



**Manatee Middle School**

1920 Manatee Rd.  
Naples, FL 34114

**School Profile:**

- Collier County Public Schools
- 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades
- 907 students

**Garden Profile:**

- 3 years in operation
- 15 students participate in program
- Two instructors are paid for afterschool programming
- Two volunteers provided supplies and labor for project

**General Garden Information:**

We were very happy to receive the Whole Kids Foundation grant for \$2,000, which will allow us to grow our garden!

The overall garden is about 90 square feet and consists of one raised bed which is cinder block with a cedar rail top and 14 containers. The whole garden is planted in edible plants. Picnic tables are located near the garden for outdoor teaching space. Themed gardens include two containers dedicated to herbs and the rest dedicated to different types of vegetables.



**Student Involvement & Education:**

Fifteen middle school students participate in afterschool garden program weekly on Fridays. Additionally, our Hurricane Academy has a cooking class which also partakes in gardening on Mondays after school. The afterschool garden program uses the Junior Master Gardener curriculum.

**Garden Product:**

We cook some of the produce grown in the garden in our school kitchen and the rest goes home with children.

**Parent Engagement:**

Parents do not participate in the garden at the school at this time, but they do receive plants, herbs, and vegetables brought home by our students.

**Goals:**

With the Whole Kids Foundation grant, we will be able to purchase two Durable GreenBed raised bed gardens (4' by 12' by 2'). If we get additional funding from other grant requests we have out, we hope to double that. Additionally, we would like to purchase some indoor growing lighting systems.

We want to continue to grow and involve more students. This will include science fair projects and life science curriculum.

**Additional Notes:**

With last year's Recognition award we purchased a complete drip irrigation kit from DripWorks. We also purchased soil, fertilizer, and gardening supplies from Lowe's.

Two volunteers from Eagle Lakes Country Club provided supplies and labor to help build the raised bed garden and also the new drip irrigation system this year.

We have also applied for the Lowe's outdoor improvement grant and the Fiskars grant.

**Contact:**

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