

# REAL FOOD IN SCHOOLS



# What is Farm to School?

Farm to school programs combine:

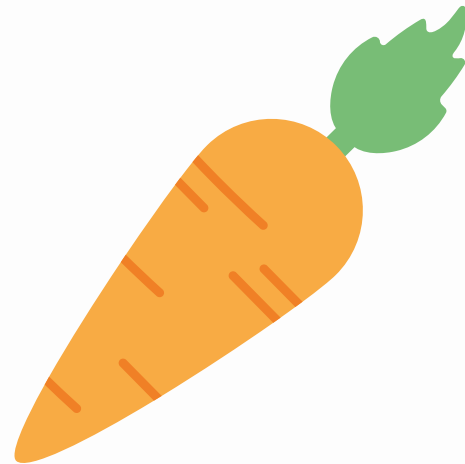
- California food procurement
- Education that connects classrooms, cafeterias, and outdoor learning spaces (gardens/farms/etc.)
- Experiential learning with the community (field trips, guest teachers, etc.)



# How does CDFA support F2S?



California F2S Network  
*Hiring 16 regional staff  
to support local food  
procurement +  
collaboration*











CA F2S Incubator Grant  
*Promoting + decoding  
funding opportunities  
and partnerships with  
stakeholders*



CA F2S Roadmap +  
Working Group  
*Outlines investments in  
school food + farm to  
school programs*

# CA FARM TO SCHOOL NETWORK REGIONAL MAP

-  SUPERIOR REGION
-  NORTH COAST REGION
-  BAY AREA REGION
-  CENTRAL REGION
-  SAN JOAQUIN REGION
-  SOUTH COAST REGION
-  GREATER LOS ANGELES REGION
-  SOUTHERN REGION



- 4,000 members
- School Food, Education, Farms Nonprofits
- Hiring 16 California Farm to School Network Regional Staff
- Amy Garfinkel is CDFA Statewide F2S Network Lead



# California Farm to School Incubator Grant \$60 million

- Flexible funding to advance F2S
  - K12 Procurement + Education Grant
  - Early Care + Education Grant
  - Producer Grant
  - Partnership + Collaboration Grant
- Prioritizes HEALTHY, EQUITABLE, RESILIENT food system projects





# Farm to School Funding and K-12 CTE Opportunities

- Build or improve facilities, infrastructure, training, etc.
- Purchase harvest + processing equipment, pay for student internships, etc.
- School cafeteria purchases products or partners on menu development
- Clovis, McFarland, Turlock, San Diego, on and on...





# Other State Funding Opportunities

- Universally Free Meals!
- \$600m School Kitchen Infrastructure and Training (KIT)(CDE)
- \$300m Career Technical Education Grant (CDE)
- \$275m Supply Chain Assistance (USDA/CDE)
- \$150m Green Schoolyards (CNRA)
- \$100m School Food Best Practices Fund (CDE)
- \$60m CA Farm to School Incubator Grant (CDFA)
- \$45m Healthy School Food Apprenticeship Program (CALWDA)
- \$23m Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (CDFA)
- \$23m Local Food In Schools (USDA/CDE)
- \$6m Urban Agriculture Grant Program (CDFA)
- \$10.9m Equipment Assistance Grants (USDA/CDE)
- \$4m Community Composting Grant (CalRecycle)
- \$3.9m Farm to School State Agency Support (CDE)
- \$3m California Farm to School Network (CDFA)



# \$45m Healthy School Food Pathway

- Bring back scratch cooking to California Cafeterias!
- California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (CA-LWDA) in partnership with Chef Ann Foundation
  - Pre-apprenticeship - 7 weeks
  - Apprenticeship - 9 months
  - Fellowship - 1 year
- Pre-apprenticeship open now!





# 2022 School Kitchen Infrastructure and Training Funds (KIT)

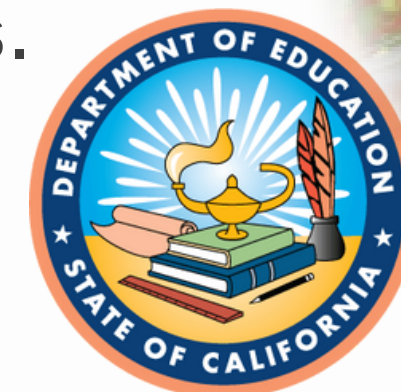
- \$600 million state funding
- Noncompetitive; optional
- Base + proportional allocation for October 2021 meals served
- Can fund infrastructure, equipment + training related to F2S
  - Scratch cooking, skill building, processing equipment, etc.
- Allows for increased staff time related to Universal Free Meals
- Freshly prepared, onsite preparation of reimbursable school meals (second optional opt in)





# School Food Best Practices

- \$100 million state California
- Noncompetitive; optional
- Base + porportional amount for October 2021 meals served + porportional amount for free and reduced-price meal percentages
- Procuring California-grown or produced, sustainably grown, whole or minimally processed foods to support equity in the procurement practices of local educational agencies.
- Using California-grown, whole or minimally processed foods in plant-based or restricted diet meals for pupils.
- Procuring plant-based or restricted diet meals for pupils in the procurement practices of local educational agencies.
- Freshly preparing meals onsite.





# Local Foods for Schools Cooperative Agreement

- \$23 million federal funding for California
- State award under review by USDA
- Noncompetitive; optional
- Award based on October 2021 enrollment
- CA grown, local farmers/producers with emphasis on small businesses or socially disadvantaged
- Unprocessed, minimally processed foods
- Requires quarterly reports of purchases





# Reflection Questions and My Contact Info

## Contact Info:

- Nick Anicich, CDFA Farm to School Program Manager
- [nicholas.anicich@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:nicholas.anicich@cdfa.ca.gov)
- 916-917-6736 (call or text)



# Long Beach Unified

- Enrollment = 75,000+
- Partner with local non-profit to build school gardens and hire educators
- Nutrition services refines procurement to prioritize local, climate smart foods for school meals
- CDFA helps find local organic farms



# L B U S D

- Gardens are finally getting off the ground (literally)! We partnered with local non-profit Ground Education to build brand new gardens at Roosevelt and Addams Elementary. Both are large, urban K-5 elementary schools with very needy populations. We also received applications from 34 additional school sites (K-12) who will each receive a \$1,000 Garden Support Grant to refurbish, rebuild, and maintain their existing school gardens. All 34 sites had previously had a school garden of some sort, but all were unused and in various states of disrepair due to the year and a half COVID closure. We look forward to purchasing lots of supplies and plants for them in the 3rd and 4th quarters.
- We also made a fabulous connection with a family-owned farm in Riverside, Tarsadia Farms, to provide us with locally-grown organic oranges to serve in the cafeteria. We were able to visit the farm to make nutrition education materials to go along with the produce served. Our students are so excited to learn there are actual people (the Patel family!) who lovingly grow and harvest the food they eat. Making that personal connection has been a big boost for us and a great learning experience for our students.
- We had 100% fill rate on our deliveries from our direct ship and food hub vendors for grant-fund purchased locally-grown produce. That is the highest fill rate of all of our vendors!





# Turlock Unified

- Enrollment = 13,000
- Partner with Career Technical Education Program (FFA/Ag + Culinary)
- School Farm field trips + sourcing in Cafeteria
- School Farm to Culinary Program
- Procure CA Grown products for meals
- Special Farm to School Activations w/bbq trailers
- Leverage state leadership for school district buy-in + marketing





# Fiery Ginger Farm + SPORK Food Hub

- Small farm located in Yolo County
- Farm based education + field trips, sell products to schools, support school gardens and special events, student internships
- Expand to create SPORK Food Hub
- Increased from 4 school district partners to 12+ school district partners
- Leverage CDFA support for relationship building + funding

