



# Garden Hills Elementary



**Garden Hills Elementary**  
2001 Garden Hills Drive  
Champaign, IL 61821

**Phone:** (217) 351-3872  
**Fax:** (217) 355-8180

**Hours:** 8:45 am - 3:00 pm  
**Enrollment:** 340

## Special Features

- Excellence in Education Award
- School-wide Enrichment Model
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support
- Peaceable Schools Concept
- University of Illinois Yearlong Student Teaching Project
- School-wide Title I Program
- Reading Recovery
- Integrated Technology
- Accelerated Reader Program
- Balanced Literacy Approach to Reading
- Science Literacy Grant Recipient
- Gifted Education Classes
- Adapted Physical Education Class
- Bands/Strings/Chorus
- Computer Lab
- Monthly Student Awards
- HEROES Program
- Gentleman's Club

The Faculty and Staff of Garden Hills Elementary School have made a commitment:

To Accept All,  
To Teach All,  
To Challenge All,  
To Inspire All,  
Children

## History

Garden Hills Elementary School was built in 1958, on land donated by the Ozier family. The school is located next to Garden Hills Park, south of Bloomington Road. Garden Hills is a two-strand school with an enrollment of approximately 370 students, Kindergarten-5th Grade. In 1986, Garden Hills was awarded the Excellence in Education Award from the US Department of Education. Garden Hills was a member of the Accelerated Schools Project (ASP) from 1989-2001.

## Technology

Garden Hills has an Internet-accessible and wireless computer lab. Classes are scheduled in the lab at least once a week. Each classroom has at least one Internet-accessible computer for students to use. Students also have access to scanners, digital and video cameras, TV/VCRs, and laser printers. Software packages, such as, PowerPoint, Accelerated Reader and other up-to-date software enhances the opportunity for multimedia instruction in all curricular areas.

**“I am a Garden Hills’ student. I am responsible for my grades and my actions. Today, I will do my best to follow the rules and show respect to others. I will help others when they need help and work hard to make the world a peaceful place to live.”**

*- Garden Hills’ Student Pledge -*

## School Choice Theme

Garden Hills’ theme focuses on fundamental learning strategies of reading, writing, and arithmetic. Our focus, as a Professional Learning Community, is early identification of each student’s strengths and weaknesses to allow for enrichment and remedial opportunities. Emphasis of the fundamental strategies rotates each year. Each year, a new campaign is chosen and class time is allotted to emphasize and enhance the curriculum area of concentration. Changing the campaign each year allows for the



## Mentoring



Garden Hills has a half-time mentor coordinator, who organizes the mentoring program. Volunteers in the community take time to meet with assigned students once a week throughout the school year.

The mentors serve as role models and encourage academic and social skills that can be influential throughout the students’ lives. The C-U Mentor Program is expanding to meet the needs of our students.

## Awards and Recognition

In 1986, Garden Hills was the first downstate Illinois school to be awarded the National Excellence in Education Award by the United States Department of Education. We have received many grants, such as: Science Literacy (1996-2001), C-U Foundation, Illinois Power, Tepper Electric, and Artist in Residence. Our students have been recognized as contest winners in PTA Reflections, Young Authors, C-U Optimists and other competitions. We are very proud of the



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### Special Features

- Integrated Art Program
- Tutoring Programs
- Kids Plus Before and After School Program
- Solid Foundations
- Extended-Day ISAT Assessment Program
- New Horizons Church Partnership



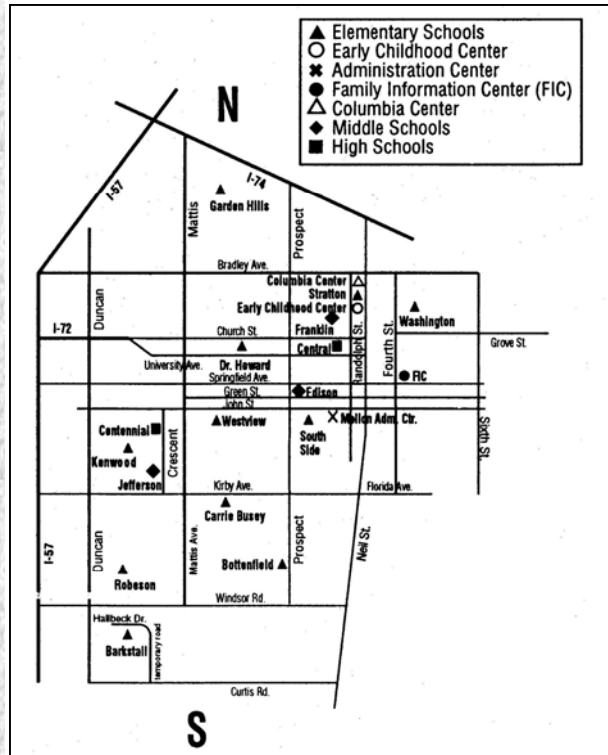
Garden Hills' Gentleman's Club

Visit us on the web at:  
<http://www.champaignschools.org>

Revised 11/30/06

### Tutoring

America Reads and America Counts, initiatives sponsored by the United States Department of Education, provide tutors who assist students in learning the basic skills. Many U of I fraternity and sorority students also volunteer to tutor students during the day. We are very committed to providing every opportunity for our students to attain academic success.



### School Climate

Garden Hills has adopted the Peaceable Schools Concept. Conflict resolution, school-wide mentoring, and social skills training are a few of the programs we have implemented. Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) is the framework that guides our decisions when implementing our school-wide discipline plan. Our Student Services Coordinator (SSC) oversees the plan and provides our students immediate assistance with behavioral issues. Our student service and assistance programs include: Safety Patrol, school-wide mentors, social skills training, social work, Gentleman's Club, Chess Club, Dragon Club Karate,

### Support Programs

Garden Hills has many support programs in place, both academically and socially. Academically, we have an innovative school-wide Title I Program, Reading Recovery, inclusion, speech and language therapists, tutors, adapted physical education and ESL.

Socially, we have a Student Services Coordinator, a full-time and a part-time social worker, school-wide mentor program, school-wide incentive programs, social skills training, and peer mediation. We take pride in the quality support programs we provide our students.

### Enrichment Opportunities

Garden Hills is one of four elementary schools in the district to offer a self-contained gifted program. We also have an Enrichment Specialist who assists in developing the gifts and talents of all students. Our teachers have been trained in the gifted model of teaching. This training encourages teachers to allow students to learn in their own learning styles while promoting higher order thinking strategies that are incorporated into the regular curriculum. Assemblies are planned to support enrichment opportunities.

Garden Hills has an integrated art program and music program providing regular instruction during the school day. Strings and band are offered to intermediate students.

Our ESL teacher is full time at Garden Hills, offering English support for all non-native speakers.

### PTA

Garden Hills Elementary School PTA Board members plan school-wide activities, provide needed resources that our district budget cannot provide, arrange for room mothers, organize fundraisers and much more. The PTA sponsors the Reflections contest that recognizes students who excel in the areas of literature, photography, music, and art. Garden Hills recognizes the importance of parental involvement in the education of our students. We encourage the involvement of parents in any way they can contribute.