

---

---

## Cambridge Lakes Charter School

Pingree Grove, IL

# Gardening Club

12<sup>th</sup> August 2019

## OVERVIEW

Middle school students at Cambridge Lakes Charter School (CLCS) have proposed to start a Gardening Club to be led by upper school students and supervised by Melissa McCarter. Beginning at the start of the 2019-2020 school year, students will meet for one hour once per week (day of the week pending) to tend to portable potted plants located outside of Rm. 804 in the Green Kiva. This will be a low-cost way to initiate Gardening Club and to engage students in the implementation of the club that was their brainchild.

## GOALS

1. To offer students a hands-on learning opportunity that allows them to explore botany.
2. To develop student responsibility, accountability, and cooperation.
3. To increase morale and pride in our school.
4. To grow a beautiful and functional garden.
5. To find new opportunities to expand and utilize the garden.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Ms. McCarter will purchase potted plants according to the pricing listed below and submit receipts for reimbursement. Potted plants will be situated outside of Rm. 804 under the approval/supervision of Sylvia Poletta, Nicole Brady, and Diana Lento-Reidy.

## IMPLEMENTATION for Spring 2020

### Initial Costs

Item	Price
Tomato Plants (2)	\$6.48 (\$12.96)

---

Basil	\$6.48
Sage	\$4.98
Rosemary	\$8.98
Chrysanthemums	\$8.98
Oregano	\$6.48
Terra Cotta Pots (9.5")	\$5.97 (\$29.85)
Plant Cages	\$6.38 (\$31.90)
Potting Soil	\$13.97
<b>Total Cost (Start Up)</b>	<b>\$158.52</b>

## Next Steps

We will send out a newsletter about Gardening Club and will announce it at Morning Message. Student volunteers will water, weed, and fertilize plants. We will also learn about the characteristics of each plant and their optimal conditions for growth. Students will meet to plan their steps for garden expansion, including their fundraising efforts. Their proposal indicated that a bake sale could be used to raise money for the school garden.

## Vision for Spring 2020

- Indoor garden (Click and Grow)
- Bring selected plants indoors for the fall/winter (rosemary, sage)
- Determine fundraising opportunities
- Explore the possibility of garden tubs for the spring
- Read the PH of the soil
- Research plants
- Create botanical drawings (This could be an interdisciplinary project with the art department.)
- Take a field trip to a local farm and/or greenhouse (Mighty Greens Farm, Elburn)
- Find a way to include lower school students.