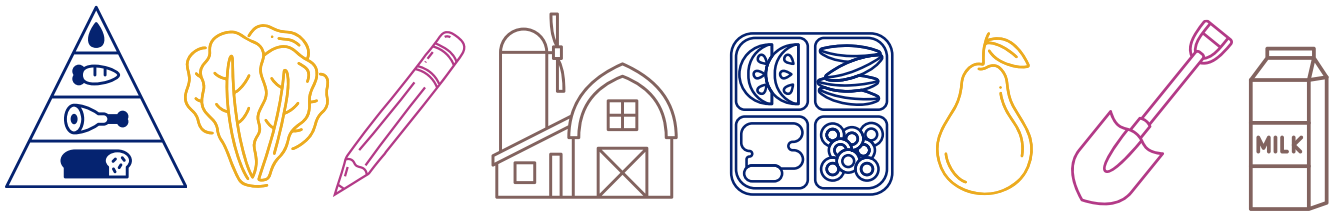


# CALIFORNIA FARM TO SCHOOL

California is on a mission to create a more sustainable and prosperous future for all through Farm to School.



## IMPROVE CHILDREN'S HEALTH & WELL-BEING

California Farm to School helps school districts procure fresh and delicious produce from local farms to transform school meals.

Because children consume 75% of their daily nutritional intake at school, nutritious school meals are critical to nourishing students and ensuring they are both physically and mentally ready to learn.

Through school gardens, culinary classes, field trips to local farms, and more, California Farm to School supports hands-on learning of core subjects like math and science as well as nutrition, agriculture, and environmental science curriculum.

Such programs also support a variety of learning styles—boosting student engagement and increasing long-term academic success.

## MITIGATE CLIMATE CHANGE

California Farm to School promotes gardening and composting programs in which students learn about and contribute to environmental protection.

California Farm to School also prioritizes partnerships between school districts and local farmers practicing climate-smart agriculture.

Additionally, these local connections shorten the distance food travels—reducing vehicle pollutants and waste in processing and packaging.

## BOLSTER LOCAL ECONOMIES

California Farm to School partnerships between local farms and school districts keep local dollars within communities and ensure increased and more reliable profits for small and medium-sized California farms.

California Farm to School also supports school kitchen upgrades and culinary arts training for school food service workers—creating more career pathways and sustainable, fulfilling jobs in school food service.

# CALIFORNIA'S MOVEMENT

## 2019

First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom launches the movement to establish a statewide California Farm to School initiative

## 2020

The California Farm to School Incubator Grant Program is established

## 2021

California begins to provide every public school student in California with two free school meals a day

California awards \$8.5M to selected school districts across the state to fund California Farm to School projects

## 2022

First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom and California Department of Agriculture Secretary Karen Ross release "Planting a Seed: Farm to School Roadmap for Success"

California triples its investments in California Farm to School projects, awarding \$30M to school districts, farmers, and early childhood centers

## 2023

State funds available for California Farm to School projects doubles to \$60M as the third round of grant applications opens in the fall

## BY THE NUMBERS



**1.5 million** public school students are benefiting from California Farm to School



**163** educational entities—including California's **five largest** school districts—are grantees



**Over 1/2** of farmer grantees identify as women, and **42%** as people of color



**100%** of farmer grantees use climate-smart practices

