

**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



05/19/2010



05/19/2010



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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