

Obion County Farm to School Vision Statement

We envision an Obion County School District Farm to School Initiative that connects the farm to the classroom to the cafeteria to increase healthy food options and foster a deeper understanding of our food sources and their nutritional benefits to support the welfare of students, parents, and community members in Obion County, TN.

The four components of the Obion County School District's Farm to School initiatives are:

Education: Integration of food-related education into the regular, standards-based curriculum and out of classroom opportunities for students and families.

Growing Food: Students and staff engage in hands-on learning through growing food and connecting to local and global communities and the environment.

Local Food Procurement: Local foods are sourced, purchased, promoted and served in the school environment.

Community Engagement and Staying Power: The community is actively ingrained in the culture of the school and community in supporting, advocating and sustaining farm to school initiatives.



~ Near-Term Goals ~

In the next 3-5 years, these goals will move the district toward the long-term vision.

Education Goal: By 2023, Obion County Schools will connect students to agriculture experiences through experiential learning opportunities.

Growing Food Goal 1: Starting in 2023, school based growing food operations will improve by increasing access to agriculture education, elementary school-based growing programs, and the support and expansion of high school greenhouse growing operations.

Growing Food Goal 2: By 2024, the processing of school grown foods will be determined to increase the amount of school grown food within Obion County schools.

Local Food Procurement/Cafeteria Goal 1: By 2023, Obion County Schools will begin to incorporate school garden produce and school farm products into the cafeteria and afterschool snacks through taste tests to increase access to fresher, healthier foods for all students.

Local Food Procurement/ Cafeteria Goal 2: Starting in 2023, food service staff will have access to in-service training to incorporate local agriculture products and increase awareness of nutritional education opportunities through the school food service program.

Coordination, Integration And Staying Power Goal 1: Starting the school year 2022-2023, the Obion County Farm to School Team will seek financial stability for Farm to School Programming.

Coordination, Integration And Staying Power Goal 2: Starting in 2023, schools will increase communication by including a featured farm to school activity or resource in quarterly newsletters and a monthly social media post of school based farm to school activities from within the Obion School District. #FarmtoSchool

Coordination, Integration And Staying Power Goal 3: Starting the school year 2022-2023, a network of community stakeholders will be informed of the Obion County Action Plan to aid in increasing advocacy efforts and gain broader support from parents, community organizations, local businesses, institutions, and farmers.

Education Long-Term Goal: Within 5 years the Obion County School District will increase the number of nutrition and agriculture curriculum resources and Farm to School training opportunities for teachers.

Growing Food Long-Term Goal: By 2025, the amount of school grown produce and products procured into Obion County school cafeterias will have increased by 5%.

Obion County Farm To School Team Members

- Ashley Bishop - Children's Coordinator, Obion County Public Library
- Callye Jane Moran - Community Advocate, Parent
- Caroline Ideus - Farm to School Coordinator, Northwest Tennessee Local Food Network
- Chastity Homra - Coordinated School Health Director, Supervisor of Nursing
- Derek Giffin - Giffin Farms - owner
- George Leake - OC Schools Supervisor of Secondary Education, CTE Director, Alternative Education, 504 Coordinator
- Judy Denman - OC Schools, Food Service Supervisor
- Lauren Kendall - OC Schools Communication Director
- Linda Carney - Obion County School Finance Director
- Richard Moran - Snappy Tomato Pizza Owner, Parent
- Samantha Goyret - Farm to School Coordinator, Northwest Tennessee Local Food Network
- Stuart Watson - Agriculture Teacher, Obion County Central High School, FFA Adviser

The Obion County Farm to School Action Plan was written in collaboration with the Obion County School District and the Northwest Tennessee Local Food Network.

The Northwest Tennessee Local Food Network serves as a catalyst for a thriving and equitable local food system that is accessible to ALL.



Download the full Obion County Farm to School Action Plan at nwtlnfn.org/farm-to-school