



Booker T. Washington Elementary



Booker T. Washington Elementary
606 E Grove Street
Champaign, IL 61820

Phone: (217) 351-3901
Fax: (217) 373-7350

Hours: 9:00 am - 3:15 pm
Enrollment: 250

Special Features

- Spanish and French
- Visual Arts
- Performing Arts (Music, Creative Movement, and Drama)
- Gifted Program
- International Student Enrollment
- Character Education with Rotary International Volunteers
- Business Partnership with Provena Covenant
- Enrichment Program
- Environmental/Recycling Club
- Student Leadership (Student Government)
- Mentoring Program
- Kid's Plus Before and After School Child Care
- Title I Services
- Academic Extended Day Program
- Literacy Support
- Parental Involvement Encouraged

We are committed to producing responsible students who have acquired a strong foundation in the basic skills and an awareness of and appreciation for their creative abilities. Our goal is to help each student achieve to the best of his or her abilities and to begin to develop skills needed for independent functioning in a changing world. We are committed to providing an environment for students and staff in which there is freedom to pursue new and innovative ways for teaching and learning both individually and as team members. Our mission will be pursued within the context of our continuing to provide a strong, broad-based educational program.

History

The first classes at Booker T. Washington were held in September 1951, and the school was dedicated November 18, 1951. At that time, the school had four classrooms, a kindergarten room, a clinic room, a store-room and 96 students. In 1956, six new classrooms, an auditorium, and a kitchen were added. The last addition, or north wing, was completed in 1959.

Today, 250 students attend Booker T. Washington. One of our fastest growing programs is our Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) Program for bilingual Spanish speaking students. We serve a large Hispanic population as well as students from Korea, Japan, Vietnam, and other countries. The staff and families are very proud of our small family community.

Technology

Technology is integrated into the regular curriculum to support, enhance and extend learning. Skills are developed in an interdisciplinary elementary education program that provides for the needs of the individual student.



School Choice Theme

Visual and performing arts along with a strong emphasis on foreign language acquisition are important parts of the school's strong curriculum. Designed to provide students with the opportunity to study the visual arts as an academic discipline, this program focuses upon four content areas: Art Making, Art Appreciation, Art Heritage, and Art Criticism. Art projects are integrated as often as possible with the core academic curriculum and literacy goals. In addition, at Booker T. Washington, all students are exposed to the three areas of the performing arts: Drama, Dance, and Music. Further, all students receive 30 minutes of French or Spanish every other day, the only Unit 4 elementary school to do so.

As the site for the Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) Program, Booker T. Washington has a history of involvement with students from throughout the world. International students comprise slightly more than one-third of our enrollment and provide a rich resource for learning more about world cultures. Plans for Two-Way Immersion for English and Spanish students are being designed for the 2007-08 School Year. In addition, two self-contained gifted classrooms are at Booker T. Washington. School-wide enrichment is also offered in the areas of academics, creativity, and leadership.

Mentoring

Our mentoring program is coordinated by our mentor coordinator. Students with specific needs are paired with University of Illinois students and community volunteers through the T.A.L.K.S mentoring program or the CU One-to-One mentoring program.



Booker T. Washington Elementary



Awards and Recognitions

- State Golden Apple Winning Team for Art and Music.
- Battle of the Books District Winner 2005
- Second Place State Winner for Arbor Day Poster
- Yearly Student Art Exhibit at Provena Hospital Cafeteria.
- Members of our staff have received grants to enrich their teaching from: Illinois Power, C-U Foundation, Scholastic-Apple-National Education Goals Panel, Foreign Language in the Elementary Schools, and Tepper Association.
- Weed and Feed State Library Grant 2005-06

Visit us on the web at: www.champaignschools.org

Revised 11/30/06

Tutoring

Tutoring is available from the America Reads Program, Extended Day Program, Douglass Center (adjacent to our school), Vis-à-vis volunteers (University of Illinois) and parent volunteers. Booker T. Washington has strong connections to the University of Illinois and Parkland College and pre-service education majors come to BTW to tutor and work with the students.

Character Education

Booker T. Washington utilizes "Learning for Life", a character education program by the Boy Scouts of America and delivered by volunteers of Champaign's Rotary Club.

School Climate

Our school promotes a safe, positive, and orderly learning environment. To this end, we practice a system of "Rights and Responsibilities," believing that the development and exercise of both are important in developing citizens who contribute positively to the growth of our community and world. Further, we believe it is important to empower students, teaching them that in many situations they have the power of choice. We teach, support, and encourage responsible and positive decision-making. We view parents as "partners," needing their involvement and support to help children maximize their potential. Parents are always welcome, encouraged to come to school, visit the classroom, volunteer to assist, have lunch with their child. We view our school community (parents, students, and staff) as "family."

PTSA

Meeting each month on the third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m., our PTSA provides support for students, staff and administration. Sponsoring an annual fundraiser, the Walk-a-thon, our PTSA provides mini-grants to support curriculum enrichment, publishes our monthly newsletter and coordinates volunteer efforts. Our PTSA also sponsors Book Fairs, an annual Fun Night (FOR KIDS ONLY!), an annual International Dinner, an Ice Cream Social (to welcome new families), and an end of the year school picnic. Our PTSA (as well as other parent involvement) is very important in helping us promote a family feeling in our school.

Enrichment Opportunities

- Reading Incentive Programs
- Technologically enhanced units of study
- Field trips to enhance units of study
- Daily interactions with students from around the world!
- Foreign Language (French and Spanish) with student performances.
- Performing Arts (Music, Creative Movement, Drama) with student performances
- Student participation in essay and poster contests, *Chess Club*, *Math*

Club, and Science Shares.

- Assemblies: Little Theatre" Touring Group, Urbana Symphony Ensembles, Noted Storytellers
- Field Trips: Virginia Theatre Plays and Musicals; Krannert Center for Performing Arts for Plays and Young Peoples Concerts; Armory Free Theatre for BTW student plays
- Grant Projects Artist-in-Residence – Kate Kuper and Marie Jagger-Taylor, Movement and Dance Specialists

Support Programs

- Social Work
- Psychologist
- Building Support Team
- Learning Disability Services
- Cross Categorical Services
- Reading Recovery Services (Spanish and English)
- Speech Therapist
- Physical/Occupational Therapy
- Title I Program
- Literacy Support
- Transitional Bilingual Spanish

