

5/28/20

Dear Ms. Eudy, Ms. Boswell, and Ms. Andrews,

In 5th grade, we have been talking about ways we can improve our school so it's more accessible to people with disabilities. My idea is that we should get a therapy bunny. I worked on this with Ms. Morgan and interviewed Ms. Sandler's friend, Sarah. She is an expert on therapy animals.

There are a lot of reasons we should get a therapy bunny. After this quarantine, some people might be sad or not used to not being by their pet all the time, so what better way to feel better than to cuddle a little bunny! Bunnies are unthreatening and small, so it's unlikely someone will be scared of them, unlike dogs or cats.

Having a therapy bunny would be helpful at Baker because it would help kids with stress. If kids are stressed, they can't do as well at school. Just like when you're hungry, you can't focus when you're stressed. Sarah said, "Being with nature is essential to our health and wellbeing, and bunnies (animals) are part of nature. Studies have shown that being in a room with an animal - or even looking at photos of animals or plants - can help lower our blood pressure and alleviate stress." Also, some kids don't have a lot of friends, so hugging a bunny would make them feel better.

We would need a pre-trained therapy bunny. I think that maybe Rex bunnies would be a good choice because they don't shed as much. Allergies are important for the kids at school. Lion heads are also really social and friendly. They are also really cute. Sarah suggested Woolly Rabbits because they are not constant shedders. The rabbit could be kept in the library or in Ms. Eudy's office with a sign-up sheet, but it would also need "work breaks." Sarah said it would be a "facility animal," but should live in a student's home. It could live with me because I already have a bunny, and Sarah said it would be best for the bunny to have a friend.

I found out that the cost of caring for the bunny would only be \$88 per month. That amount is for the highest quality care items. We could reduce the cost by making some items ourselves. Buddy classes could make toys for the bunny out of decorated cardboard. The older kids could make some baked treats for the bunny. If the cost is still too high, we could do a fundraiser. I would also use my allowance.

Thank you for taking the time to read my proposal. Having a bunny always makes me feel better, and it would help other kids, too.

Sincerely,
Ally



This isn't my bunny, but who wouldn't want this at their school?