



Support and Advance FARM TO SCHOOL in Minnesota!

Farm to School connects Minnesota farmers and kids by including local food in meals and teaching children about agriculture through hands-on activities.



MN Farm to School is good for

FARMERS



Direct access to institutions like schools gives farmers a stable and diversified income



Schools and early care settings increase demand for more diverse crops, promoting soil health through crop rotation.



Access to local markets is critical for farmers. This bill provides technical assistance to help farmers successfully navigate selling to schools and early care settings

KIDS



Farm to school and early care programs provide access to fresh, nutritious, local foods children need to learn and grow



Hands-on classroom activities educate kids about where food comes from and build an understanding of agriculture, farming and nutrition



Young children are developing their lifelong taste preferences and eating habits. Children who participate in Farm to School activities are more likely to eat a wide variety of foods and are more willing to try new foods. They also eat an additional serving of fruits and vegetables per day!

THE LOCAL ECONOMY



Local food supply chains create opportunities for farmers and businesses like processors and distributors. But the current lack of infrastructure means supply often cannot meet the high demand for local food.



Finding stable local buyers creates a price floor for farmers, processors and distributors, driving the revitalization of rural communities.

FARM TO SCHOOL'S IMPACT

\$1.00 ⇒ \$2.16

Investing \$1 in Farm to School generates an additional \$2.16 of local economic activity.



“There are so many schools who really want to participate in Farm to School, but honestly, our jobs in school nutrition have so many different hats that to wear, that putting on that local food buyers hat is often one that gets set aside.”

-Barb Mechura
Director of Nutrition & Lifestyle
Services at Hopkins Public Schools

OVER

40%

of early care settings in MN participating in Farm to Early Care say finding a source of local foods is a barrier.