

## What is Farm to School

Farm to school enriches the connection communities have with fresh, healthy food and local food producers by changing food purchasing and education practices at schools.

Farm to school implementation differs by location but includes one or more of the following: (**Procurement:** Local foods are purchased, promoted and served in the cafeteria or as a snack or taste-test; **Education:** Students participate in education activities related to agriculture, food, health or nutrition; and **School Gardens:** Students engage in hands-on learning through gardening.

Farm to school empowers children and their families to make informed food choices while strengthening the local economy and contributing to vibrant communities.

## Why Farm to School?

Farm to school provides all kids access to nutritious high quality, local food so they are ready to learn and grow. Farm to school activities enhance classroom education through hands-on learning related to food, health, agriculture, and nutrition.

Farm to school can serve as a financial opportunity for farmers by opening the door to a new market. Farm to school benefits everyone from students, teachers and administrators to parents and farmers, providing opportunities to build family and community engagement. Buying from local producers and processors strengthen the local economy.



If you are interested in hearing more about Farm to School, please contact me at [sriggs@atlanticiaschools.org](mailto:sriggs@atlanticiaschools.org). It would be great to share information with you.

Thank you,  
Sue Riggs  
Cass County Farm to School Coordinator