

FOR PRODUCERS

Farm to School

RESOURCE GUIDE



Disclaimer: This document contains a wealth of resources. Feel free to keep it and explore topics as needed. If you're looking for information on a subject not included here, please reach out to the Farmer Educator (jcallander@farrms.org) for assistance.

Webinars & Videos

[Developing Markets Farm-To-School Program in Action - West Fargo Public School District](#)

This webinar highlights how West Fargo Public School District is putting farm to school strategies into action by sourcing local foods, partnering with area producers, and creating new market opportunities for farmers.

[Farm to School Field Trip](#)

This video highlights North Dakota's Farm to School program, showing how one local farmer and school district work together to bring fresh, locally grown produce into schools while teaching kids where their food comes from and inspiring them to try healthy new foods.

[Local Food for Local Children Webinar Series Part One](#)

This webinar introduces the basics of farm to school and spotlights Bismarck Public Schools, sharing what works, what's misunderstood, and how to begin building a school market.

[Local Food for Local Children Webinar Series Part Two](#)

This webinar focuses on how to approach schools and start the conversation, with a practical walkthrough and a panel of producers/processors sharing real numbers, lessons learned, and how they made it work from vegetables to USDA inspected beef.

[North Dakota Department of Public Instruction Farm to School Webinar Series 2024](#)

This 5-part farm to school webinar series focused on various topics including basics, procurement, ND local foods directory, grants, resources, and idea sharing.

[Farm to School-Building Partnerships for Healthy, Local School Food](#)

This webinar explores opportunities available to ND school districts and how farm to table programming promotes health and wellness for children.

Toolkits, Worksheets & Guides

[Farm to School Guide for Schools & Producers](#)

This toolkit provides schools and local producers with practical guidance on sourcing and integrating locally grown foods into school meal programs.

[Bringing the Farm to School: Producer Resource Toolkit](#)

This toolkit offers key tools to help farmers build the skills and capacity needed to sell local food to schools.

[Producer Worksheets](#)

This workbook provides structured worksheets to assess skills, set goals, and outline action steps for successfully selling local foods to schools.

[Producer Action Planning Guide](#)

This guide helps farmers identify their skills, goals, resources, and next steps for selling local food to schools by providing structured prompts, assessments, and planning tools.

[The USDA Farm to School Planning Toolkit](#)

This toolkit outlines key activities and resources to help schools plan, develop, and strengthen a successful farm to school program.

[ND Farm to School Toolkit for School Nutrition Programs](#)

This toolkit provides schools and producers with step-by-step guidance on purchasing and using locally grown foods, including procurement methods, food safety requirements, and contract recommendations to support successful farm to school programs.

[Guide for Buying and Selling Local Food](#)

This guide explains the basic rules for safely and legally purchasing unprocessed, locally grown produce in North Dakota and clarifies key requirements for both buyers and producers.

Beef to School

[ND Beef to Schools Pilot Project](#)

This project connected selected schools with North Dakota ranchers by providing donated, local ground beef and encouraging lasting partnerships for future purchases.

[Beef to School Pilot](#)

A factsheet which introduces schools to locally raised, inspected North Dakota beef so they can compare its quality and benefits to current products, and explore future procurement from local ranchers.

[Map of ND Processors](#)

A map of ND meat processors that are inspected for school use.

[Processors - State & Federal Inspected](#)

A list of ND meat processors that are state and federally inspected.

[Guide to using ND Beef](#)

Guidelines for North Dakota schools to legally and practically purchase locally sourced beef for school meals.

Data, Factsheets & General Guidelines

[National Farm to School Network](#)

The National Farm to School Network webpage provides resources on connecting and strengthening the farm to school movement.

[The Benefits of Farm to School](#)

This factsheet highlights how farm to school programs boost student health and learning, strengthen local economies, and support farmers through local purchasing, nutrition education and school gardens.

[North Dakota Farm to School Census](#)

Explore information on farm to school participation by North Dakota school food authorities that responded to the Census and the schools and students they serve.

[Benefits of Local Meat in Schools](#)

This publication highlights how districts can source, procure, and serve local proteins by using flexible purchasing and strong producer partnerships to bring fresh meat into school meals.

[North Dakota Department of Agriculture Farm to School](#)

The North Dakota Department of Agriculture's farm to school webpage provides resources and producer guides to help schools and farmers get involved.

Inspiration from Other States

[Montana Farm to School](#)

Learn about the farm to school efforts taking place across Montana's schools.

[Minnesota Farm to School](#)

Learn about the farm to school efforts taking place across Minnesota's schools.

[South Dakota Farm to School](#)

Learn about the farm to school efforts taking place across South Dakota's schools.