SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

FARM TO SCHOOL (F2S)
PROGRAM

PERSPECTIVES EXERCISE

RECIPE FOR A SUCCESSFUL F2S PROGRAM:

- STUDENTS
- PARENTS
- CITY LEGISLATORS
- SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS
- INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION
- EDUCATORS
- FOOD SERVICE STAFF
- FARMERS
- DISTRIBUTORS
- COMMUNITY ORGANIZERS

EXERCISE:

WHAT ARE THE INCENTIVES FOR THIS SECTOR TO PARTICIPATE IN F2S ACTIVITIES?

WHAT ARE THE ISSUES THAT MAY MAKE IT MORE CHALLENGING FOR THIS SECTOR TO PARTICIPATE IN F2S ACTIVITIES?

SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

PROCUREMENT OF LOCAL PRODUCE:

SCHOOL GARDENS

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

SPS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

OUR GOALS:

- PROVIDE EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING THROUGH GARDENING OF HEALTHY EATING PRINCIPLES
- MAKE MORE INFORMED FUTURE CONSUMERS
- INCREASE LOCAL PRODUCE IN LUNCHROOM FROM 12-20%
- INCREASE REACH FROM 20-60% OF STUDENTS BY 2016

LOCAL PROCUREMENT:

ADOPT-A-FARM PROGRAM

FLASH FREEZING LOCAL PRODUCE

KEY PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN FOOD SERVICE, DISTRIBUTORS, & FARMERS

Springfield Public School Garden and Farm Programs



GARDEN MODELS:

Raised Beds

 Converted tennis or basketball courts or any large plot of land for a farm

Large outdoor garden planters

Indoor gardens with window boxes and grow lights

Brightwood Elementary Plainfield Street

RAISED BED MODEL:

- UMass Grant Funded
- Managed by a coalition between Brightwood School & Brightwood Health Center/Baystate Health
- All Souls Parish Church next door donated a plot of land for the project since Brightwood School does not have any land for gardening













William N. DeBerry Union Street

 Out door classroom –in-ground perennial beds

 Site includes three raised table-high beds for classroom use

Fully enclosed, locked classroom









Kennedy Farm Project Berkshire Avenue

TENNIS COURT RENOVATION/FARM MODEL:

- Four 40'x100' beds were created in an old tennis court behind the school
- A hoop house was donated
- The Farm is now planting crops to sell back to the schools for use in the cafeterias as part of the adopt-a-farm program
- The farm donates plants to the other school programs for their gardens

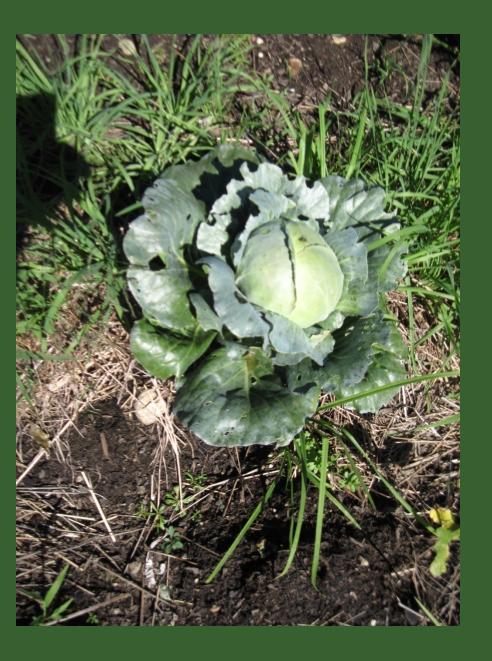






















Springfield Day Elementary Nye Street

OUTDOOR PLANTER MODEL

- Six cement planters next to the school
- Verma Composting Bins are set up
- Summer school classes maintain them









CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT:

EASE TEACHER'S BURDEN

INTEGRATE MCAS/DOE REQUIREMENTS WITH GARDEN LESSONS

MEET EDUCATIONAL GOALS WHILE PROVIDING HANDS ON EDUCATION

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT:

- CLUBS FOCUSING ON GARDENS,
 NUTRITION, AND THE ENVIRONMENT
- GARDENING
- TASTE TESTS
- GAP CERTIFICATION
- JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER'S CERTIFICATION
- SELL PRODUCE

SPS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- OCTOBER IS NATIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH
- SPS F2S DAY OCTOBER 2014
- SHOWCASE PROGRAMS
- HOLD WORKSHOPS
- ENGAGE THE WHOLE SCHOOL DISTRICT AS A COMMUNITY

IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

 PRE- AND POST-SURVEYS OF STUDENTS, PARENTS, EDUCATORS, AND ADMINISTRATORS

FUNDING STATUS REPORTS

PRODUCTION REPORTS

Contact Information

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