



WAUKEE **F**  **R** **M**
to School

The main title "FARM to School" is rendered in large, bold, purple letters. The letter "F" is partially replaced by the word "WAUKEE" written vertically in green. The letter "A" is replaced by a stylized purple barn icon with a white door and a small window showing a green plant. The word "to" is in green, and "School" is in purple.

Action Plan

FY18 USDA Farm to School Planning Grant

Background

As a recipient of a 2018 USDA Farm to School Planning Grant, the Waukee Community School District (WCSD) has developed infrastructure to support farm to school including:

- Establishing a farm to school committee comprised of school and community stakeholders.
- Developing a farm to school vision, logo, and marketing materials.
- Creating a school garden checklist; garden food safety procedure; and revising the district's wellness policy to include support for farm to school activities.
- Adding 5 new edible gardens
- Providing nutrition education, in addition to locally sourced food for taste testing and special events in the lunch room, at summer feeding sites, and in preK-12 classrooms.
- Developing an action plan for farm to school implementation.

Vision

The vision for WCSD's farm to school program is to '*cultivate opportunities for students and the community to interact with the local food system*' through education, hands-on agricultural experiences, and local food procurement strategies.

Goal

The overall goal of WCSD's Farm to School Program is to improve access to local foods in eligible schools through comprehensive farm to school programming that includes education, hands-on agricultural experiences, and local food procurement.



Action Plan (School Year 2021-2023)

Activity	Activity Category	Indicator	Anticipated Start Date (Month, Year)	Anticipated Completion Date (Month, Year)	Target Audience	Responsible Party (Name, Title, Organization)
Convene monthly Farm to School Committee meetings	Local Procurement and Agricultural Education	# of attendees # of meetings	July 2021	June 2023	District staff/ Teachers Parents Students Community Partners	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN* & Jennifer Walters Farm to School Contractor
Establish and convene a committee of English Language Learner students and their families, nutrition staff, and school improvement teams to identify opportunities & implement strategies to enhance cultural diversity within farm to school	Local food procurement and Agricultural Education	# of committee members & planning mtgs. #of strategies identified	November 2021	June 2023	English Language Learner students & families District nutrition staff School Improvement Teams	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN; Jennifer Walters - Farm to School Contractor
Conduct at least 4 local food taste testings to get feedback on new & diverse recipes that could be featured on the menu.	Local Procurement	# of taste testings # of new recipes	September 2021	July 2023	Students Nutrition Services	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN

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Collaborate with school-based edible gardens to grow produce that can be featured in meal programs and/or taste tests, with an emphasis on cultural diversity.	Local Procurement	# of edible gardens Pounds of produce harvested	July 2021	June 2023	Garden Teams Students Parents Teachers Nutrition Services	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN, Jennifer Walters, Farm to School Contractor; APEX Students
Partner with local food hub and/or growers to implement a Harvest of the Month (HOM) Program to feature locally sourced, culturally diverse products	Local Procurement	# of HOM features \$ spent on local #s of local products	September 2021	July 2023	Cafeteria Staff Students Teachers	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN; Sherri Lee -Sales Manager Farm Table Delivery
Conduct site visits with Northeast Iowa Food & Fitness Initiative and Minneapolis Public Schools to learn best practices for sourcing local products directly from farmers; adapt policies/procedures for WCSD.	Local Procurement	# of policies & procedure created	October 2022	April 2023	Nutrition Services	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN; Jeannie Allgood Director of Nutrition Services; Jennifer Walters Farm to School Contractor
Design & implement a Request for Information to assess availability of ultra-local products (within 60 miles of Waukee) to expand procurement beyond HOM	Local Procurement	# of RFI responses # of local products identified	September 2022	June 2023	Local Producers Nutrition Services Students	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN; Services; Jennifer Walters Farm to School Contractor
Support and expand school-based edible gardens by providing supplies, curriculum, and dedicated personnel (4 student/teacher stipends for summer garden care, maintenance and harvesting).	Agricultural education	# of gardens # of students receiving education	July 2021	June 2023	Students Teachers Garden Teams	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN; APEX Students

Activity	Activity Category	Indicator	Anticipated Start Date (Month, Year)	Anticipated Completion Date (Month, Year)	Target Audience	Responsible Party (Name, Title, Organization)
Establish & convene a curriculum planning team to identify, integrate, and train teachers on comprehensive Farm to School curriculum for pre-K–12 connected to state standards that can be delivered in-person or virtually.	Agricultural Education	# attended # trained # of lessons	October 2021	June 2023	Curriculum Coordinators Instructional Coaches Teachers (pre-K through 12)	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN, Jamie Champion, Dallas County Ag in the Classroom Coordinator; APEX Students
Convene a student-led greenhouse planning team to create a vision, goals & design for a potential future greenhouse within the school district to support agricultural education & local food procurement from school gardens.	Local procurement & Agricultural Education	# of students engaged Plan developed	September 2021	June 2023	District Leadership Teachers Parents Students	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN; Jennifer Walters, Farm to School Contractor
Implement Farm to school at summer feeding sites featuring locally-sourced produce from school gardens and/or local food hub, and agricultural education delivered on-site or through take home activities.	Local Procurement and Agricultural Education	# of local products Pounds of local products # of students reached	July 2021	June 2023	Nutrition Services Garden Teams Farm Table Delivery Students Community Partners	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN; APEX Students
Develop marketing materials and implement promotional campaigns to showcase Farm to School initiatives within the District.	Local Procurement and Agricultural Education	# of materials created	September 2021	June 2023	Students Teachers Parents Community members	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN; AJ Ellingson, Marketing Coordinator; APEX Students

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Showcase WCSD Farm to School efforts and learn from other schools at Iowa Farm to School Conference & Governor's Conference on Public Health	Local Procurement and Agricultural Education	# of presentations given and attended	September 2021	June 2023	Nutrition Staff Teachers	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN; Jeannie Allgood Director of Nutrition Services; Jennifer Walters Farm to School Contractor
Establish & convene a regular meeting of Districts in the Des Moines metro area to align goals and leverage partnerships to support farm to school in the region.	Local Procurement	# of Districts attending # of joint goals developed	September 2022	June 2023	Metro-area School Districts	Kaitlyn Scheuermann, RDN; Jeannie Allgood - Director of Nutrition Services; & Jennifer Walters Farm to School Contractor

*Kaitlyn Scheuermann's full credentials are MPP-D, RDN, LD. They have been shortened to RDN in this document in the interest of space.

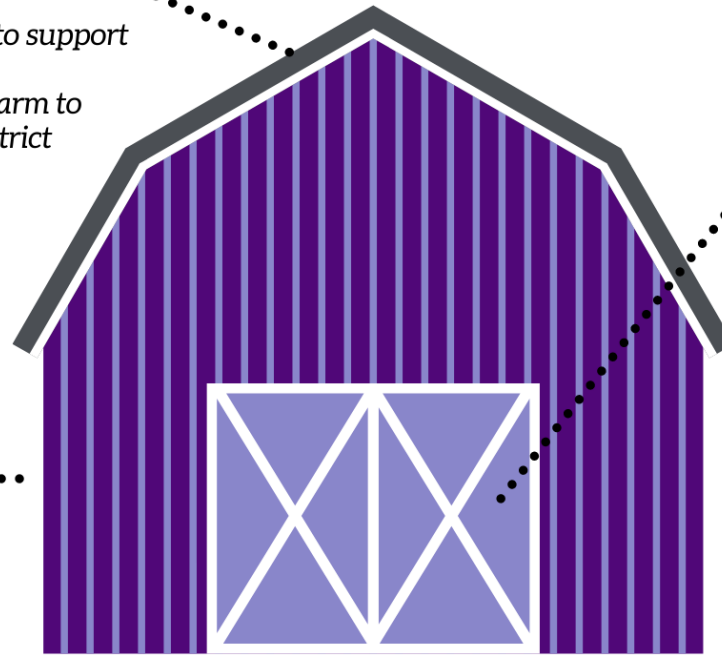


Integrity for the Future.....

- Established policies and procedures to support sustainable school gardens
- Reinforced district commitment to Farm to School by adding language in the district Wellness policy

Strengthened the Walls

- Established 5 new edible gardens
- Provided nutrition education and hands-on agricultural opportunities to students
- Developed marketing materials to promote Farm to School efforts



Built the Foundation

- Received support from committed stakeholders and volunteers
- Provided district-level support for Farm to School
- Convened a district-level Farm to School Committee
- Developed a Farm to School vision and logo

Opening the Door to Opportunity

In the next steps with our Farm to School work, we plan to:

- Collaborate with English Language Learner families to enhance cultural diversity within Farm to School
- Develop new and diverse recipes featuring local foods
- Grow culturally-appropriate foods in school gardens
- Increase local food procurement
- Identify opportunities to integrate Farm to School into district curriculum
- Leverage support from other districts to support Farm to School in the region