**CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**1827 BYGLAND ROAD, EAST GRAND FORKS, MN**

**BUTTERFLY GARDEN AND OUTDOOR CLASSROOM**

HISTORY

Jerry Wenzel, a science teacher at Central Middle School, EGF and Vince Ames, a science teacher at Central High School, GF partnered to design and develop what is now known as the CMS Butterfly Garden. The dream of an outdoor classroom came to be when the new middle school was built after the 1997 flood. The science teachers wanted students to experience science outdoors, develop an understanding of environmental science and learn to garden. Many teachers saw possibilities to incorporate the garden into the curriculum of other subjects as well; such as art, writing composition, and woodworking.

THE CMS BUTTERFLY GARDEN

The CMS Butterfly Garden is situated on the Southwest corner of the school and has 3 components: the butterfly garden, the native prairie, and the bird sanctuary. The Butterfly Garden is designed to attract butterflies by providing their habitat needs. Bordering the school is the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources 30-acre prairie restoration area. The prairie starts at Bygland Road and extends north to the elementary school. The students enjoy the prairie for both recess and class time. The area of the garden alongside the prairie has been developed into a bird sanctuary. Students have made some of the bird houses and feeders in woodworking class.

COMMUNITY USES OF THE GARDEN

The CMS Butterfly Garden is a public garden that provides respite for both wildlife and people. It is biking distance from almost anywhere in East Grand Forks and is near the Greater Grand Forks Greenway.

Metamorphosis

Egg 

Larva 

Pupa 

Adult ****