

Ohio F2S Meeting Agenda

September 3, 2020

Meeting objective: Identify challenges, opportunities and F2S resources and strategies for the 2020-21 school year.

9:30-10:30

Welcome
Participant introductions and updates

Updates from Ohio Farm to School

- National Updates
 - [NFSN Back to School Resource Page](#)
 - [Webinars and events](#)
- Ohio Updates
 - [USDA F2S Grants Awarded](#) in Knox, Athens, and Clark counties and to ODA/ODE.
 - Apple Crunch is on Oct 8! It is very flexible and can be celebrated in school or at home, through free resources received after registration. Register and see Crunch promotion language attached in the email with these notes. Register [here!](#)

ODA USDA F2S Grant: Developing F2S regional networks. Ohio Proud, ODE, OSU and this network will be helping carry out the grant. Need to rework deliverables due to COVID. This will be a good way to offer additional resources for F2S.

Cathy Corbitt: Unfortunately, this is last day at ODA. Thank you very very much Cathy for your hard work to pave the way for these regional networks and overall dedication to Farm to School! Cathy's contact info: cathycorbitt@gmail.com and 614-570-0191

Ashley McDonald, Ohio Proud at ODA: looking forward to working on the grant and with the network

Brian Davis, ODE: Going to be working very closely with Ashley to execute the grant and partnering with F2S network to achieve goals of grant.

Megan Riley, SNAP Ed PSE Specialist in Western region- Would love to be involved in regional F2S networks.

Tina Robbins, SNAP Ed PSE Specialist- Community Roots in Mt. Vernon received F2S Grant.

Anne Schneider, Green Umbrella- Wrapping up F2S planning grants (extended due to COVID). Having an educator workshop September 19- Chris Weatherholtz will join as keynote speaker!

- Pilot program for Feed our Future with MOU in place with F2S planning grant and UPC buying Co-op schools.
- Policies are a big challenge. Went from 25 districts to 2 schools purchasing- largest barrier has been DOD Fresh really limiting budget flexibility of schools to purchase outside school contracts.
- If eating in school, everything has to be individually wrapped, creating processing and cost challenges. Even apples have to be individually wrapped.

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Tony Staubach, 4H Educator Hamilton County- Virtual F2S educator workshop on Sept 19 with panelists talking about community experience and classroom experience. Participants will have time to engage with one another and anyone can join in- just focusing promotion in Greater Cincinnati region. [Registration linked here.](#)

Joy Kostansek, What Chefs Want- Working on creating prepackaged, prepped, local items and putting together a uniform price list.

Brian Davis, ODE- USDA issued 9 new waivers for school meals and for the first time ever, extended summer feeding programs until Dec 31- very much unprecedented. Also extended flexibilities that allow programs to function (parents picking up meals for entire family, delivering meals to homes or using bus stops). There are lots of changes, discussions at the local level and what it means for meal counting and procurement to give guidance to schools. Schools will be able to provide meals to all kids without income verification in a much more seamless manner. Really opens up feeding with less barriers, great for kids in Ohio.

USDA also opened up Pandemic EBT through September whereas summer feeding goes through December.

Tiffany Torres, Market Link- Providing free EBT equipment to farmers and farmers market so they can sell to SNAP eligible consumers. Also will be working with National Farm to School Network's new local procurement training program for farmers- "Bringing The Farm to School". Will be in touch with more details as that program rolls out!

Julie Stone, Head Start- Programs around the state use CACFP so hearing about new flexibilities. Lots of contingency planning going on. A lot of programs were able to tap into school feeding programs in the spring before they ended- just working on getting food to families. Would love to connect F2S opportunities to Head Start programs in communities around Ohio.

Heidi, Ohio Dept of Health in Early Childhood and Adolescent Health- Developed new training on outside environment for ECE, school and after school including developing edible gardens. Will hopefully be available on TRAIN for educators in the next few weeks. Heidi reaches out to school nurses across the state- would love to share any info a school nurse would be interested in related to health, school food, etc., please pass it on to Heidi.Scarpitti@odh.ohio.gov

Alyssa Dorsey, Columbus Public Health- F2ECE training is live! Listed as private so promoting it to ECE programs that we have worked with before to work out glitches in the first month. It is Ohio approved and available online.

Working with CHC grant consultant at ODH with F2S written into the grant and will be reworking a bit for COVID.

Caroline Rankin, Director of Nutrition and Physical Activity at Children's Hunger Alliance- Welcome Caroline! Waiver has impacted CHA in a very positive way- team is adjusting to changes through December.

Karen Bakies- RD with ADA MidEast- Working with schools as they begin school year and F2S/nutrition education resources for F2S month.

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June Wedd- ADA MidEast- Creating middle school aged (grades 5-8) education component to focus on dairy on the farm, sustainability and technology. Teachers will be able to download (google slides) with student engagement tools for in or out of the classroom. Will be on ADA website on October.

Cheryl Graffagnino, Local Food Systems Coordinator at CPH- Focusing on CCS K12. Tremendous amount of energy and effort to build out ag careers pathway to grow. Serving over 130 students who can now access 3 Columbus land bank lots. They're growing sweet corn, pumpkins, etc. Funding water instillation, storage shed, electric and resources needed. Working with a community partner to help gain access to high tunnels and greenhouses.

Chris Weatherholtz, F2S Curriculum Coordinator at CCS- Very thankful for great partners and teachers for CCS. Up to 62 gardens in schools with more principals wanting to be involved. Posted integrated garden curriculum available for teachers and looking forward to virtual PD when teachers have some time. F2S program still growing and teachers are still excited about outdoor classrooms and gardening!

Jenna Segal, USDA- Releasing F2S grant RFA this fall. Been working with Tiffany and NFSN looking forward to getting the "Bringing the Farm to School" info to producers.

Noreen Wornock, Local Matters- [This report](#) with 8 recommendations to help farmers and could have an impact on F2S- can contact Amalie at OEFFA to support these efforts. Also, Local matters has a lot of virtual nutrition education programming on website.

Jalessa Caples, Franklin County Public Health- Finished info sheet and narrative about Ohio Days and teacher focus groups- coming out soon! Also working on virtual farm tours and F2S website.

Sue Hogan, 4H Educator, Franklin County- Bringing 4H special interest groups (SPIN) together virtually across Ohio (some on gardening) and have had ppl even join in internationally. Really excited about SPIN clubs and have been having fun teaching and building partnerships.

Did cancel School Garden Conference but Project Green Teacher will likely happen in the winter for teachers to learn about gardening and that went really well in the summer. <https://ohio4h.org/>

Tony Staubach, 4H Educator Hamilton County- If you are at all interested in reaching out to youth- SPIN club model is so unique and encourage everyone to use SPIN Club as a way to be involved with youth through 4H- includes leadership development and higher ed opportunities- get in touch with your local 4H club!

Lauren Sudimack, Community Roots- Have an official program coordinator for the F2S grant and just navigating the year with COVID.

Layla Lahoud, Cuyahoga County Board of Health- Created some flyers around school field trips (on hold) and preparing resources for teachers, in the cafeteria, encouraging being outdoors, etc.

Alison Patrick, CCBH- Finalizing menu concepts and branding for 4 all local grab-n-go meals at 5 pilot districts. Designing teachable moment kits to complement each meal concept to be used in classroom or home. Plan to launch the first concept in October for F2S month. [These recipe videos](#) were rolled out at the beginning of August with some schools.

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Challenges for in School vs. Virtual Feeding

Stacey Bettis, FSD Minerva Local Schools- All back in session with about 20% virtual learners. Still feeding kids in school. Things still changing minute by minute and continue to do taste testing and send home seed packets through F2S coordinator in Stark County. Did virtual farm tours for 5th grade classrooms.

- Sharing out apple crunch information. Stark county distributor working with producers
- Growers in Cinci region planned on more demand from schools so looking for clients

Anne: How to budget for local food items?

Stacey: By percentage for produce like apples. Trying to make more connections with local producers.

Michaela Oldfield: Regarding remote visits with kids to farms- virtual binder or toolkit may be helpful for tips on creating these resources. Lessons learned on how to replicate virtual farm tours?

Jenna Segal: Instead of reinventing the wheel, looking at resources to supplement, complement or do it in a way that supports entire movement.

Stacey: <https://www.farmtoschoolstarkcounty.com/>

Possible future calls before Dec:

- SNAP Online Expansion and Delivery Act
- Fact sheet on how to get started with F2S during COVID for producers/distributors, educators, food service- the three c's of F2S.
 - Action items that have been proven to work for local food procurement
 - Ohio statewide F2S network recommends...
 - Doing F2S during COVID or taking farm to school to the next level. How can you be creative with your budget to include these products?
 - Lowering price? Just a balance of how many farms have abundance
 - Indiana public health has resource for Farm to everything moving forward during COVID

Next meeting: Thursday Dec 3, 2020