GREENHOUSE AND GARDENS









STEPHEN & HARRIETT MYERS OUTDOOR LEARNING LABS: GREENHOUSE AND GARDENS









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NORTH (

Flexible Lawn

This area would include movable chairs for reading, studying, etc. The lawn could be used for games, labs, experiments, storage, etc. It flexible!

Shrub/Tree Nursery

All areas on site could be used as potential nursery zones. These are simply areas that can be converted from useless lawn to productive landscape!

Perennial Nursery

Throughout the site there are areas where students can grow various perennials, natives, flowering annuals, bulbs, etc. These can be harvested, transplanted, divided, shared, and even sold as a part of seasonal plant sales. Plants can be divided and multiplied by students for free. Students could plant species when they arrive at the school, watch it grow, and could take it home once they've graduated.

Outdoor Classroom

This area could be used as a larger, more formal outdoor classroom space. An overhead shade structure could be an extension of the greenhouse, or a standalone pavilion. This space could also be used as a larger covered area for events.

Brush Pile/Compost Area

This area is for the inevitable waste that will be produced through gardening. In this area the waste becomes a tool for teaching about sustainability, waste management, climate change and carbon footprints, biology, decomposition, etc. Watching the compost turn into usable soil can be a rewarding experience for all!

Plant Sale/Event Space

This is a flexible zone used for events, plant sales, picnics, fundraisers, field days, etc.

Wild Wetland Meadow

This area would be for learning about successional landscape systems, meadow ecologies, native species, pollinator habitats, biophillic design, climate change, resilience species diversity, nature preservation and stewardship, etc.

Cut Flower Gardens/Meadow

This area would be an extension of the wild wetland meadow. It would be seeded or planted with various flowering plants that could be used by students as cut flowers for workshops, horticultural labs, flower arranging and flower art, botany, biology, etc. This area would be maintained by simple mowing. Flowering plants would be maintained by students or volunteers. Transplanting, dividing, and sharing of plants are encouraged in this zone!

Bulletin Board and Storage Sheds

This area re-imagines the current storage area as an entrance and/or threshold to the farm and gardens. Tools are stored and put away here. Duties, tasks, chores, events, workshops, plant shares, markets, planting calendars, etc. are posted here. Any unsightly storage may be screened with plantings.

Bridge and Entry Sign

A fully accessible bridge would act as a procession into the farm and gardens. It allows students to make a conscious transition into the space, crossing the bridge into their outdoor laboratory. Financial donors, local organizations, and Garden Sponsors could be honored in a plaque or official Entry Sign.

Outdoor Learning Labs

These areas serve as outdoor classrooms for students to learn about the garden and its systems. The labs could be under shaded structures and could grow/shrink as class sizes change. These classrooms are purposely immersed in the gardens to bring the learning to life.

Raised/In-ground Gardening Plots

A multitude of planting and farming options would be available for students and adults of all ages and abilities. Some plants like to be in the ground, others like to be in planters. The location and type of planting is flexible and will grow with the garden.

4-Season Greenhouse

This would be the heart of the project. Ideally the greenhouse becomes a year-round class/workshop space. Plants could be grown for plant sales, community organizations, labs, school grounds, land trusts, etc. This space requires experience and knowledge of greenhouse management. Ideally a staff member would lead a core group of students in ensuring the successful and safe management of the greenhouse.

Orchard

The orchard could be planted with various fruit trees. Students can learn about food production, proper tree pruning, pollinators and agricultural practices. This area could also provide much-needed shade for students playing on the adjacent field.

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Raised Gardening Plots











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12 Outdoor Classroom









13 Plant Sale/Event Space



14 Orchard

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