

**Regional School Unit 26**  
**Stipend Position Proposal**

**Attach:** Proposed Stipend Job Description ([Stipend Job Description Template linked](#))

**School (s):** Orono Middle School

**Advisor:** Jessica Archer

**Activity Name:** School Garden Project

**Purpose:** To enhance student opportunities to learn about sustainable agriculture which includes planting, growing, tending, and harvesting vegetables. Food preparation, collaborative learning, and environmental science concepts are also central to learning through this project.

**How will this program fill a need that exists in RSU26?**

Outdoor education and science concepts being taught through this project supports and expands current classroom units of instruction.

**Anticipated Number of Weeks the Program Will Run (season):**

Program support is necessary throughout the school year: Spring - seedling preparation and planting, summer planting and care, Fall - harvest and garden cleanup

**Anticipated Year Length:** School Year (10-months) or Full Year (12-months)

12 month focus with more time devoted to planting, cultivation and harvest during spring, summer and fall.

**Anticipated Number of Students to Participate:**

150 to 200 students at both OMS and Asa

**Anticipated Location to Meet:**

School Garden in front of OHS.

**A brief description of what activities this program will provide:**

See attached handout - [School Garden Stipend Proposal Addendum](#) & [School Garden Job Description](#)

**Anticipated Budget (for first year and proposed second year):**

The garden was started in the summer of 2020 with last year being the first full year. This is the second year of the garden, so I will reflect on last year's cost and this academic year. The amounts are all approximate costs. Many items have been graciously donated from companies Mrs. Archer has already established a relationship with from start of garden until now..

	<b>Year 1 (2022-23)</b>	<b>Proposed Year 2 (2023-2024)</b>
Fees		
Supplies	<p>\$800-\$1000</p> <p>A grant from Maine Agriculture in the Classroom was awarded in the amount of \$2000 for use this year</p> <p>Upfront initial cost of the raised beds and groundwork.</p> <p>Also, many supplies for garden projects were part of summer funding.</p>	Soil, plants, seeds, etc.: \$200
Equipment	\$800 (Garden tools) - fixed one time cost	\$500-\$1000 Equipment replacement as needed
Other (itemize)		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2000 (supplies, equipment, other items to be covered by the grant this year).</b>	<b>\$500 (in addition to the cost to put the garden into place</b>

To maintain the garden, an amount of \$500-\$750 would be needed annually; grant money is being used to continue to establish the garden and create many permanent structures that do not need to be replaced annually. I am also waiting to hear back from two other grants for larger items (fencing, tables, signs).

**Building Administrator**  Approved  Denied Date: 10/31/22 Comments:

**Superintendent**  Approved  Denied Date: Comments:

**Stipend Committee**  Approved  Denied Date: Points Recommendation **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Responsibility:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approved (Principal):** KG (10/31/22)  
updated:

**Regional School Unit 26**  
10 Goodridge Drive  
Orono, Maine 04473

**POSITION:** School Garden Project

**SCHOOL:** Orono Middle School

**REPORTS TO:** OMS Principal

**TIME COMMITMENT**

**Number of hours per week & number of weeks**

February to April - 5 to 10 hours per week

April to May - 5 to 10 hours per week

June to August - 10 hours per week

September November - 2 to 4 hours per week

**School Year (10-Months) or Full Year (12-Months)**

12 month commitment throughout the calendar year

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

Knowledge of basic gardening skills, raised bed management, soil preparation, planting, harvesting etc. Ability to supervise students in an outdoor setting, collaboration with other district staff, teaching students about seeds/seedlings, planting, and knowledge of community gardening resources. Grant writing skill would be an asset.

**JOB GOALS:**

1. Foster and develop a garden club
2. Expand/increase community awareness and connection to support school garden
3. Expand composting initiative with reduced food waste initiative
4. OMS/OHS Initiative
5. Sensory garden expansion
6. Addition of educational signs
7. Curriculum standards connection (formalize this to show how many standards are being met through use of the school garden).

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Supervising students with garden tools while planting and garden maintenance.
2. Showing student how to plant and harvest garden crops
3. Teach students about proper harvest safe food prep, and general cooking skills.
4. Explore and write grants to support school garden
5. Know of , and collaboration with local gardening resources (local businesses and UMaine).
6. Coordinate local educational programming between RSU26 schools