

Alaska Farm to School listserv – Week 35: 28 – 1 Sep 2017



Aug 29th is More Herbs, Less Salt Day (sounds like a great idea!!!)
Aug 31st is Eat Outside Day (picnics all day long!!)
Aug 31st is also International Bacon Day (I celebrate as often as I can!)



Grants & Funding Opportunities (money!)

1. Voice for Healthy Kids – *** NEW ***

The American Heart Association and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation are working to create a culture of health through Voices for Healthy Kids. The goal of the grant opportunities within this initiative is to make effective strategic investments in ongoing state, local, and tribal public policy issue campaigns to increase public policy impact on healthy weight and living among children. [Learn more](#). Applications are due **September 6**.

2. Target Field Trip Grants

The Target Field Trip Grants program provides funds for K-12 field trips to give students throughout the country the opportunity to explore more of the world outside the classroom. Online applications will be accepted between August 1 and October 1, 2017. [Learn more and apply](#).

3. Project Produce: Fruit and Veggie Grants for Schools

The Chef Ann Foundation presents Project Produce: Fruit and Veggie Grants for Schools. This grant is designed to help increase kids' access to fresh fruits and vegetables and create experiential nutrition education when and where students make their food choices: in the cafeteria. The \$2,500 one-year grants support food costs to incorporate school-wide fruit and vegetable tastings into the school's nutrition program. Grants will be determined on an ongoing basis depending on available funding. [Learn more and apply](#).

4. 2017 Alaska Equipment Grant

Elizabeth Seitz, the Alaska National School Lunch Program Coordinator, sent out the new 2017 Equipment Grant Application. For qualifications and information, please head [here](#). Due **August 31, 2017 by 4:30pm**.

5. Whole Kids Foundation Grants

Yes, it is early, but start getting your creative juices flowing with these two grants from Whole Kids Foundation.

US School Gardens Grant

Created in partnership with FoodCorps, the School Garden Grant program provides a \$2,000 monetary grant to a K-12 school, or a non-profit working in partnership with a K-12 school, to support a new or existing edible garden on school grounds. The application period is from September 1, 2017 through October 31, 2017. Stay tuned for a copy of the grant application. Email grants@wholekidsfoundation.org with any questions.

Extended Learning Garden Grants – Honey Bees

In partnership with the Bee Cause Project, the Honey Bee Grant program allows for a K-12 school or non-profit organization to receive support for an educational honey bee hive. They will

offer three grant options.

For more information on each grant option, please read the [Honey Bee Grant application](#). The Letter of Intent period is from September 1, 2017 through October 31, 2017 and the full application closes on November 15, 2017. Email grants@wholekidsfoundation.org with any questions.

6. Farm to School Grant Opportunities from USDA

Key Dates

- September/October 2017 - Release of FY 2018 Farm to School Grant RFA
- December 2017 - Applications Due for FY 2018 RFA
- May/June 2018 - Award Announcement for FY 2018 Farm to School Grant

If you are interested in applying for a Farm to School Grant, the FY 2018 Request for Applications (RFA) will be released in the fall of 2017. There are additional funding opportunities for farm to school activities, take a look at the [USDA Grants and Loans that Support Farm to School Activities](#) for more details. For more information about the Farm to School Grant program, visit the [grant program](#) page for an overview of past grantees, program summary reports, and more.

NEW SECTION – National Farm to School Month is October





















So, as August is getting ready to leave our calendars we move closer to October and THAT is a great time for celebration – October is National Farm to School Month!! I have been planning and thinking and collecting and laughing and playing with tons of ideas and it all comes down to just one thing: I want you to CELEBRATE local food in October!! Did you grow it? Buy it? Cook it? Eat it? Think about it? Plan for it? If you do anything in October I want you to CELEBRATE!!!

You may be thinking, Jodie, we don't have a school garden or even grow anything at our house – PERFECT!! You are still in!! CELEBRATE local food – that is the theme I'm pushing forward!! I will have announcements and information about Farm to School Month every Tuesday in this section of the newsletter so stay tuned! We will also be releasing the new Farm to School website soon and all this will be front and center there as well 😊

Here is the calendar for your use (please let me know if you'd like me to send you a pdf version):

October 2017 – Farm to School Month!!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Tubers and Roots of Alaska Week	2 All about tubers and roots we eat in Alaska	3 Potatoes 	4 Indigenous Tubers and Roots We Eat: Eskimo potatoes 	5 Carrots 	6 Tubers and Roots of Alaska Celebration Day 	7
8	9 Meats of Alaska Week All about meats we eat in Alaska	10 Pork 	11 Indigenous Meats We Eat: Caribou 	12 Reindeer 	13 Meats of Alaska Celebration Day 	14
15 Leaves of Alaska Week	16 All about leaves we eat in Alaska	17 Cabbage 	18 Indigenous Leaves We Eat: Fiddlehead Ferns 	19 Greens Many Ways: Cooked & Salad 	20 Leaves of Alaska Celebration Day 	21
22 Fish of Alaska Week	23 All about fish we eat in Alaska	24 Halibut LOCAL FOOD LUNCH DAY!! 	25 Indigenous Fish We Eat: Salmon 	26 Shellfish 	27 Fish of Alaska Celebration Day 	28
29 Fruits of Alaska Week	30 All about fruits we eat in Alaska	31 Strawberries 	Indigenous Fruits We Eat: Salmonberries 	Apples 	Fruits of Alaska Celebration Day 	

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Cool Resources, Reports, Opportunities

Save the Date: 9th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference

April 26-27, 2018 in Cincinnati, OH

Save the date for the [9th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference](http://www.farmtoschool.org/conference), coming to Cincinnati, Ohio, April 26-27, 2018! Hosted by the [National Farm to School Network](http://www.farmtoschool.org), this biennial event will convene more than 1,200 movement leaders working to source local food for institutional cafeterias and foster a culture of healthy food and agricultural literacy across America. Cafeterias in schools, early care and education settings, universities, prisons and hospitals serve more than 40 million Americans every day, placing the farm to cafeteria movement at the forefront of the fight to end obesity and strengthen local food systems and economies. The National Farm to Cafeteria Conference is the only national gathering of stakeholders from across this movement, making it the premiere opportunity to learn, network and collaborate with likeminded leaders from across the country. Learn more and sign-up for updates at farmtoschool.org/conference.

Join us in Cincinnati! Save the date for the 9th National Farm to Cafeteria, April 26-27, 2018:

farmtoschool.org/conference #Farm2Caf18



Alaska Traditional Foods Movement Presents Niqipiat Nigikkavut Symposium in Kotzebue

Melissa Chlupach, Regional Healthcare Dietitian with NANA Management Services, sent this and I want to pass it along. The event itself is FREE!!! Thanks, Melissa 😊 If you can get to Kotzebue from September 6-8, make sure to attend this!!

Team Nutrition Popular Event Spotlight – * NEW *****

Hosting a [Healthy Food Heritages: Investigating Nutrition Across Cultures](#) event is great way to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month and Ethnic Foods Month in September. Students will have fun while learning more about healthy food choices from other cultures. Find this and other event ideas for the entire year in the [Team Nutrition Popular Events Idea Booklet](#).

America’s #HealthiestSchools – * NEW *****



#HealthiestSchools is a nationwide campaign organized by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation to celebrate more than 300 schools that are creating healthy learning environments where students are eating better and moving more. [See what schools made the list](#).

There are NO schools in Alaska on the list!! Maybe YOUR school could be our first!! Check out the website and see if this is something you could do!! I know we have healthy schools all over the place!!!

Growing/Gardening/Farming News

Strength and Xaat (Salmon) – Haa Yaakwdáat Kusteeyi Yanshuká (Yakutat Culture Camp)

Growing and harvesting local products in traditional ways is the framework of the Yakutat culture camp. This is a beautiful story with wonderful photography about another successful culture camp on the banks of the S’itak River. Please find the story [here](#). Thanks to Kelli Whelan at ANTHC for passing along this article!!

Success Stories

Here is a GREAT story that is still moving forward that I am so excited about!! The ASD is our largest school district and they have been playing with lots of Alaska Grown products this summertime while the students were sleeping in and the teachers were planning their amazing lessons. [Watch this](#) quick video clip to see the beginning of some GREAT THINGS!! Way to go, Andy and your whole team there in the big city. . . keep blazing that local procurement path!!!

***** UPDATE/CORRECTION ***** Heading to the Alaska State Fair at the end of the month? Do I have a deal for you and your family. . . Be sure to check out the agricultural exhibits at the 2017 Alaska State Fair that runs from August 24th through September 4th. If you wear your Alaska Grown Apparel on 31 August “Alaska Grown Day” (BIG veggie weigh-in day), you’ll get a \$2.00 discount on your admission price at the Fair gates. Thank you for supporting our Alaskan Farmers and Alaska Grown!



What are you doing to support local producers? Take the \$5 Challenge and spend \$5 every week on Alaska Grown at your local retailers. It’s prime season for Alaska Grown produce, meat, and flowers so take the challenge and support our local economy by spending \$5 a week on Alaska Grown.

Now, get outside and get your hands dirty!! It is time to harvest what you have planted!! Tell me about your amazing gardens and what is happening with you!! Send me YOUR success – no matter what size or from where!! Happy local foods and your farm to school successes!! Let me know if you have some great photos or success at your schools – I’ll post everything I get!!! It isn’t bragging if it is true!!

Be well,
Jodie