



Gatewood Elementary School students stand proudly in front of new soccer goals installed thanks to a Parks & Public Space Initiative grant.

Improving a School's Playground

Located in a historic neighborhood in central Oklahoma City, Gatewood Elementary School serves a diverse mixture of young families. The school sits just north of the Plaza District that in recent years has seen a resurgence thanks to new retail stores and restaurants.

The neighborhood does not have a public park so the school serves that role for residents, opening its grounds to the public after school and on weekends to encourage a healthier lifestyle. Several years ago the school started working with surrounding businesses and residents to improve the school grounds. The recent addition of a KaBOOM! playground and a walking trail have certainly increased the usage of the grounds. In 2015, a grant from the Parks & Public Space Initiative along with funding from the Margaret Annis Boys Trust provided permanent soccer goals, the addition of 42 trees and shrubs and helped with the installation of a track.

Two Gatewood students try out the school's new track.

