



**From:** Heather Tschaekofske <[heather.tschaekofske@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:heather.tschaekofske@co.thurston.wa.us)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 3:58 PM  
**To:** Laurence Reeves <[laurence@capitolandtrust.org](mailto:laurence@capitolandtrust.org)>  
**Subject:** FW: Children's environmental education center

Hello,

Please see the below public comment submitted for the recent MDNS noticing. I sent the commenter a link to the online documents, but feel free to respond to all other questions accordingly. Please include me on the response, so that I can add it to the record.

Thanks so much,

**Heather Tschaekofske** | Associate Planner/Biologist, MES  
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*This communication is a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Washington State Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.*

Currently I am in the field or teleworking Monday through Thursday. Email is the most efficient method of contact at this time. Thanks for your patience.

#### **NOTICE**

Beginning February 21, 2023, the Planning Services Division will be providing assistance in the Building Development Center between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. This temporary schedule is in place until further notice. Please visit [www.thurstoncountybdc.com](http://www.thurstoncountybdc.com) for up to date information, hours of operation, and services provided remotely.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Sandra Bahr <[SandyBahr@comcast.net](mailto:SandyBahr@comcast.net)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 1:29 PM  
**To:** Heather Tschaekofske <[heather.tschaekofske@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:heather.tschaekofske@co.thurston.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Children's environmental education center

Hi Heather,

I live directly across from the project site at 5318 Johnson Pt Rd. I've raised my kids and approaching retirement and I am really interested and supportive of this project.

I have a few questions. I've tried going to links from the letter I received on Dec 7th to no avail.

1. When will this education center be built?
2. When will it be open to the public? I'd love to check it out with my grandkids.
3. I've been a 4H leader in the past, are there plans to utilize any of the wsu cooperative extension office programs to be a part of supporting this education center?

Can you send me a project plan or a link and reply to this email so I can click for more information.

Thank you,

Sandra Mode  
360-481-5251

Sent from my iPhone  
Sandra Mode

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