



**Welcome to:  
The PA Farm to School Network  
virtual open house!**

September 26, 2024



PENNSYLVANIA  
FARM TO SCHOOL  
NETWORK

**What word or phrase comes  
to mind when you think of  
National Farm to School  
Month?**



# Agenda

- Welcome
- Icebreaker
- Featured Presentation: Courtney Mulcahy
- Small Group Breakouts
- Practitioner Panel
- Announcements/Wrap-up

Feature Topic:  
The 3 Cs of Farm  
to School



**FOOD**

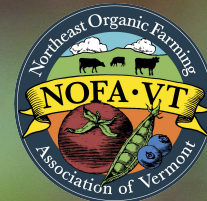
**AFFECTS**

**just about**

**EVERYTHING**

**and vice versa.**

*-Mark Bittman*



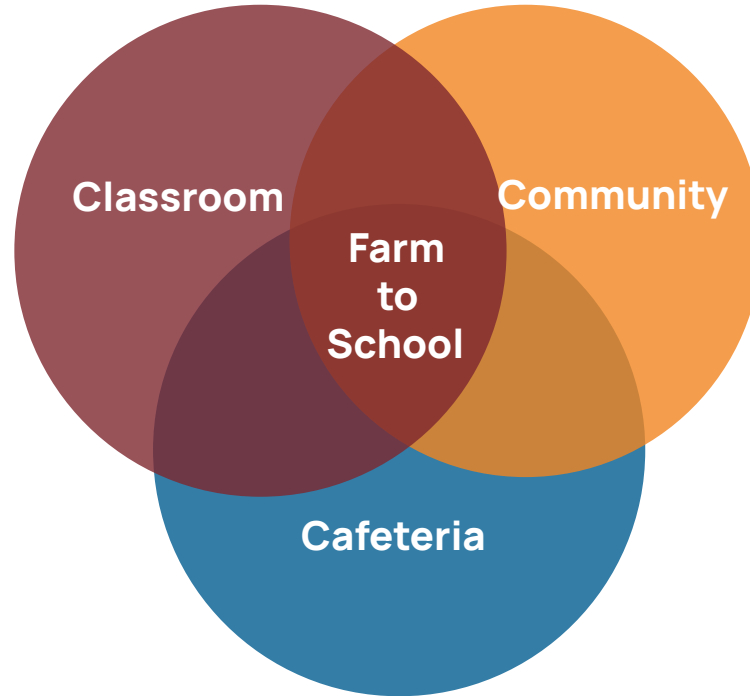
# What is Farm to School & Early Childhood?

with Courtney Mulcahy  
Vermont FEED, a partnership of NOFA VT & Shelburne Farms



# 3Cs Model of Change

The Foundation of Farm to School





Classroom

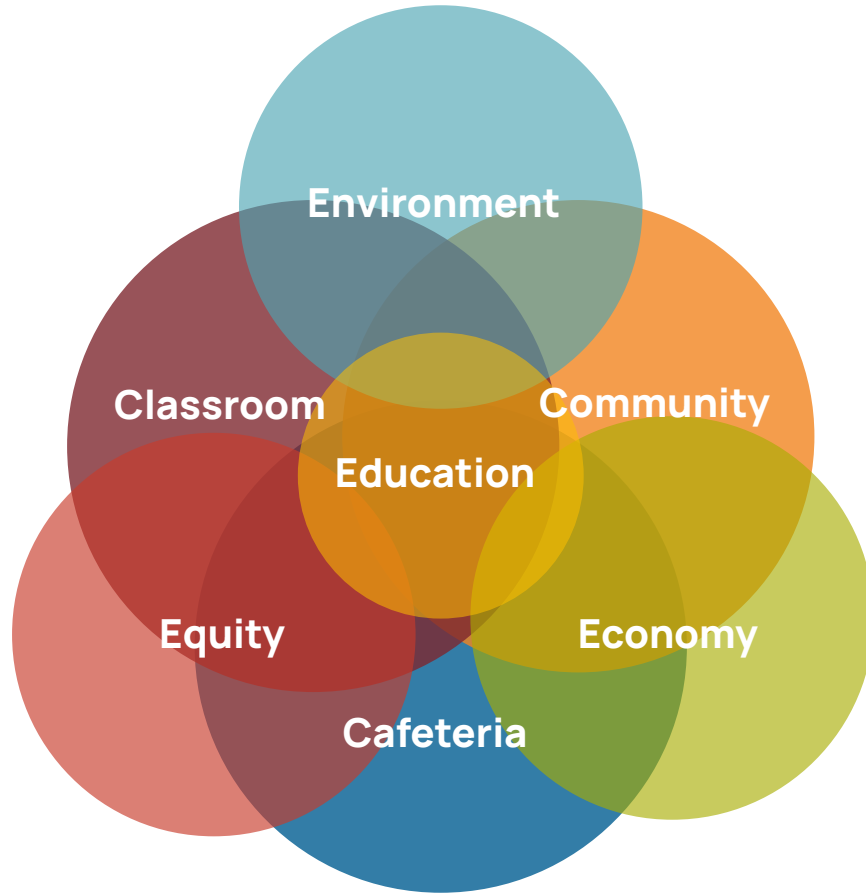




Cafeteria



Community





Equity



# This Farm Feeds Vermont Kids

The Vermont Farm to School & Early Childhood Network  
#ThisFarmFeedsVTKids



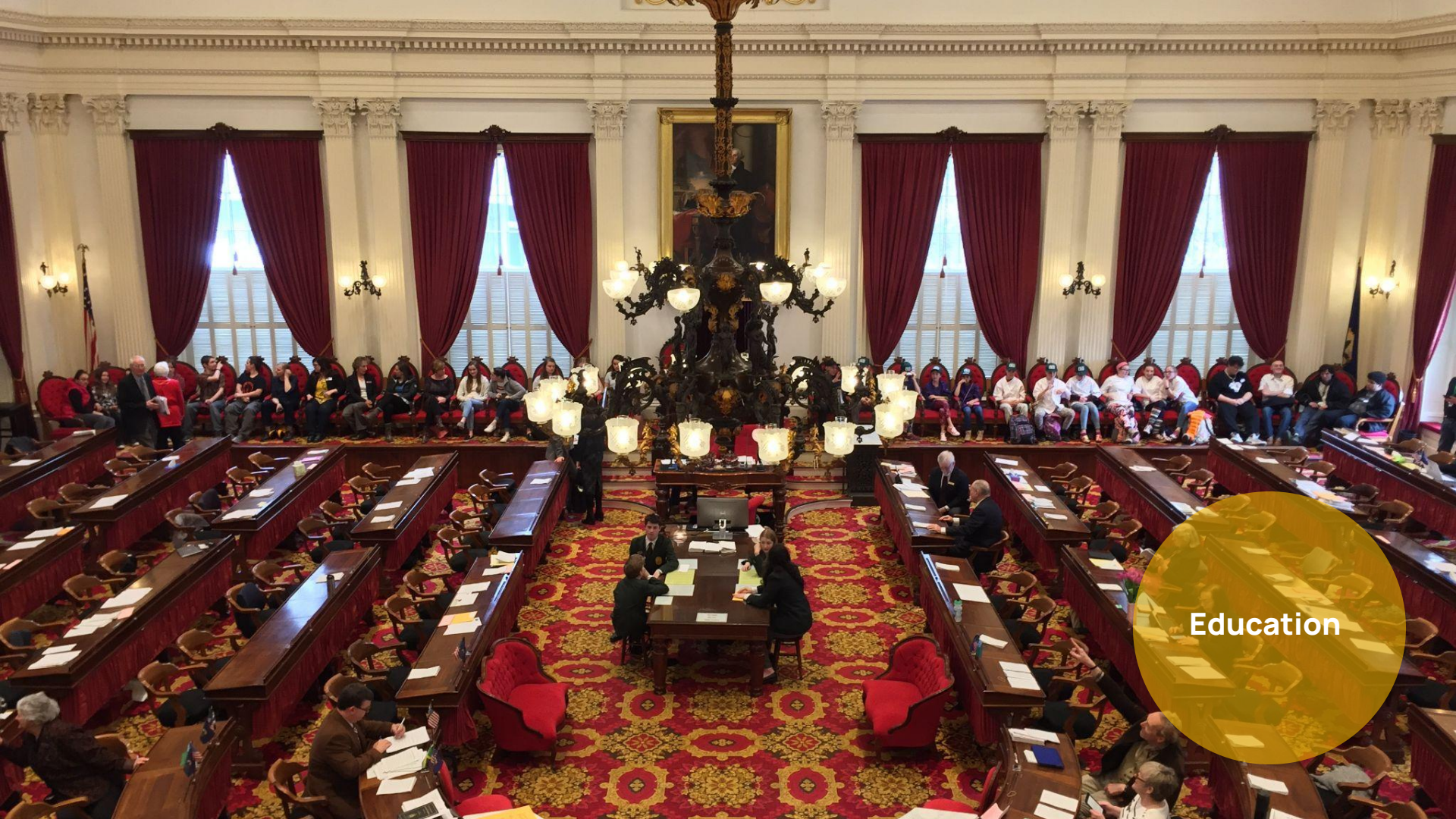
Economy



Environment



Education



Education







**23.6M**

students engaged

**43K**

U.S. schools

**\$789**

spent on local food

**M**

states with policies

**16**

# Small Group Breakouts



## Small groups:

- Introduce yourself
- How do you plan on incorporating the 3 Cs into your National Farm to School Month celebrations?
- How do you connect the 3 Cs in your farm to school programming

# Panelists



# Panelists



**Kari**

**Thompson**

Keystone STARS Quality  
Coach

Early Learning Resources  
Center Region 3



**Tito Caba**

Green Space Director  
Historic Fair Hill



**Tiana Zabala**

Garden Manager  
GoggleWorks

# Kari Thompson



# Panelists



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HISTORIC FAIR HILL  
community • early literacy • greening





























Questions?

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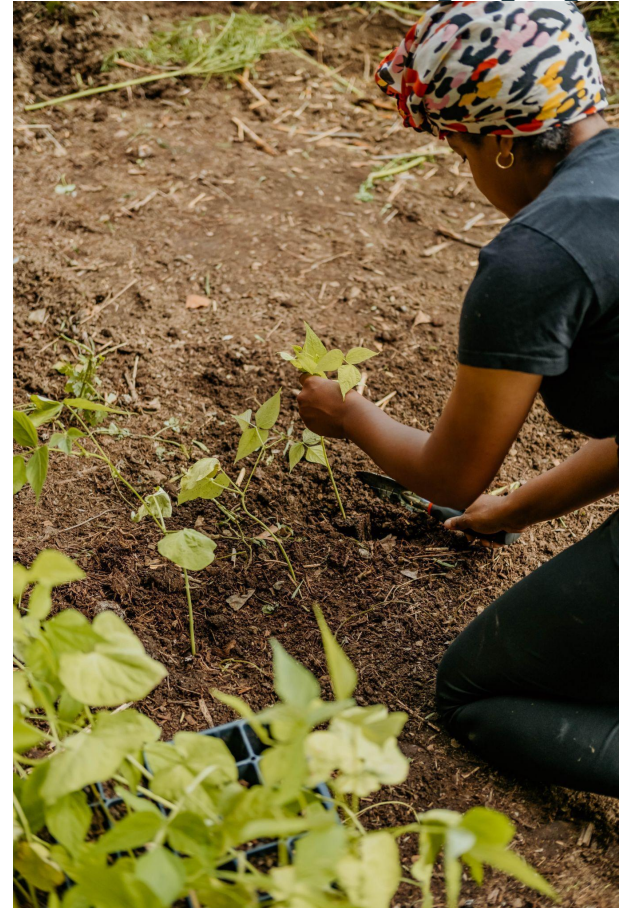
# GoggleWorks Gardens

GoggleWorks Center for the Arts | Tiana Zabala



“To plant a garden  
is to believe  
in the future”

- Tiana Zabala
- Farmer - Educator- Creator
- GoggleWorks Gardens Manager since 2020
- Agriculture, Food as Medicine, Community Wellness



# Offerings

## Our Spaces

- Classroom Garden
- Community Container Garden
- Sensory Garden
- Greenhouse with raised beds
- We grow Vegetables, Fruits, Flowers, Herbs,
  - for eating, healing, & Art

## What do we do

- Fresh produce, sold or given away at markets & community events
- Bees, provide pollination, education & honey
- Classes, on both agricultural topics, and art
- Activism, Food access, food justice,
- Collective healing & wellness



# Community Container Garden



# Classroom Garden



# After School Arts Program



# Culinary Arts After School







# Summer Camps



# Off Site Education



**TEA TIME**

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**DRINK TO YOUR HEALTH!**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28TH 1PM**  
**SOUTHEAST BRANCH**

JOIN GOGGLEWORKS MASTER GARDENER AND HERBALIST TIANA ZABALA AS WE EXPLORE HOW DIFFERENT HERBAL TEA INFUSIONS BENEFIT BODY AND MIND. ATTENDEES CAN MAKE THEIR OWN HEALTHY TEAS TO TASTE AND TAKE HOME.

x x x x

Reading Public Library  
1426 Perkiomen Avenue  
Reading, PA 19602  
610-655-6362

READ PLAY LIVE



# Beekeeping Education



What are we growing?





# Where is it going?



# CSA



# Night Market



# Giveaways









Thank You!

# Opportunities & Announcements





PENNSYLVANIA  
FARM TO SCHOOL  
NETWORK

FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH



STORYTELLING  
CONTEST

2024



[Learn More](#)

## National Farm to School Month Storytelling Contest

- Share your farm to school story using a variety of media (photo series, poetry, video, testimonials, art) to be entered into a raffle for some awesome prizes!
- Share your story with community members! For every additional share, your program will receive an additional submission into the raffle.
- **Submit your story by November 8 at 11:59 PM**



Thank you!

# New Member Orientation





# Vision

Every child in Pennsylvania is meaningfully connected to and nourished by thriving and resilient community food systems

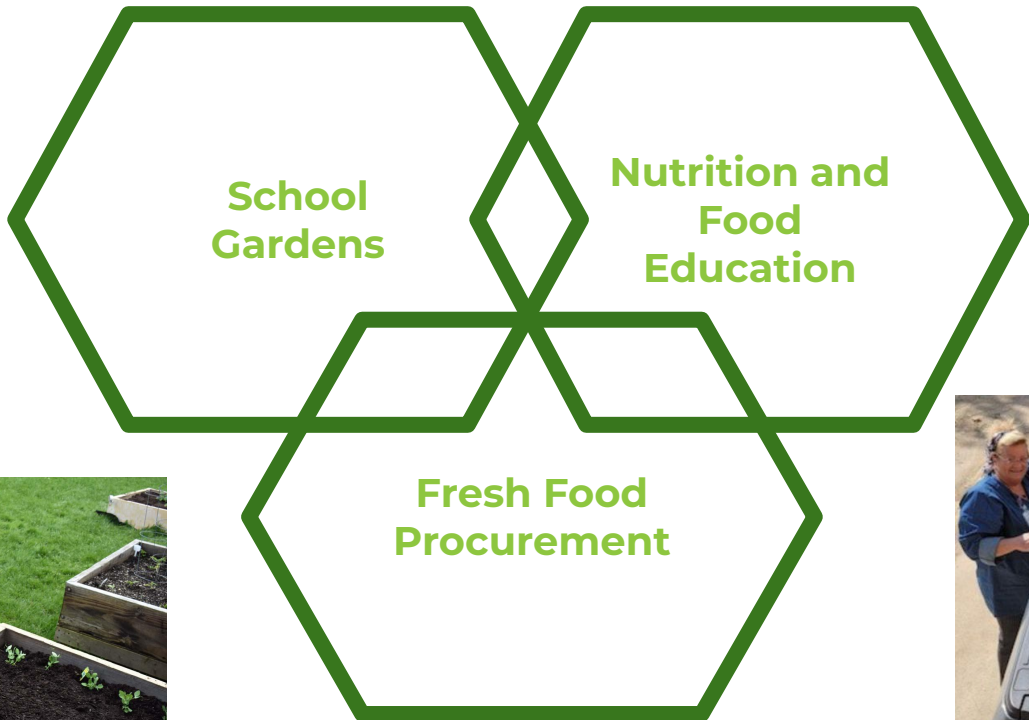


# Mission

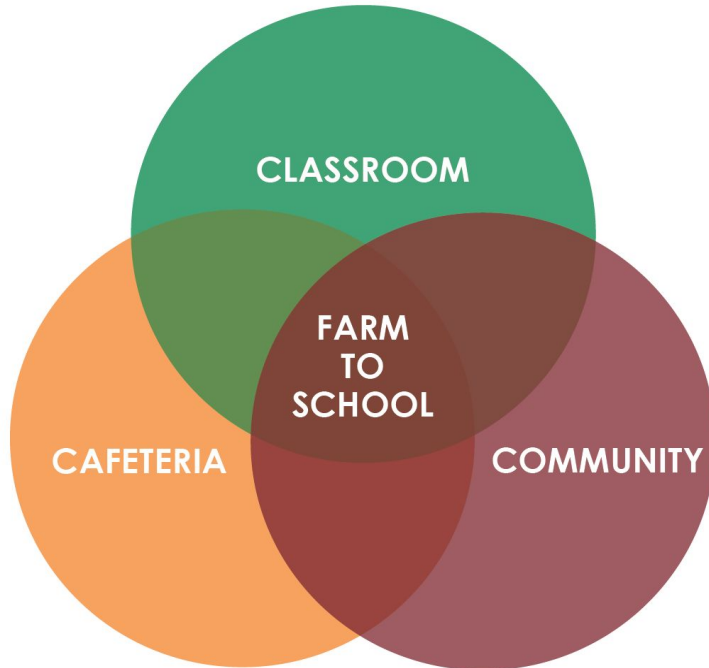
Leverage and build upon our collective resources and shared vision to cultivate farm to school and farm to early care and education (ECE) initiatives that:

- create opportunities for all children across the state to grow, learn about, and enjoy eating Pennsylvania foods;
- increase market opportunities for Pennsylvania producers;
- connect growers, schools, ECE sites, and community members around food

# What is Farm to School?



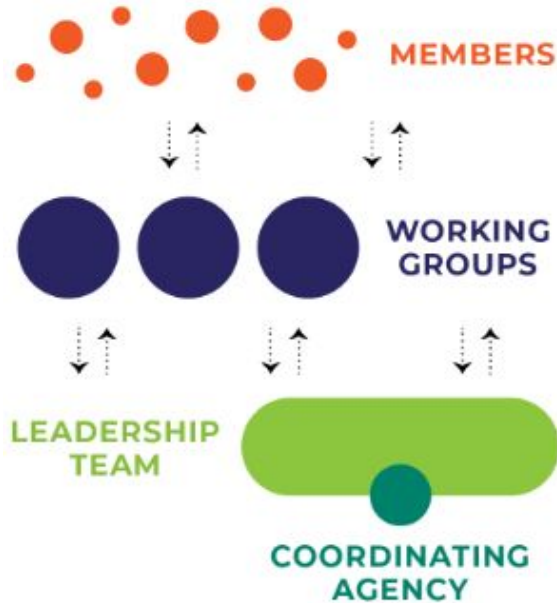
# Farm to School Holistic approach:





# PFSN Structure

## Our Network



## Strategic plan goals:

- 1) Build and activate a strong, sustainable statewide network of collaborating partners
- 2) Support increased and enhanced farm to school/early care and education implementation
- 3) Strengthen and build sustainability for farm to school policy

# Network representation



# Professional Development

PA Farm to Institution  
Grower Sessions



PA Farm to Child  
Nutrition Summit



PA Farm to School  
Regional Gatherings



PA Farm to School  
Institute



# Resources

## View Resources



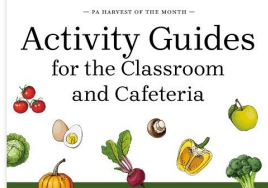
### National Farm to School Month

Use this curated list of resources to help you celebrate National Farm to School Month in October.



### Pennsylvania Harvest of the Month

This program, developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and Project PA (Penn State University), promotes a local agricultural product each month.



### PA Harvest of the Month Activity Guides

Use these Activity Guides to support your educational activities in the classroom and cafeteria when celebrating the local agricultural product each month.

<https://pafarmtoschool.org/>



### October is Farm to School Month

Celebrate [National Farm to School Month](#) this October! Join the Pennsylvania Farm to School Network and thousands of schools, early care and education sites, farms, communities and organizations across the country as we celebrate food education, school gardens and lunch trays filled with healthy, local ingredients. "Farm to school" includes serving local food to kids in school settings, educational experiences about food and

**Subscribe to the Monthly Harvest:**  
[pafarmtoschool.org/get-involved/](https://pafarmtoschool.org/get-involved/)

## Success Stories



### Busy Bees Natural Learning Center

In late summer 2022, Tonya Fisher, Director of Busy Bees Natural Learning Center in Centre County, brought in several dozen ears of corn for her students to shuck. “To my surprise, the children were engrossed in the sensory of every ear,” Tonya says.



### Happy Valley Meat Co.

Happy Valley Meat Co. connects small Pennsylvania family farms with public schools across the state so students are served high-quality PA beef during lunch while supporting small family farms in Pennsylvania.



### St. James School

This past summer, as part of Erie County's St. James School's summer care program, teacher Kelley Damore spent a week discussing agriculture with her students in fifth through eighth grade.

# Celebrate and network

WE'RE CELEBRATING

**NATIONAL FARM TO  
SCHOOL MONTH...**



...by engaging  
students in school  
garden activities!

Learn more: [pafarmtoschool.org](https://pafarmtoschool.org)



PENNSYLVANIA  
FARM TO SCHOOL  
NETWORK

**VIRTUAL  
OPEN HOUSE!**

**You're invited to:**

- Hear from farm to school practitioners
- Learn about resources & opportunities
- Network and connect with members



Thursday, Dec. 7, 2023

3-4:30 p.m. ET

Virtually on Zoom >

Register today:

[pafarmtoschool.org](https://pafarmtoschool.org)



# Farm to School Policy



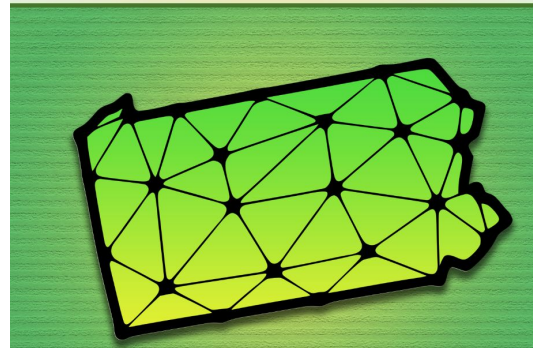
## QUARTER BACK FOR LOCAL GRANT PROGRAM

THE FOOD TRUST IS AWARDING UP TO  
\$20,000 IN FUNDING FOR EARLY CARE  
AND EDUCATION SITES TO PURCHASE  
PENNSYLVANIA-GROWN PRODUCE

## GRANT OPPORTUNITY



## Pennsylvania Local Food Purchasing Incentive Investigation





Thank you!