



OutTeach

Go Outside Expectations



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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR



Anne Beers Elementary School

3600 Alabama Ave SE Washington, DC 20020

Gwendolyn Payton - Principal

Grades: PK-5

140 volunteers put in a full day's work to install an outdoor classroom!

More than 437 students have access to an outdoor classroom every day, and the school's 40 teachers got trained to bring hands-on outdoor lessons to life.





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Teaching and Learning

The existing learning lab built is being managed by FRESHFARM FOODPRINTS for curriculum integrated food and cultivation classes.

- **Connecting outdoor lessons to specific learning standards.**
- **Clarifying learning outcomes.**
- **Facilitating student self-directed learning.**
- **Explore, then explain.**



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Pre-COVID Uses

- Gardening
- Collaboration & Enrichment
- Outdoor Space Making



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Post-COVID Uses

- Interest in Outdoor Meals
- DCPS Outdoor Learning Supplies
- Site Planning
- Local Partnerships



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About the Project

The site design is divided into three areas, which could each be built in phases, or at the same time.

Short term recommendations include refreshing the existing garden with repairs and replacements and adding an additional classroom space just outside the gate in a shady, flat area.

Long term recommendations include developing an outdoor kitchen lab and a separate science focused learning lab.

The learning lab is a medium investment long term project, and the kitchen is a large investment long term project.

Across the site, ADA pathways and overall pedestrian circulation should be improved with more stable walking surfaces, such as concrete. Mulch or gravel may be used in the classrooms and labs.



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Map Key

1 EXISTING GARDEN 

Refresh and repair outdoor classrooms, and replace work tables as needed. Add in-ground benches and additional storage.

2 ADJACENT SPACE 

Create an outdoor kitchen for classes and community events with overhead roof, rain barrel, work tables, farm stand, and classroom with shade sail.

3 FLAT SPACE 

Create a new learning lab with science focused features for all ages as well as a reading corner. Incorporate a staff lounge.

Update ADA pathways to concrete and add a sloping walkway or ramp for more direct access.

Create a shady classroom with veggie boards next to the garden.





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Thank you to the leadership at Anne Beers ES, for participating in the Technical Assistance Program. Engaging teachers, students, and families through outdoor learning!



Disclaimer

The contents of this document were developed under a grant from the United States Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the United States Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.