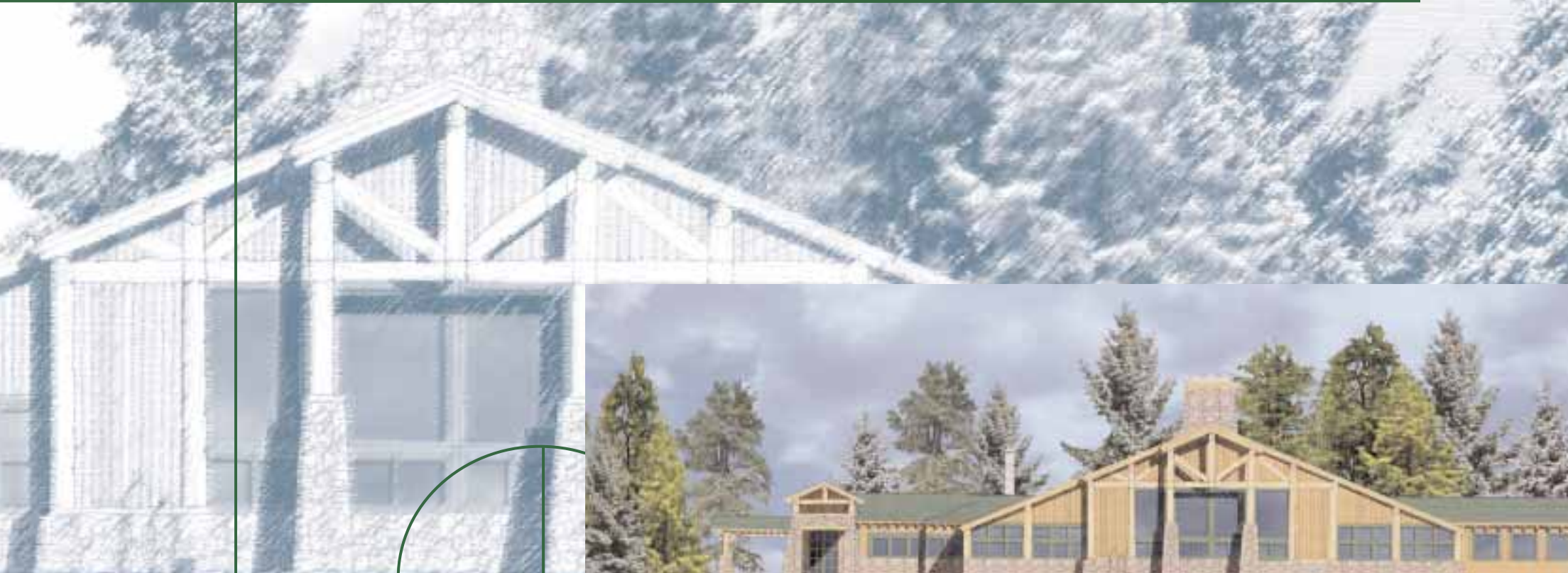


A Mind Altering Experience



The Walden West Science Learning Center Project



If We Build It, They Can Come

Why do the children of Santa Clara County need a solid science education?

“...developing an interest in science at an early age is critical to their future and that of our country.”

Mike Splinter, CEO Applied Materials

“Nothing beats opening the minds of young children to the mysteries, excitement and possibilities of science. It gives them a platform for personal exploration, it furnishes them with the curiosity that leads towards investigation and it gives them and our local economy the means to compete against all manner of foe.”

Michael Moritz, General Partner, Sequoia Capital

“A solid science education, beginning in elementary school, is one of the cornerstones of developing a workforce for the future that can create new technologies that we haven’t yet imagined.”

Dave Roberson, President, Chief Operating Officer, Hitachi Data Systems

“The Bay Area life sciences and technology growth has been fueled by the innovative minds of people with an acute understanding of science and engineering. This understanding and creativity has been fostered in the school systems, starting with elementary school science and math education. If we reduce our focus and financial support of science education in schools, we are potentially cutting off the lifeblood of our innovation-driven Bay Area economy.”

W. Mark Lortz, President & CEO TheraSense, Inc.

“Science allows our students to comprehend and appreciate the many natural wonders and technological implements of our world. Solar energy, fiber optics, satellite TV, what makes an airplane fly, how does a radio or TV work, what makes crazy glue stick so well, how do we use the sun to turn city lights on and off, how do glasses or contact lenses work...”

Nicholas Brathwaite, CTO Flextronics International



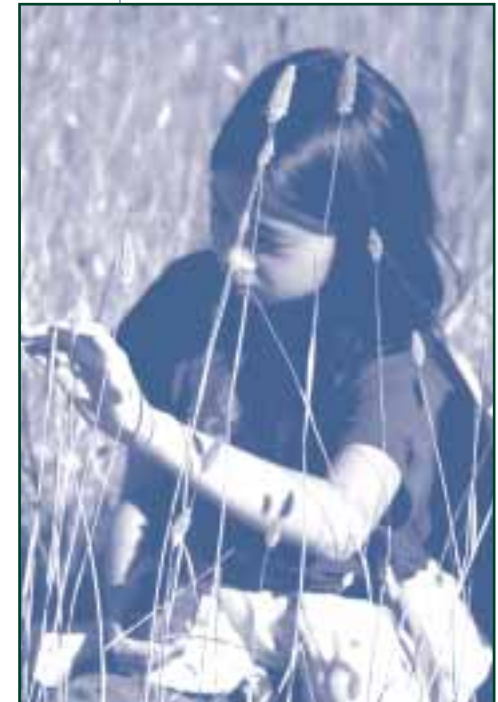
How will The Walden West Science Learning Center Project change tomorrow?

The mission of the Walden West School Foundation is to inspire every student in Santa Clara County to learn about and comprehend the important role that science plays in their daily lives and in the lives of those around them. By completely renovating the Walden West site, to include a multi-purpose lodge, new dining room and kitchen, new cabins, an ecological learning center and a comprehensive science discovery lab, Walden West will be equipped to touch every child in Santa Clara County. Not only will middle-school aged children be able to attend a week of resident science camp, much like the "Redwood Glen" of yesterday, but the new Science Learning Center will provide a much needed opportunity for teachers to stage day trips to Walden West for all grades, from elementary through high school.

The future of the Walden West Science Learning Center Project is not just about building new buildings, it's about giving the children of Santa Clara County the building blocks and tools that they need to develop and hone their analytical minds. It is our duty to provide children a comprehensive science education that will prepare them for college placement and a competitive edge in an advancing technological workforce.

"Walden West is an extraordinary program that not only provides a sound and comprehensive environmental education curriculum, but it inspires children to learn about the world around them and shows them the power that even the smallest individual contribution can make in improving their communities and their planet..."

Colleen Wilcox, Ph.D. Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools



Walden West's 35-acre site is the ideal outdoor setting to introduce middle school aged children to life and earth sciences. For many of the 10,000 children who attend a week of Walden West science camp, their stay is filled with firsts...the first time they have walked through a forest, the first time they have ever recycled a plastic container, and the first time they have ever looked through a telescope to discover a much larger world than their own.

Unfortunately, in its current state, Walden West is capable of serving only about one-third of the schools that fall under the Santa Clara County Office of Education's umbrella. The obsolete dining hall and kitchen must also serve as an indoor teaching facility, when weather conditions prohibit outdoor activities.

Each week, during the school year, approximately 200 students, from every demographic background, converge on Walden West. According to Assistant Camp Director, Marie Bacher, many campers come from Title One schools where the students receive federal and state funding. "Their week at Walden West may be the first time many of these campers have had three square meals a day. Walden West gives these children the incentive to break through ties that bind them to the confines of their day to day surroundings." At Walden West, students learn how their food is grown and cultivated, not where they're going to find their next meal.



"The staff, facilities, and administration at Walden West have presented knowledge, confidence, and scientific awareness to our children and will to the children and scientists of tomorrow. Yet, a new and improved facility will give the young scientific minds of today and tomorrow the chance to explore the mysteries and physical parts of science that are very rare in our culture and educational systems today."

Dave Fry, Chief Operating Officer, Fry's Electronics, Inc



The Nuts and Bolts of the Science Learning Center Project

Multi-Purpose Lodge

An energy efficient building designed to provide multi-functional capabilities for either large groups or small gatherings. An indoor amphitheater will allow staff to stage group activities and encourage the sharing of Walden West experiences through dramatic interpretation (skits) and presentations. It will also provide a forum for guest speakers. The Lodge can be partitioned to serve as alternative classrooms for non-resident student field trips day use, and as a respite, should weather become intolerable. Most importantly, the new Multi-Purpose Lodge will replace the existing dining hall and kitchen which no longer meets current building codes.

Dining Room and Kitchen

Located within the Lodge, the new dining room and kitchen will replace what is currently a 20-year old temporary portable unit. The new dining room and kitchen will assist the Walden West kitchen staff in seating and serving up to 300 campers per meal. New kitchen appliances will be more energy and cost efficient and the kitchen design is much more conducive for food preparation and waste control.

Science Discovery Center

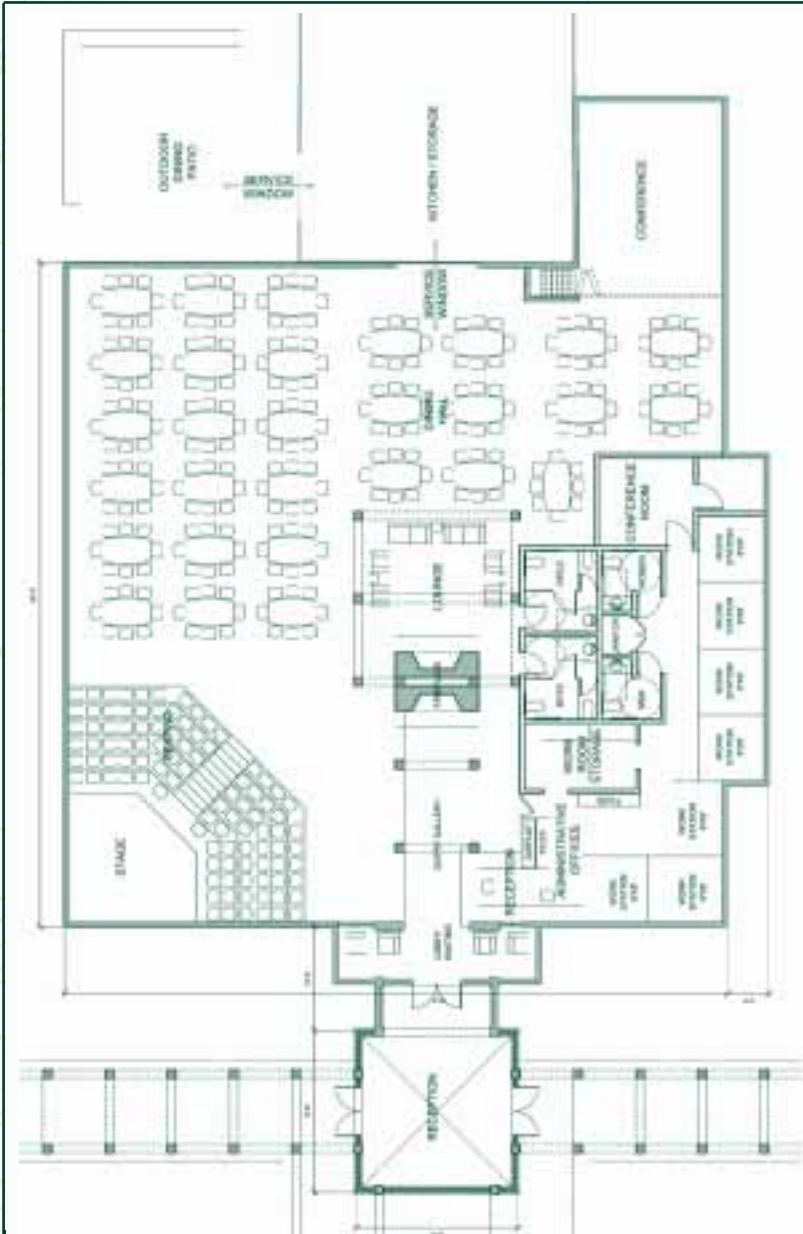
The Science Discovery Center will introduce students, teachers and counselors to a whole new dimension in science education. Fully equipped laboratories will allow children to experiment and discover. Microscopes, lab instruments and computer technology will provide the tools needed to challenge young minds. This state of the art facility will be the first of its kind in Santa Clara County.

Cabins

Each new cabin will house 24 campers and their cabin leaders. Cabins will be equipped with bathrooms and shower facilities. Students are currently and will continue to be assigned to cabins in a manner that encourages social interaction and the forging of new friendships with fellow campers from schools and neighborhoods different from their own.

Ecological Learning Center

The Ecological & Nature Learning Center & Garden is the latest addition to the Walden West facility, thanks to primary funding by the San Jose Sharks Foundation. Here, campers prepare, plant, cultivate and eat the produce they grow organically. They also come face to face with animals indigenous to the surrounding habitats.



"Currently, we have no indoor teaching facilities. Renovating Walden West will help us to teach science more effectively."

Anita Parsons,
Executive Director of Walden West Outdoor School

TALK IS CHEAP, BUILDING IS EXPENSIVE

How will the construction be financed?

The Santa Clara County Board of Education believes so strongly in this project that they have committed \$2 million to begin construction. These funds, coupled with generous contributions from Walden West supporters such as The Sobrato Family Foundation, The San Jose Sharks Foundation and The Peninsula Community Foundation have helped make this dream become a reality. But, the need is much greater. The Walden West School Foundation has made it our goal to raise the funds necessary to bring the Walden West Science Learning Center to fruition. How do we plan on achieving this goal? We are asking those firms, companies, foundations and individuals who believe in the importance of science education to join us in our endeavor and confirm their commitment to the children of Silicon Valley through financial and/or in-kind contributions.

How can friends of Walden West contribute to this building effort?

There are many ways to get involved. A one-time donation, a monthly contribution commitment, a company funds matching program are just a few examples of how you can support our children's science education. Every dollar counts and will be well spent.

Can contribution go to a specific project?

Absolutely! Your gift may be made to the Walden West School Foundation's general building fund, or you may designate it to a particular aspect of the project. We would be proud to display your company's, or family's name on a cabin, the Lodge, the amphitheater, the Science Learning Center...the possibilities are endless!

For more information, contact:

Anita Parsons at the Walden West School Foundation at 408-867-5950 or Anita_Parsons@sccoe.org.

"At no other time in our history has it been more evident that our children are in dire need for a comprehensive science education. What they will experience at Walden West may ignite their passion to make our world a better place to live."


Abby Sobrato, President Walden West School Foundation



"I am convinced there can hardly be a higher priority in the education of young people, than to ensure they have the chance to receive solid and extensive scientific training to equip them with relevant skills for the future. This has to start early in school. Failure to do this will not only impact those young people's lives in the future, but also the fortunes of the countries in which they live."




Humphrey Porter President, European Operations, Flextronics International



“If elementary science education funding is reduced, it will place Silicon Valley at a competitive disadvantage in future technology development because we will not have the workforce that is competitive with those developed in other parts of the world, where science education is valued and supported.”

Dave Roberson, President, Chief Operating Officer, Hitachi Data Systems

Join the Walden West School Foundation in building
our future by making a gift to the
Walden West Science Learning Center Project.



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