



Student teaching summary for USD #457- Garden City Public Schools, Garden City, Kansas

## **Where is Garden City?**

Garden City is located in the Southwestern corner of Kansas. We are 170 miles (3 hours) straight south of McCook or 265 miles (4 1/2 hours) from Kearney.

Garden City Public Schools has approximately 7700 students with a very diverse population which includes Caucasian, Hispanic, Vietnamese, Burmese, and Somalian students where 36 different languages are spoken in our schools. Our facilities include an early childhood center, 11 elementary schools (K-4), 2 intermediate centers (5th & 6th grade), 2 middle schools (7th & 8th), and a high school (9th-12th). The high school was built 6 years ago and is a \$92M state of the art facility that currently serves 2100 students.

## **Who can student teach in Garden City?**

Garden City has been recently approved as a partner of the University of Nebraska Kearney and now prepared to accept student teaching candidates in both elementary and secondary levels.

## **Do student teachers at Garden City get paid?**

It is illegal in the State of Kansas to pay a student teacher under a teaching contract. However, with an approved application which includes a reference from the university, a student teaching candidate could qualify for tuition reimbursement of \$6,000 during their student teaching semester.

## **Where would student teachers live?**

Students are responsible for their own living arrangements. We will provide a list of available housing in our community and will also provide support through our personnel office to locate potential roommates if available.

## **What kind of support can student teachers expect during their time at Garden City?**

There is a wonderful support system in place for our student teachers. We have averaged 20 student teaching placements from various universities over the last few years. Student teachers receive support from building administrators, cooperating teachers, grade level/department colleagues, instructional coaches, as well as a student teaching supervisor. Student teachers will participate in ongoing professional development through professional learning communities and monthly collaboration sessions both in the building and with district wide grade level/department personnel. We would love to put you in contact with former UNK graduates that have participated in this program to let them share their story.

## **Who is the contact person for Garden City Public Schools?**

Heath Hogan, Deputy Superintendent has worked closely with Jane Blum to support this program and visits the campus during career fairs in October and March. Additionally, Renee Scott, Assistant Superintendent, will be the University supervisor for student teachers from UNK.