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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Elementary Student's Persuasive Letter Helps Reduce School's Plastic Trash, Company Makes Student an Ambassador

Cascade, CO - One fourth grade student at Ute Pass Elementary School is making a difference in helping reduce plastic trash at her school – and in the world.

It all started with an idea and a persuasive letter. Ten-year-old Claire wrote a letter to the company Stasher about making reusable garbage bags, and they wrote her back!

In a letter to Claire, Stasher's CEO said silicone garbage bags would be expensive to make and likely not be used. Stasher invited Claire to be a Stasher Ambassador, and sent Claire and the students at her school (about 200) reusable sandwich bags in an effort to reduce plastic bags thrown away during snack and lunch time.

"We're super proud of Claire and the whole fourth grade class and their efforts to reduce waste in our environment," said Jackie Powell, Principal at UPES. "She may be little, but these dreams are big and make a huge difference."

Not only did Claire make a difference at her school, but she also learned a valuable lesson.

"You don't have to be an adult to make a big difference," said Claire.

ABOUT MANITOU SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 14

Established in 1872, Manitou Springs School District 14 (MSSD14) serves approximately 1,350 students from Preschool to 12th Grade who reside in the communities of Manitou Springs, Cascade, Green Mountain Falls, Chipita Park, Crystal Park, and Cedar Heights. The district also serves about 48 percent "choice" students who come from other locations in El Paso and Teller Counties.

MSSD14 offers a "small town" educational environment driven by the core values of relationships, deep learning and opportunity. The district and its staff are dedicated to providing a safe and caring learning environment, encouraging all students to reach their potential and preparing responsible citizens.

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