

# **Garden Club**

## **Student Leadership in Action**

### **Monroe Center Elementary**



**Grant Proposal**

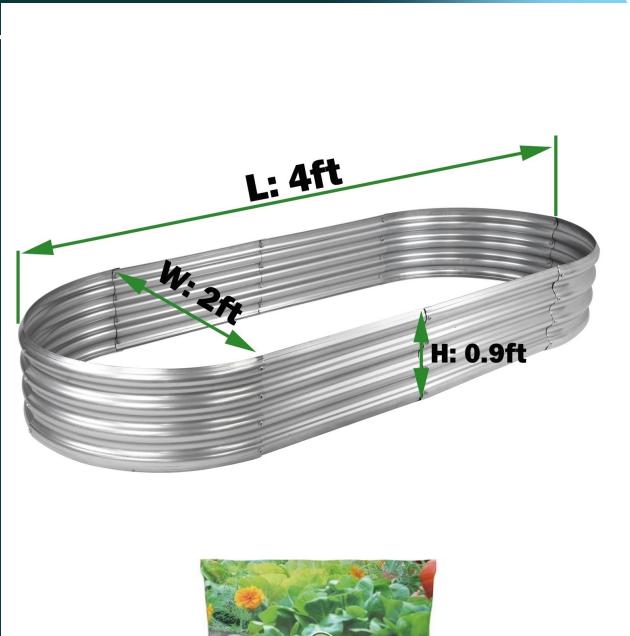
**2025-2026**

# Our School Garden space





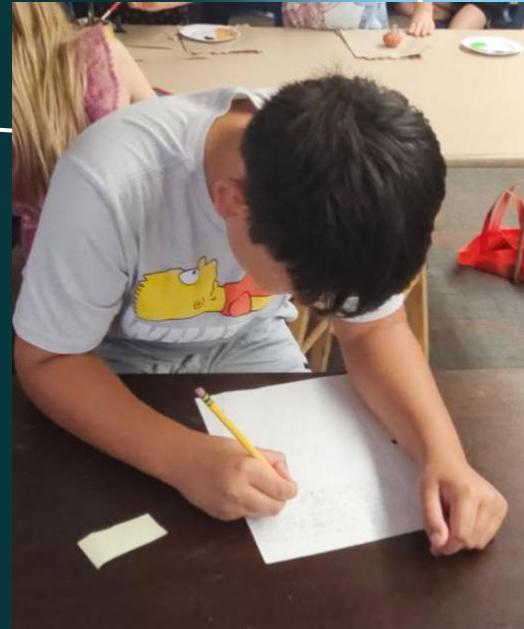
Raised garden beds and soil that we would like to purchase for our school garden.





Garden Club  
Leaders  
writing their  
grant letters





Garden Club  
Leaders writing  
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Dear Grant Review Committee Members,

Hi. My name is SKY. I am in 4th grade Monroe Center School. I was very excited to join garden group because I have a few gardens at home, and I help my mom in the garden. That's why garden group is the best group ever. We are going to continue planting in the spring. So we can do that we would need soil and garden nice raised garden beds. We would really appreciate some funds for them. Thank you so much for all the hard work.

Sincerely Sky  
uq

Dear Grant Review Committee Members,

by Benson we are leaders that want to learn about planting and gardening and more and we want to buy sum stuff thank you.

Dear Grant Review Committee Members,  
My name is Preston. I am in 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Monroe Center. I'm in the Garden Club and we would like to plant flowers and vegetables in our school garden in the Spring.

In order for us to do this, we are asking for your help. We would appreciate a financial donation from you to help us buy the supplies we need. We would like to buy metal raised garden beds, soil, seeds, and any other necessary materials for our garden to grow.

Sincerely,

Preston

Dear Grant Review Committee  
Members. My

My name is Paislee, and I am  
in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. I go to Monroe  
Center grade school. We will  
be planting flowers and  
vegetables for our school

and for bee's and butterfly's.  
We are asking for money  
so we can buy raised  
garden bed's and soils.

Sincerely  
Paislee.

Dear Grant Review Committee  
members,

My name is Jamilyn. We have  
a cool garden. I am in 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
at Monroe center, it great to have  
you at monroe center. We are  
asking for money to buy raised garden  
beds. thank you.

From: Jamilyn

Dear 4rdah Review committee members,

My name angel I am in 4th grad Morow center school and I be a leader and was coasd to do a garden on my hours and I wanted to make a card on the garden and I found the garden good because I wanted to make a plant and my mom wanted to make a garden and my mate a garden and my mom poor plant and my dad make a big garden

DEAR COMMITTEE MEMBERS MY NAME  
IS AUSTIN AND I AM IN 4TH GRADE AT MONROE  
CENTER AND GARDEN GROUP IS THE BEST GROUP  
EVER BECAUSE WE GOT TO MAKE APPETIZER SAUCE  
AND IT WAS THE BEST APPETIZER SAUCE EVER. ARE  
GARDEN NEEDS UPGRADE AT MONROE CENTER CAN  
WE BORROW MONEY PLS. BECAUSE OUR GARDEN AT OUR  
SCHOOL REALLY NEEDS A UPGRADE AND WE GOT  
TO PLANT TOMATO'S AND IT WOULD BE REALLY COOL

FROM  
AUSTIN

Dear grant review committee  
members,  
My name is Anthony I am in 5th  
at monroe center we plant have fun  
and other fun activities. I wanted to could  
join garden group because I really  
like gardening even since I was a little  
kid. But we would really like to upgrade  
our garden. could you please donate  
money for metal raised garden beds and  
soil. It would mean so much thank you

Sincerely, Anthony

Dear Grant Review Committee

Members, My name is Isaac I  
am in 5th grade at Monroe Center  
Elementary School. Garden Club will be  
planting a little garden in Spring. And  
we need help with garden beds and soil  
would help a lot and we will have lots  
of fun.

Sincerely Isaac

Sincerely Isaac

Dear Grant Review  
Committee Members,

My name is Brextryn I am  
in 4<sup>th</sup> grade at Monroe Center  
School. Me and my peers want  
to become gardening leaders for  
Illinois. we want a grant  
for metal garden beds.

Sincerely,  
Brextryn

Dear eracht Revive committee  
My name is Holden I am in 4th  
grade We want gardens because  
it's easier to water. And  
easier to plant so it's not  
so hard. And we can  
plant sunflowers. We  
can often visit  
Sincery Holden

Dear Grant Review Committee  
Members,

My name is Scarlett. We have a beautiful  
garden at Monroe Center School. I like  
planting fruit and vegetables there. Having  
metal raised garden beds and soil  
would help us plant them. Sincerely

Scarlett

Dear Grant review committee  
members.

My name is Cayson I am in 4<sup>th</sup>  
grade at monroe center grade school. please can  
you help? Can you give us Garden Beds.

by Cayson

**District Office**  
9317B IL Route 84  
Savanna, IL 61074  
Ph: (815) 291-8989



**Springfield Office**  
316 State House  
Springfield, IL 62706  
Ph: (217) 782-3992

**Tony McCombie**  
State Representative – District 89

September 30, 2025

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom Grant Review Committee  
c/o Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom  
1701 Towanda Avenue  
Bloomington, IL 61701

RE: Letter of Support for Monroe Center Elementary School Garden Club – IAITC Grant Application

Dear Grant Review Committee Members,

It is my privilege to offer my strong support for Monroe Center Elementary School's Garden Club as they apply for the Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom (IAITC) grant. Their thoughtful plan to purchase galvanized raised garden beds and soil is much more than a gardening project, it is an investment in the next generation of Illinois leaders.

Through this initiative, students will gain meaningful, hands-on experiences that connect directly to the lessons they learn in the classroom. By planting vegetables and pollinator-friendly flowers, these young learners will see firsthand the importance of agriculture in their daily lives, from the food on their tables to the stewardship of our environment.

Projects like this foster curiosity, responsibility, and pride in Illinois' agricultural heritage. They also encourage healthy living and build lifelong respect for the land and the farmers who sustain us. Most importantly, this program will spark an appreciation for agriculture at an age when students are eager to learn, explore, and connect with the world around them.

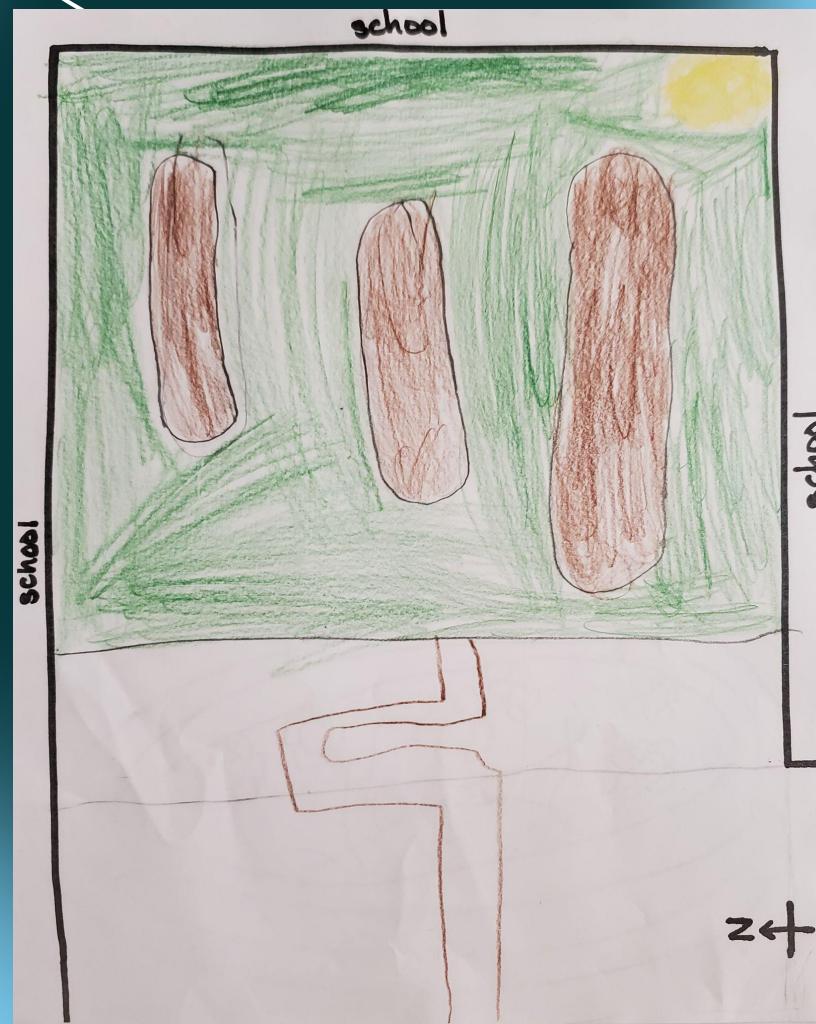
I wholeheartedly encourage your full consideration of this worthy application. Supporting Monroe Center Elementary's Garden Club means investing in students, strengthening communities, and carrying forward the proud tradition of Illinois agriculture.

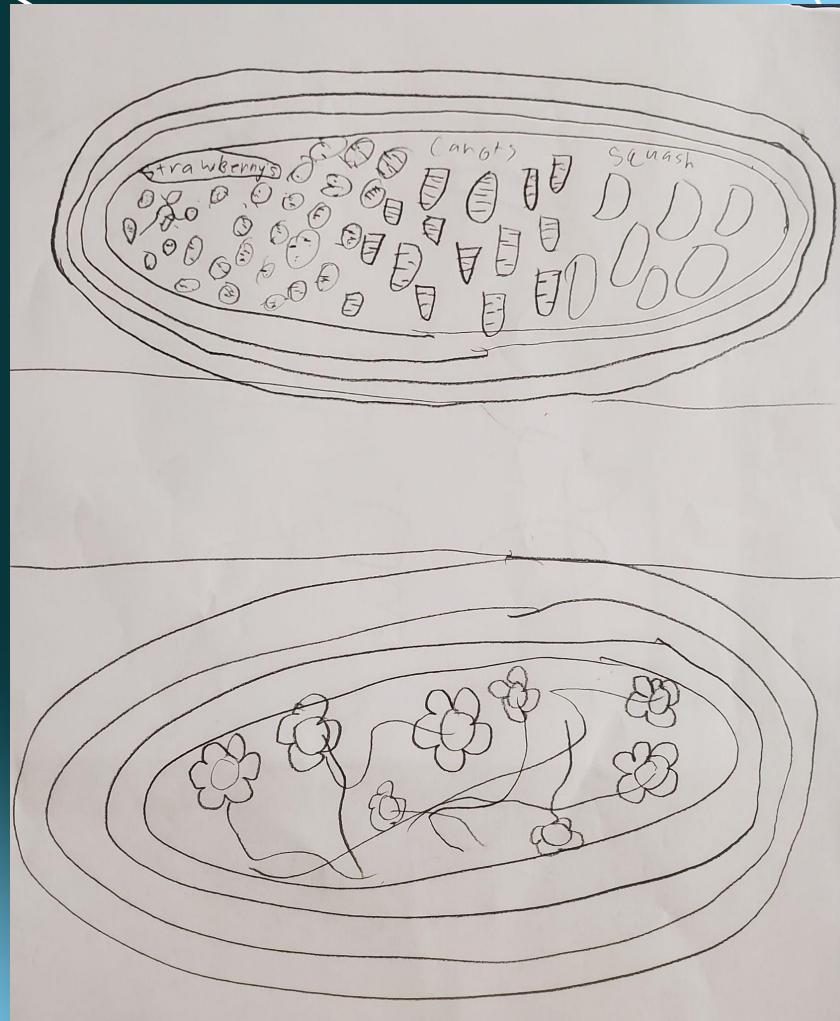
Sincerely,

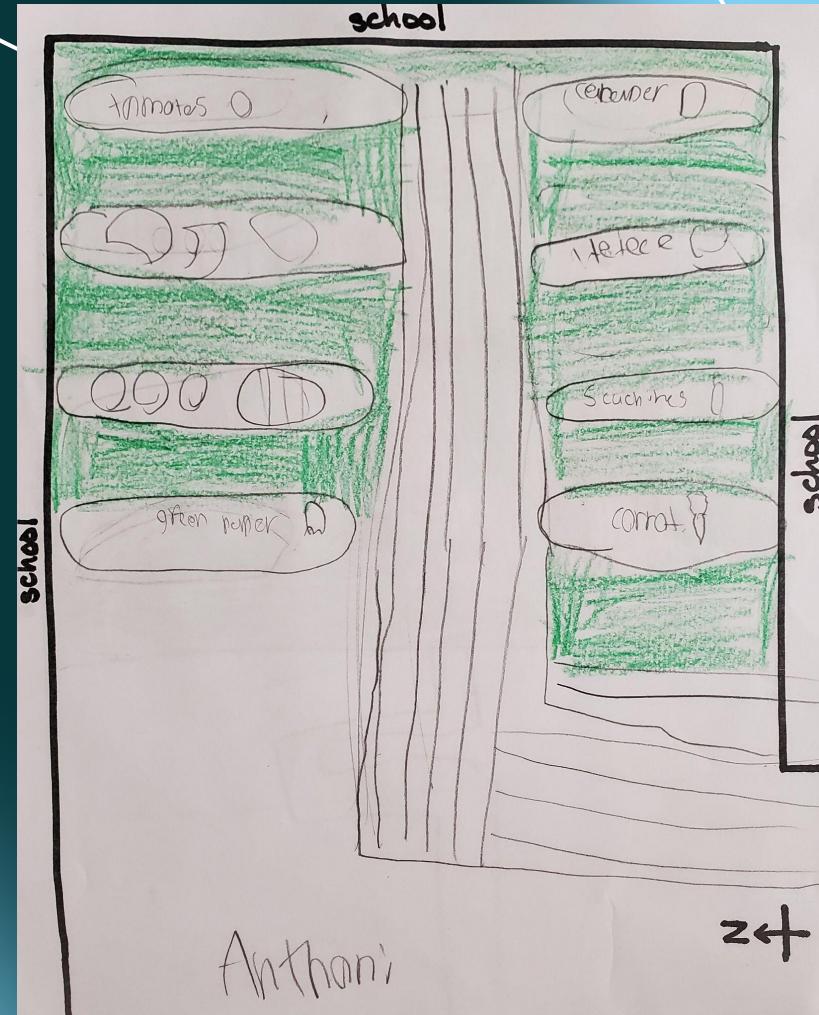
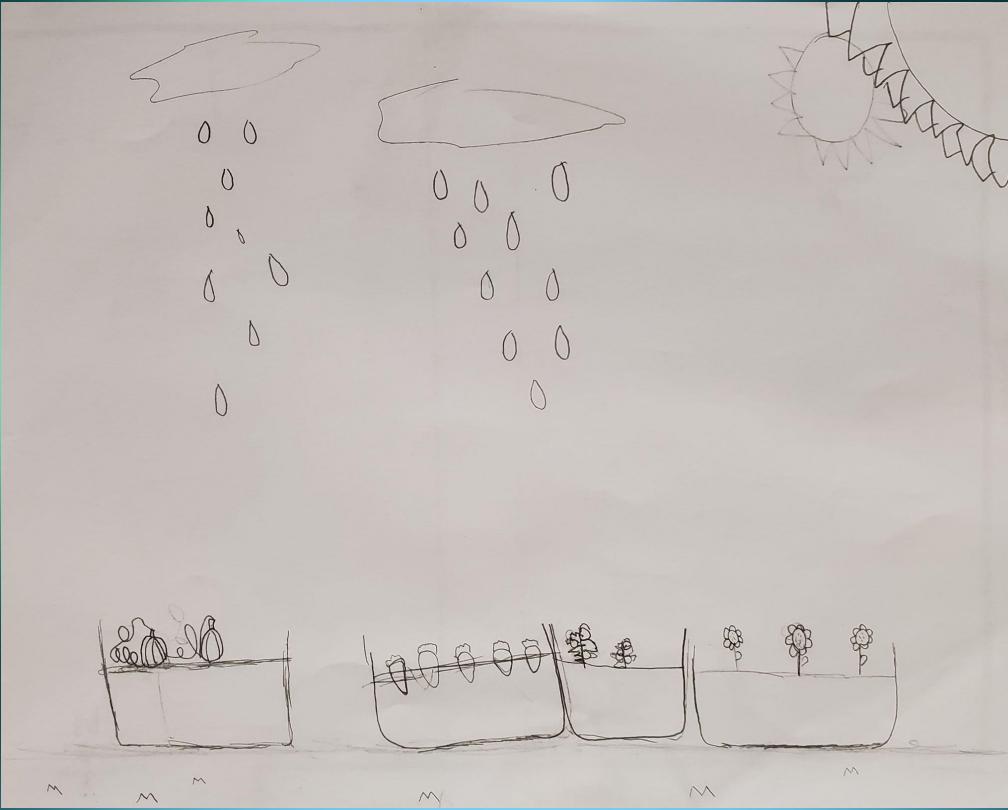
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony McCombie".

Representative Tony McCombie  
Illinois House of Representative  
District 89

Possible garden  
plan ideas.









Garden clean up.