

#GrowCheatham Farm to School Action Plan

The #GrowCheatham initiative creates a culture for all stakeholders of the importance of agriculture and nutrition by connecting students and faculty with producers through meaningful experiences and connected educational opportunities and instruction.



Farm to School Goals



Cafeteria

1. Increase School Grown Products in School Cafeterias.
2. Determine the Infrastructure needed to process and store local foods.
3. Train and involve school nutrition staff in F2S Menu and School product development.



Classroom

1. Provide more Farm to School curriculum resources and training opportunities for teachers.
2. Connect schools with farms through experiential learning opportunities.
3. Improve School-based food growing programs.



Community

1. Increase Food access for Students and their Families.
2. Increase Communication Between Schools and Community Stakeholders.
3. Engage local farmers through sourced products and experiential educational opportunities.

#GrowCheatham Farm to School Values



Germinate and cultivate the Farm to School program through the work of a dedicated team



Rich Farm to School education with robust support for program and teachers



Opportunities for Farm to School educational experiences pre-K-12



Working with stakeholders to connect students with food sources



Sustainable Farm to School practices and funding sources

Farm to School Goals - continued



Staying Power

1. Seek financial stability for Farm to School programming.
2. Work to include Farm to School language in school wellness policies.
3. Build school-wide awareness of Farm to School initiatives.

A robust, long-lasting, and integrated farm to school program should be able to:

- Maximize equitable student access to fresh, nutritious, locally grown foods,
- Educate students about food systems and healthy eating habits through hands-on and community-based experiences, and
- Support and grow market opportunities for local producers and processors.

How you can take action

Parents

- Fill out a free and reduce lunch application at the beginning of the school year
- Support School fundraisers
- Offer volunteer assistance

Teachers

- Cultivate relationships with community support organizations
- Contact a farmer to be a guest speaker in your classroom
- Learn Farm to School concepts that can be applied in your classroom

Administrators

- Cultivate a Farm to School culture in the district
- Encourage Professional Development sessions related to incorporating Farm to School in the classroom, cafeteria and community.

Farmers

- Contact the School Nutrition Director, Resha Garrison, with a list of products and price points to source local foods into the cafeteria

Community

- Offer financial, volunteer time, and skills to #GrowCheatham
- Support school fundraisers or sponsor a Farm to School activity. Ex. a farm field trip

Get Involved! Download the #GrowCheatham Farm to School Action Plan Here

