

## CASE STUDY BRIEF

Since 2013, the Partnership for 21st Century Learning (P21) has annually designated 21st Century Learning Exemplars based upon exceptional implementation of the [Framework for 21st Century Learning](#).

Each year, P21 has highlighted a cohort of early learning centers, K–12 schools, school districts, and beyond school programs in the U.S. as 21st Century Learning Exemplars. Now that P21 is a network of Battelle for Kids, we are leading together in celebrating the current year of 21st Century Learning Exemplars.

As part of celebrating these awardees, Battelle for Kids and its P21 network provide ways for their stories and impactful practices to be shared with others. This case study brief and those for the other awardees provide powerful insights to guide other school districts, schools, and programs so that every child can experience the best of 21st century learning experiences.



### The Goddard School Located in Broadview Heights Broadview Heights, OH

With deliberate attention and care, The Goddard School located in Broadview Heights, OH provides a nurturing and welcoming home away from home where collaboration and communication are front and center.

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**Ages:** Infant–6

**Enrollment:** 142 Students

Founded in 2002

[Website](#)

- Step up to Quality 4-star campus through the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and the Ohio Department of Education
- NCA-CASI accredited through AdvancED

# Goddard School Located in Broadview Heights

## Broadview Heights, OH

### Rich Learning Environment

Infused with warmth and bright, open spaces, the Goddard School Located in Broadview Heights provides a safe and inviting learning space where children, teachers, and families feel welcome from the moment they enter.

Open-ended material centers provide children the opportunity to exercise their creativity and agency as they explore innovative ways to utilize different materials and manipulatives. Teachers and school staff let students take responsible risks. In the pursuit of imagination and play-based learning, staff encourage full engagement with the resource rich centers, unafraid to let paint fly and dirt scatter.

Classrooms and hallways are beautiful, inviting, and well-appointed, with student projects adorning every available space. Of special note is the school's outdoor space, flush with different types of materials, an imagination playground, and a sensory table. A natural extension of the classroom, the outdoor space was specifically designed to facilitate and foster collaboration and communication and enhance project-based learning opportunities beyond the traditional school walls.

### Project-Based Learning

Utilizing the existing strengths, talents, and interests of their teaching staff, the school strategically seeks opportunities to leverage programming and projects that will not only engage students but their staff as well.

One example is their adoption of Level Up Village's Global Sound Artists. With the involvement of a family band and specialized knowledge of various instruments, a teacher guided the school's PreK-2 students. They engineered their own different types of instruments, appreciated culturally diverse music, learned the science of sound, and shared their learning with a partner class in another country through an online collaboration platform.

Another example is the ongoing planting project—sparked by a teacher's love of gardening. It has since morphed into a more robust and involved project as the students have developed a genuine interest in the lifecycle of plants and the science of growing and vegetation. The school has dedicated outdoor space for the student gardens, which they monitor and tend throughout the year. Students learn about soil, worms, compost, and different types of fruits and vegetables that they are able to grow in the garden. A cross-cultural unit is also included where students learn about vegetation found in other countries.



The Pre-K and Junior Kindergarten classes extended the lesson a step further by setting up a small farmer's market stand to sell the fruits of their labor. The funds from their student-run market were then collectively used to purchase new art supplies for their classrooms.

## Inclusivity and Caring

The school has gone to great lengths to ensure that all students are cared for and individualized needs are met. No effort is spared to ensure that learners can participate in every activity and that supports are in place to make sure that their students are ready for kindergarten and beyond.

Communication with parents is robust and frequent. Parents receive a daily note and two photographs or videos of their child engaging in the lessons or exploring independently. The school sends weekly newsletters to inform parents and the community of activities and projects, and at-home extensions are provided. Displays throughout the school communicate the philosophy and curriculum, and parents are well-versed in the common language and concepts that their children utilize in their school journey.

This level of conscientiousness and care with parent communication fosters a sense of trust and caring and results in very low student turnover.



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## 2019 21ST CENTURY LEARNING EXEMPLARS

Each of the following earned this year's award for its outstanding practices in equipping students with the necessary skills and knowledge for success in college, career, and life:

### Early Learning

The Goddard School Located in Broadview Heights (Broadview, OH)  
The Goddard School Located in Simpsonville (Simpsonville, SC)

### K-12 Schools

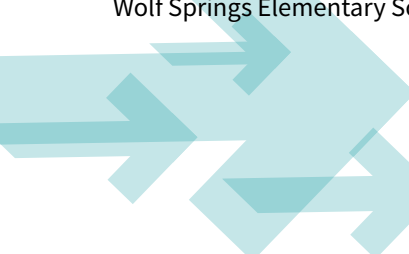
Canyon Crest Elementary School (Fontana, CA)  
Elon Elementary School (Elon, NC)  
EVSC New Tech Institute (Evansville, IN)  
Henry Ford Academy: Alameda School for Art + Design (San Antonio, TX)  
Kairos Public School Vacaville Academy (Vacaville, CA)  
Kensington Elementary School (Waxhaw, NC)  
Moreno Valley High School (Moreno Valley, CA)  
Saint Ambrose School (Brunswick, OH)  
Santiago Charter Middle School (Orange, CA)  
Valley View High School (Moreno Valley, CA)  
Vineyard STEM Magnet (Ontario, CA)  
Vista Heights Middle School (Moreno Valley, CA)  
Wolf Springs Elementary School (Overland Park, KS)

### Districts

Lennox School District (Lennox, CA)  
Vicksburg Warren School District (Vicksburg, MS)

### Beyond School Programs

Camp Champions (Marble Falls, TX)



Learn more about the 21st Century Learning Exemplars at: [bfk.me/p21\\_ExemplarProgram](https://bfk.me/p21_ExemplarProgram)