

Walbridge School Garden



It Takes a Village

Connecting Garden, School, and Community

At Walbridge School, every student participates in starting seedlings in upcycled egg cartons. The nearby Cheska Tribe offers additional starts at a discounted price - one tribe member teaches at the school. Wood for the raised beds were donated by Aronson Tree Farm, the school's partner for Environmental Education. Home Depot - one parent employer - donated additional garden supplies. The garden grows, and students learn from the process...

Building



Measuring Board Feet

Students calculated the amount of lumber needed for the raised beds.



How Much Soil?

Students collected local vendors after calculating garden compost needs.

Planting



Cultivating care for the small things



Gardening brings students together

In the fall, high school students make salsa with all the produce from the garden (plus the help of a hot pepper potted plant in front of the school). Throughout the season, students would visit the garden during school breaks to snack on cherry tomatoes.

Favorite Garden Moments

Experiential Learning

Real-world problems, hands-on solutions. Math classes calculated (total) feet of lumber needed for each raised bed. For science students used a ground map and traced the sun to determine the best locations for the garden. High school students calculated the amount of compost needed to fill the beds, and called several vendors to gather quotes.

Teaching

Walbridge School

Location: Madison, WI
Grade Levels: 5-8-12th
Garden Coordinator: Melissa Gower
Garden Committee: Yes
Favorite garden skills: Cherry tomatoes!



Powered by the Walbridge School Garden Initiative to start more and bigger school garden resources, visit www.walbridgeschoolgarden.org



The garden has become a way to engage students in activities where grade levels can collaborate and learn from each other. In the photo above, a Walbridge high schooler helps a sixth grader transplant some broccoli.