# School Districts with Systemic Support for School Gardens

Compiled by Anna Garwood, Growing Gardens

October 2015

## Washington DC

**Scale** ~90 schools

**Elements**

* Central coordination of School Garden Program
* Registration of school gardens and mapping
* Technical Assistance: Horticulture guidance, Garden structure construction (including irrigation, composting, signage, etc.), modeling of garden instruction, program management.
* Professional Development (School Garden 101 and 201, Growing Garden Teachers Training, Monthly meetings)
* Certification as U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools (GRS)
* Administers Small Grant Program ($10,000 per school, up to 20 schools)

**Funding** Established through the D.C. Healthy Schools Act (2010) and is a component of

the Nutrition Program team of the Division of Wellness and Nutrition Services at

the Office of the State Superintendent of Education. Soda tax generates $200K-$300K.

[**More info**](http://www.osse.dc.gov/service/school-garden-program-sgp)**:** http://www.osse.dc.gov/service/school-garden-program-sgp

## Berkeley Unified School District

**Scale:** Focus on 17 schools

**Elements**

* District Garden-Based Learning Curriculum linked to Next Generation Science standards, Common Core and California nutrition standards
* Garden instructors co-teach with classroom teachers every other week
* Annual assessment from UC Berkeley Center for Weight and Health
* Many non-profit community partners

**Funding:**

$350,000 from School Board

$15/student from school sites,

$250,000 from City of Berkeley from tax revenues

$50,000 from fundraising events

previously funded by USDA

[**More info**](http://www.berkeleyschools.net/gcp)**:** http://www.berkeleyschools.net/gcp

## Denver Public Schools

**Scale:** ~80 schools

**Elements:**

* The Sustainability Office coordinates the Garden and Greenhouse Program.
* Site-walk and garden location analysis to contact the appropriate offices within DPS to approve your garden site.
* Basic school garden resources: planting calendars, garden types/themes, and curriculum.
* Create connections between your school and local organizations that can provide further programming and maintenance support.
* Coordinates the Denver School Garden Coalition, a collaboration of nonprofits that serves the needs and circumstances within each school garden through coordinated and complimentary garden programming.
* Includes program for high school students with disabilities

**Funding:** Coordination role provided by district. Grants for schools from Coalition partners. Schools also earn money when they sell their produce in Garden to Cafeteria program.

[**More info**](http://www.sustainability.dpsk12.org/stories/storyReader$98)**:** http://www.sustainability.dpsk12.org/stories/storyReader$98

## Oakland Unified School District

**Scale:** 22 schools

**Elements:**

* The district's School Garden Coordinator serves as:
  + the facilitator of the OUSD School Garden Council
  + liaison to Nutrition Services to promote the connections among garden-based nutrition education, the cafeteria and classroom
  + liaison among school garden coordinators (10 in district)
  + liaison to community-based organizations that support school gardens, garden education and nutrition education
* Garden policies, planting calendar, grant contacts

**Funding:** Coordinator position is district funded.Garden coordinators funded by non-profits, Foodcorps, PTAs and school sites.

[**More info**](http://www.ousd.org/Page/721)**:** <http://www.ousd.org/Page/721>

San Fransisco

**Scale:** ~80 schools

**Elements:**

Funding: School bonds

More information: