



Agenda

Welcome: Introduction and Updates for Farm to School

Staff from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) will provide a fundamental understanding of the Farm to School (F2S) framework, exploring its core pillars and examining F2S initiatives within Illinois — including the Local Food for Schools (LFS) program. The session concludes with a walkthrough of essential ISBE resources, guidance, and partner information.

Presenter: Lindsay Mabie – Illinois State Board of Education

District Farm to School Panel

Join peer leaders from across Illinois to explore the implementation of local food initiatives in school nutrition. This collaborative session focuses on sharing proven successes and navigating common hurdles, providing attendees with practical strategies to enhance their local sourcing efforts.

I Love Farm to School: Creating a Program with Benefits

Join the Illinois Farm to School Network as we share how to best utilize and integrate programming, connect what's on the tray to curriculum and your community, develop beneficial partnerships, and utilize on-site garden resources.

Presenter: Diane Chapeta

University of Illinois Extension

Discover the latest Farm to School advancements resulting from the University of Illinois Extension and ISBE collaboration. This presentation highlights a new suite of F2S resources and training opportunities designed to support local implementation and previews innovative projects slated for the coming year.

Presenter: Kaitlyn Streitmatter – University of Illinois Extension

Local Food to Institution: The Process of Selling to Institutions Panel

This session is sponsored by Seven Generations Ahead and the Illinois Farm to School Network.

Understanding the process behind local food aggregation and sales is paramount to successful local purchasing. Join us to hear a panel of local food distributors, food hubs, and independent farmers share how they build relationships with both farmers and institutional buyers, explaining their system for bringing local foods into institutional sites.