



# Growing Healthy Vermont Schools, Farms & Communities



## FARM TO SCHOOL IN EVERY COMMUNITY

Please fully fund the Farm to School & Early Childhood grants program at \$500,000 to support our children getting critical nutrition and our farmers getting direct support through school purchasing.

With full funding, the majority of Vermont students will have access to fresh, local food in their school cafeterias and early childhood programs, and learning healthy habits to carry through their entire lives.”



## THE IMPACT

We know that every dollar schools spend on local food contributes \$1.60 to Vermont’s economy, and that schools spend \$15.5M on food every year. Let’s keep more of those dollars with Vermont farmers.



90% of the brain is developed by age five. Healthy, nutritious food is vital to healthy brain development in young children.

Around half of a child’s daily calories come from school meals. Farm to School programs are an important way to improve nutrition for all children.

“Within weeks [of eating the produce we grew at school], it was getting easier and easier for me to walk up the hill, my mental health skyrocketed, I was happy, and I enjoyed what I was doing every day. I know exactly where my food comes from, and it makes me feel good. It makes me feel like I’m involved in it: I’ve touched it, I’ve planted it, and I know exactly where it’s going.”

– Student

Green Mountain Technical & Career Center  
Lamoille North School District

Learn more @ [vermontfarmtoschool.org](http://vermontfarmtoschool.org)

“When we serve local food in our schools, all students, regardless of their home economic situation, are getting fresh, wholesome, nutritious food in the regular meals.”

– Jen Kravitz

Cornwall School Principal

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“The pandemic has brought food and schools back into focus. Now more than ever it’s important we all remain committed to a strong, vibrant food system.”

– Anson Tebbets

Vermont Secretary of Agriculture