

Reeths-Puffer Elementary



Community Partners

- Weesies Brothers Farms
- Julie Medema
- Mr. and Mrs. Westcomb
- Y-Knot Embroidery

Beautifying our community and increasing pollinators in our area!



**West Michigan
Great Lakes
Stewardship
Initiative**

Student Learning Outcomes

In the Fall, the students were working on persuasive essays in writing class. When we toured our school, to see if there was a home, school or community project we could undertake; they realized the front of our school was very plain. When discussing how we could beautify our campus, they did research and found the need for a native pollinator garden to enhance habitat for pollinators. In doing the research, they also found that this would help with the heating and cooling for our building, as well as make it more aesthetically pleasing. A steering committee of 7 students, helped a

high school student plan which types of plants would be good to use. The group then decided on signage to be put up around the garden. This group, along with a Kindergarten teacher, measured our plot of land and divided it into 5 sections to accommodate each 3rd grade classroom. They then completed a key of plant placement, to insure that the garden would have flowers blooming throughout the year from May—October. The steering team, supervised all other classrooms as they prepared the soil, planted and put on mulch. Weesies Brother's Farms delivered over 350 plants, top soil and mulch.

CLK Elementary

2015 –2016

School Year Team:

- 5 Third Grade Classrooms
- 150 students
- 6 teachers

The high school student, who is helping the students, is also planning to make beehives to insert by the end of the summer. He will help the student learn how to maintain them.....

FUTURE PLANS:

- The students would like to extend the garden, to go the entire length of the school next year.
- The signage will be completed at the end of the summer, as well as pamphlets for community members to take as they walk by and enjoy the garden.
- The students also placed hummingbird feeders in the area.



Each participating LSSI classroom visited Hughes' Organic Farm.

“Composting is good for the environment; everyone should try it. It could save you money, too!”
- Mitchell, 4th grader



Sorting garbage during the waste assembly.

Learning **O**bjectives: Students will....

- learn to make healthy eating choices;
- be able to explain where their food comes from;
- describe the social, economic, and environmental consequences of different food choices and be able to make informed decisions;
- compost their food waste at school;
- work to reduce classroom waste;
- inform the community about the importance of saving energy and reducing air pollution related to food choices; and
- communicate to their fellow students about the benefits of eating and buying locally grown goods and produce.

2009-2010 School Year Project Timeline

