

**RAPID CITY AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT 51/4**

Central High School/Agriscience

BUILDING/DEPARTMENT

433 Mt. Rushmore Rd.

STREET ADDRESS

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701



April 20, 2015

Jeff Biegler
Director; Rapid City Parks and Recreation
515 West Blvd.
Rapid City, SD 57701

Dear Jeff Biegler and Parks and Recreation Board of Directors;

I am writing today to request permission to use a small section of the Parks and Recreation land south of Central High school to build a school garden. Central students have worked this year to create a professional design for raised garden beds that will be used to increase hands on education through multiple classes, and will generate proceeds to assist students experiencing homelessness at Central High School. Late in the year – the district found that the particular land we identified to use for the garden, is not our property, but is under Parks Department control.

The garden space we are requesting is just south of the teacher parking lot. We are requesting a 35 foot by 50 foot section of space for the garden and the space needed to install a ramp from the parking lot to the garden space to ensure that is easily accessible for all students. The garden space will be managed by Central students as part of curriculum in the spring, summer, and fall. The Rapid City Parks department will have no responsibility for the garden space. The garden will be used each year through the life of the garden. If the garden falls into disuse Rapid City Central High school will remove the materials from the property or release the use of the garden space to a community manager. Removal of two trees will be necessary to provide appropriate light for the garden. We would like to consult with you and the city arborist/urban forester to identify, prune and remove any trees as appropriate.

We hope to have all necessary permits and permissions to allow the fall 2015 Landscape Horticulture classes to begin construction in September. Thank you for your time and consideration of this project. We look forward to receiving your decision. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the project.

Sincerely,



Lisa Steinken

Agriscience Teacher/ FFA Instructor

Enclosures: Teacher Letter, Garden Design, Student Support Letters