



Saint Francis Xavier Catholic School



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**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL AWARDED \$15,000 LET'S PLAY
CONSTRUCTION GRANT FROM DR PEPPER SNAPPLE GROUP
AND NATIONAL NON-PROFIT KaBOOM!**

Kearns, Utah, July, 17 2017 – Dr Pepper Snapple Group (DPS) and national non-profit KaBOOM! awarded St. Francis Xavier School a \$15,000 Let's Play Community Construction Grant that will be used to replace our Preschool and Pre Kindergarten playground at St. Francis Xavier Catholic School.

The grant is part of Let's Play, an initiative by DPS to provide kids and families with the tools, places and inspiration to make active play a daily priority. Unstructured, child-directed play has proven to help kids develop physically, emotionally, socially and intellectually, yet today's kids have less time and fewer opportunities to play than any previous generation. As a result of Let's Play grants and projects, more than 6.5 million kids will benefit from new or improved playgrounds around the nation by the end of 2020.

"This is a great gift to help celebrate our 60th anniversary of the first kindergarten class from 1957." said Marianne Rozsahegyi, Principal. "We hope to get the community of Saint Francis Xavier, past and present, involved in remembering the its first Kindergarten teacher, Mrs.



Geraldine Conti, and help our current early childhood students thrive through active play.”

The grant will be used to purchase a new little learner playground equipment that is suited for ages 3-6. It will be installed right outside the pre-school, preKinder, and Kindergarten classrooms for easy access. Saint Francis Xavier students will be able to grow in fine motor coordination and learn valuable social skills through free play. As sedentary digital distraction moves into early childhood, active play spaces are vital during these ages.

Dr Pepper Snapple has committed more than \$35.5 million to Let's Play through 2019, impacting youth-serving organizations across the U.S., as well as Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean. Through Let's Play, Dr Pepper Snapple partners with two non-profit organizations, KaBOOM! and Good Sports, to build and improve playgrounds in underserved communities and provide grants for sports equipment. In this way, Dr Pepper Snapple is doing our part to help eliminate the play deficit by making active play possible for more kids.

Since its launch in 2011, Let's Play has provided more than 10 million children with more opportunities to play via safe, accessible playgrounds and sports equipment. Moreover, by 2020 we will have engaged more than 80,000 volunteers from Dr Pepper Snapple, our partners and our communities in this effort.

Visit Let's Play at www.LetsPlay.com to join the conversation and learn how to apply for the various available grants to make communities more active and playful.

About St. Francis Xavier Catholic School

Founded in 1957, our preschool through 8th grade campus serves children from as far west as Magna to neighborhoods on the east bench, and cities as far up as North Salt Lake to beyond West Jordan in the south. We provide one class for each grade level. This is the advantage of being a small school, our teachers know every student individually. Such attention to the spiritual, academic, and social well being of each child creates an environment where children discover their inherent gifts and gain confidence in themselves. Parents and teachers together foster the loving yet challenging environment for our children to grow in faith, knowledge, wisdom, and compassion. This is the SFX difference - we are a close-knit community of faculty, family and alumni dedicated to nurturing our students, fostering strong home and school relationships and academic excellence, rooted in God's love for all. We believe that the spiritual, academic, and social aspects of every child form the foundation for their lifetime. www.stfrancisxavierschool.org

About Let's Play

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[Facebook.com/LetsPlay](https://www.facebook.com/LetsPlay).

About Dr Pepper Snapple Group

Dr Pepper Snapple Group (NYSE: DPS) is a leading producer of flavored beverages in North America and the Caribbean. Our success is fueled by more than 50 brands that are synonymous with refreshment, fun and flavor. We have 6 of the top 10 non-cola soft drinks, and 13 of our 14 leading brands are No. 1 or No. 2 in their flavor categories. In addition to our flagship Dr Pepper and Snapple brands, our portfolio includes 7UP, A&W, Canada Dry, Clamato, Crush, Hawaiian Punch, Mott's, Mr & Mrs T mixers, Peñafiel, Rose's, Schweppes, Squirt and Sunkist soda. To learn more about our iconic brands and Plano, Texas-based company, please visit www.DrPepperSnapple.com. For our latest news and updates, follow us at www.facebook.com/DrPepperSnapple or www.twitter.com/DrPepperSnapple.

About KaBOOM!

KaBOOM! is the national non-profit dedicated to giving all kids – particularly those growing up in poverty in America – the childhood they deserve filled with balanced and active play, so they can thrive. Since 1996, KaBOOM! has collaborated with partners to build, open, or improve more than 16,700 playgrounds, engaged more than one million volunteers, and served 8.5 million kids. KaBOOM! creates great places to play, inspires communities to promote and support play, and works to drive the national discussion about the importance of play in fostering healthy and productive lives. To learn why #playmatters and why cities are embracing #playability: visit kaboom.org or join the conversation at twitter.com/kaboom or facebook.com/kaboom.

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