

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 11, 2019

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Snohomish County PUD grant helps fund installation of solar panels at Eagle Creek Elementary to promote conservation and sustainability

ARLINGTON- Arlington Public Schools has been awarded a \$56,700 grant from Snohomish County PUD to install solar panels at Eagle Creek Elementary. The PUD's "Planet Power" grant program supports local solar projects on buildings such as schools, libraries, city halls, and other community sites where customers can learn about solar energy generation and see the technology in use.

"Once the panels are installed at Eagle Creek, visitors will be able to view a monitor to see how much solar power is being generated via the panels," said Sarah Blake, an Eagle Creek parent and volunteer on the district's Advisory Council for Education who spearheaded the project. "The school is going be incorporating solar energy education into its science classes. It will be a great educational opportunity for the students and visitors."

The total amount awarded was \$260,000, which included Eagle Creek and four other organizations. Applications were evaluated on several criteria, including organizational eligibility, technical feasibility, site visibility and cost-effectiveness, along with outreach and educational value. Eagle Creek's panels are expected to be installed by next month and will be operational before the start of school in September. Solar energy production and other system data will be viewable in real time on the school's website and also on the city of Arlington's website.

"We are grateful for this opportunity to promote conservation and sustainability in the Arlington area," said Brian Lewis, Executive Director of Operations for Arlington Public Schools. "We appreciate this partnership with Snohomish County PUD."

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Cutline: Arlington Public Schools has been awarded a \$56,700 grant from Snohomish County PUD to install solar panels at Eagle Creek Elementary to promote conservation and sustainability. (Left to right): Tanya Olson - Commissioner, Snohomish County PUD; Sid Logan – Commissioner, Snohomish County PUD; Sophia Blake – Third Grader, Eagle Creek Elementary; Sarah Blake – Eagle Creek Elementary Parent and Volunteer; Will Blake – Fifth Grader, Eagle Creek Elementary; Rebecca Wolfe – Commissioner, Snohomish County PUD; and Brian Lewis – Executive Director of Operations, Arlington Public Schools.