

From: Bushong, Linda (MDE) **On Behalf Of** Leikert, Howard (MDE)
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 2:33 PM
To: MDE-SchoolNutrition
Subject: Weekly News from MDE 031214

Some of the latest from the School Nutrition Programs unit here at the Department of Education:

- 1) New Grants - Through partners CSX Transportation, Kellogg Company, and the Kellogg's Corporate Citizenship Fund (and more!), Action for Healthy Kids is pleased to release its School Grants for Healthy Kids opportunities for the 2014-2015 school year. Around 1,000 schools will be awarded funds ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 to support school breakfast and physical activity programs. Funded schools will also receive expertise and people power to help implement a successful project that leads to sustainable change. Award amounts will be based on building enrollment, project type, potential impact, and a school's ability to mobilize parents and students around school wellness initiatives. Go to the following link. The first two grants listed are available here in Michigan
<http://www.actionforhealthykids.org/resources/school-grants>.
- 2) Farm to School – Attached is a great flyer on Farm to School. In addition to F2S, there are also helpful tips on purchasing a variety of food products locally. Good for your kids, your program, and the Michigan Economy!!
- 3) Healthy Lunchtime Challenge – First Lady Michelle Obama is again teaming up with the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Epicurious to host a nationwide recipe challenge to promote cooking and healthy eating among America's youth. We're inviting parents or guardians and their children, ages 8-12, to submit an original lunch recipe that is healthy, affordable, and tasty, with the opportunity to be invited to attend a Kids' "State Dinner" at the White House where a selection of the winning healthy recipes will be served. Click <http://www.recipechallenge.epicurious.com/> for more information about the Healthy Lunchtime Challenge and to submit your recipe!
- 4) Boost Breakfast - REGISTER NOW: FREE #BoostBreakfastMI Regional Training <http://ow.ly/udQqU>. Includes: breakfast, lunch, State Continuing Education Clock Hours for teachers and most importantly amazing information and tools to start or improve your School Breakfast Program. Save the date flyer attached. Registration deadline is March 17, 2014.
- 5) Pictures of Michigan School Breakfast Needed – Email any pictures you may have to PurvesE@michigan.gov or share via Team Nutrition Social Media. Include school name and contact name. Our training presenter Dayle Hayes of "School Meals that Rock" will be featuring pictures of Michigan School Breakfast on her blog during the week of the trainings and we need more photos for her to share!
- 6) Norovirus - Each year on average in the United States, norovirus causes 19–21 million cases of acute gastroenteritis (inflammation of the stomach or

intestines or both), leads to 1.7–1.9 million outpatient visits and 400,000 emergency department visits, primarily in young children, contributes to about 56,000–71,000 hospitalizations and 570-800 deaths, mostly among young children and the elderly. You can get norovirus illness at any time during the year. But, it is most common in the winter. Also, there can be 50% more norovirus illness in years when there is a new strain of the virus going around. NFSMI's Norovirus Resources and Training can help you prepare! Follow this link: www.nfsmi.org/norovirus. The Norovirus Series is a group of resources that identify tools needed to communicate the risks associated with norovirus, including prevention strategies in school and child care nutrition program settings.

- 7) Just an FYI - Please make the following pen/ink change to FNS' Eligibility Manual for School Meals: Page 41, Q/A #5, first bullet should read: "This provides the household opportunity to resolve the discrepancy during the (10 *calendar* days) advance notice of adverse action; or." USDA National Office is aware of the error and has added it to a list of edits to make later this year to the eligibility manual.
- 8) Nutrition Facts Label - Please take note of the First Lady's attached announcement on proposed revisions to the Nutrition Facts Label, in an effort to make them more usable to consumers and to reflect the latest scientific information.
- 9) Unpaid Meal Balances - Correspondence was recently received from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regarding outstanding balances on students' meal accounts. They were deeply troubled by a recent incident where meals were taken away from several elementary school children, allegedly due to outstanding balances on their school meal accounts. Although it was likely an isolated incident, USDA is committed to protecting the integrity of the child nutrition programs and ensuring that families and children are treated fairly and respectfully. To this end, USDA will conduct a study of the policies and practices of school districts for serving meals to students who are unable to pay. Furthermore, USDA will soon convene a multidisciplinary working group to solicit best practices and recommendations in this area. See the memorandum from State Superintendent Mike Flanagan at the following link: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/UnpaidMealBalances_449469_7.pdf.

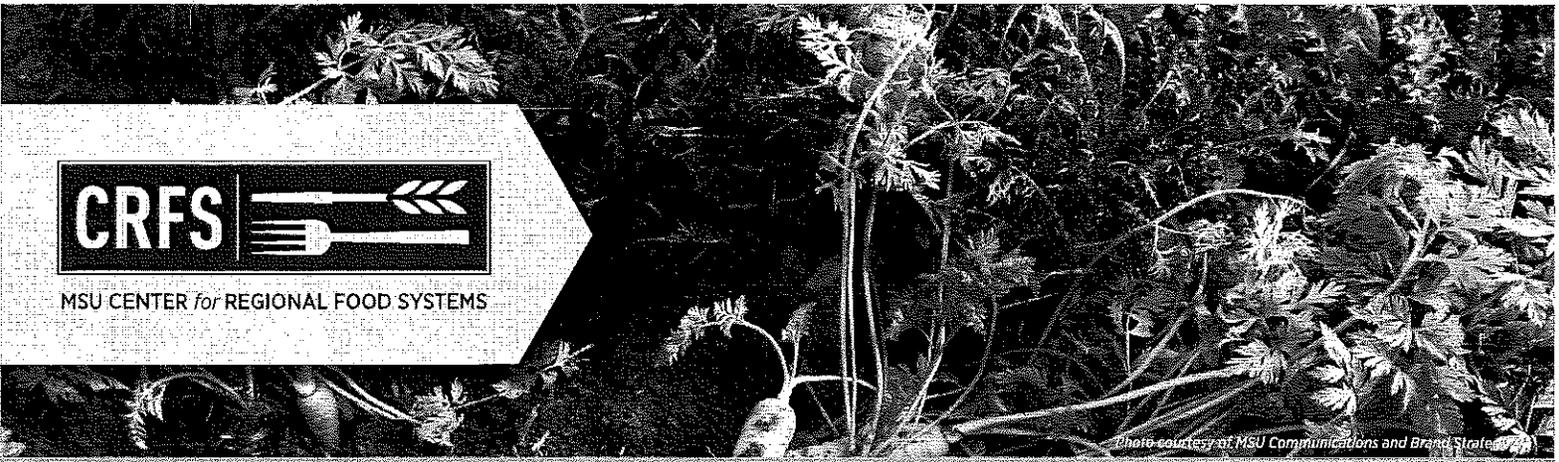
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"The MDE School Nutrition Programs team is committed to the success of child nutrition programs through training, support, and leadership by fostering partnerships to ensure the nutritional well-being of all students in Michigan."



CRFS

MSU CENTER for REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS



**MICHIGAN FARM TO SCHOOL:
DIGGING IN AND TAKING ROOT**

WHAT IS FARM TO SCHOOL?

Farm to School centers around efforts to offer local foods in school cafeterias, but applies to a variety of initiatives in Michigan, including school garden programs, fundraisers using local agricultural products, farmer visits to school classrooms and cafeterias, school field trips to nearby farms and other curriculum connections.

WHO IS INVOLVED IN MICHIGAN FARM TO SCHOOL?

Food service professionals, farmers and distributors have been working together in communities to overcome challenges and improve availability and distribution of local foods for school food service programs. Survey responses show that the number of Michigan school food service directors participating in Farm to School nearly tripled between 2004 and 2009. In 2013, 68% of school food service directors reported purchasing local foods through one or more channels, and 82% were interested in purchasing local foods in the future.

State government agencies, community organizations, agricultural commodity groups, universities, school administrators, parents and community members support efforts to make Farm to School a reality. The Michigan State University Center for Regional Food Systems hosts the Michigan Farm to School website, a portal for information and a venue for sharing ideas, tools and resources to support these efforts to link schools with local food and agriculture in Michigan.

WHY FARM TO SCHOOL?

While practitioners face issues that can make Farm to School challenging, these programs offer important benefits, such as fresher food, increased variety, greater ability to specify the needs of school food service programs, and support of local farmers and the local economy. Responses from a 2013 survey of Michigan school food service providers show that limited seasonal availability, food safety concerns and budget constraints were the top concerns in implementing Farm to School programs, but fresher food, supporting the local economy, and helping Michigan farms and businesses were the top three factors motivating them to purchase local food. Increasing and expanding Farm to School programs can help meet one of the goals of the Michigan Good Food Charter: that Michigan institutions purchase 20% of their food from local growers, producers and processors by 2020 (see www.michiganfood.org for more information).

For more information:

visit

foodsystems.msu.edu
mifarmtoschool.msu.edu

connect with

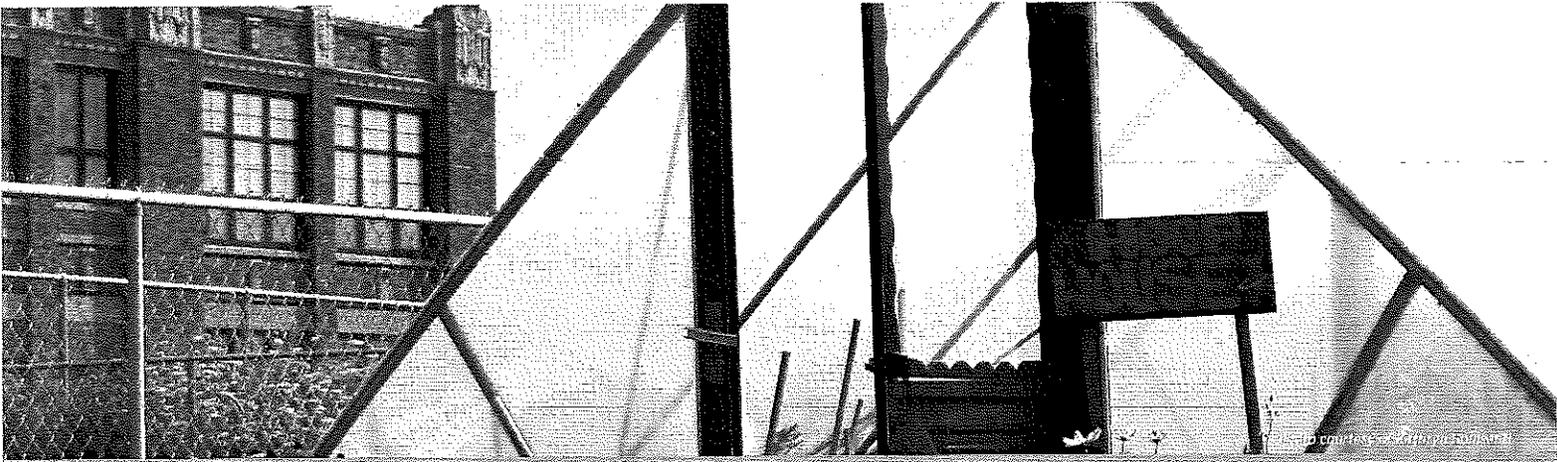
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RESOURCES

On the Michigan Farm to School website, you can sign up for the Michigan Farm to School listserv and access our freely available resources (below). You will also find information about the **MI Farm to School Grant Program**, which provides mini-grants to Michigan Pre-K/early care programs and K-12 schools to start and/or expand Farm to School programs. Funds for this grant program and Michigan Farm to School activities are provided by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

- › **Purchasing Michigan Products: A Step-By-Step Guide** helps school food service directors purchase Michigan foods from local farmers and suppliers. Resources to link with local farmers, templates of forms to request quotes for local food and a summary of the regulatory environment are included.
- › **Marketing Michigan Products: A Step-By-Step Guide** helps Michigan farmers market their products to local schools. Information about food safety, school food budgets and templates food service directors may use to request quotes for local food are included.
- › **Putting Michigan Produce On Your Menu: How to Buy and Use Michigan Produce in Your Institution** provides purchase and use equivalencies, storage tips, and a seasonal availability chart to help institutional food service professionals use local food.

ADDITIONAL MICHIGAN FARM TO SCHOOL CONTACTS

Michigan Department of Education | www.michigan.gov/mde

- › Jamie Malnar, 517-335-3792, MalnarJ1@michigan.gov

Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development | www.michigan.gov/mdard

- › Lori Yelton, 517-335-3853, yeltonl@michigan.gov

Michigan Department of Community Health | www.michigan.gov/mdch

- › Krystal Quartermus, 517-241-0947, quartermusk@michigan.gov

Michigan State University Extension | www.msue.anr.msu.edu

- › Beth Clawson (southwest Michigan), 269-657-8213, clawsonb@anr.msu.edu
- › Becky Henne (statewide liaison with Health & Nutrition Institute), 517-543-4468, henner@msu.edu
- › Alan Jaros (Macomb, Oakland and Wayne Counties), 248-347-0269, jaros@anr.msu.edu
- › Terry McLean (Genesee County), 810-244-8530, mcleant@msu.edu
- › Rob Serrine (northwest Lower Michigan), 231-256-9888, serrine@anr.msu.edu
- › Michelle Walk (Upper Peninsula), 906-635-6368, walkmich@msu.edu
- › Kendra Wills (west Michigan), 517-930-0928, willsk@anr.msu.edu

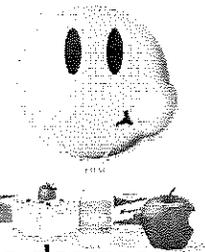
Michigan Land Use Institute (northwest Lower Michigan) | www.mlui.org | www.localdifference.org

- › Diane Conners, 231-941-6584 ext. 16, diane@mlui.org

National Farm to School Network | www.farmentoschool.org

The Michigan State University Center for Regional Food Systems engages the people of Michigan, the United States and the world in applied research, education and outreach to develop regionally integrated, sustainable food systems. Our vision is a thriving economy, equity and sustainability for Michigan, the country and the planet through food systems rooted in local regions and centered on food that is healthy, green, fair and affordable.

Superintendent's First Fuel School Breakfast Challenge



Looking to increase revenue to school food service, improve attendance, reduce classroom behavior problems, and help students do better academically?

Boost Breakfast Regional Trainings Featuring Dayle Hayes

March 24, 2014

Doherty Hotel, Clare, MI

March 25, 2014

Kent ISD, Grand Rapids, MI

March 26, 2014

Wayne RESA Education Center, Wayne, MI

Live Stream Video option available

March 27, 2014

Jackson Area Career Center, Jackson, MI

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER OR VISIT www.surveymonkey.com/s/MKQ6L3S

Schools are encouraged to bring building level teams that include administrators, teachers, parents, facilities managers, school health staff, school nutrition professionals, and health champions. No team? No problem. You are welcome to attend the training as an individual.

Registration is required. Questions? Contact Whitney Vance at vancew@michigan.gov.



Get your first fuel with School Breakfast!

This project was funded in part with funds from UDIM and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The USDA prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the USDA. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.) If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.