

## Alaska Farm to School listserv – Week 8: 19 - 23 Feb 2018



**20 February is National Cherry Pie Day (remember Twin Peaks?)!**  
**21 February is National Sticky Bun Day (can you tell I'm hungry?)**  
**23 Dog Biscuit Appreciation Day (my dogs really do)!!**



Link to the website: <https://www.farmtoschoolalaska.org/>

### Grants & Funding Opportunities

#### 1. Slow Food's Plant a Seed Campaign – **\*\*\*NEW\*\*\***

Slow Food is excited to launch their Plant a Seed campaign for Spring 2018. This year, they are focusing on the Three Sisters — bean, corn and squash. They are able to offer free kits to the first 300 schools in need. Use promo code *plantschoolfree* if you would like a kit but cannot afford to pay. Once those run out, or if you have the budget to pay, you can use *plantschoolhalf* for a 50% discount. If you're not using this for a school garden, they ask that you pay full price. [Order your school garden kit here.](#)

#### 2. Get Schools Cooking

Chef Ann Foundation has opened applications for Get Schools Cooking, a comprehensive three-year program that includes on-site assessment, strategic planning, and continued technical support for school districts transitioning to scratch-cooked operations. [Learn more and apply here.](#) Deadline for this grant is **March 1, 2018.**

#### 3. Native American Language Grants

First Nations Development Institute ([First Nations](#)) today launched a request for proposals (RFP) process for its newest effort, the **Native Language Immersion Initiative (NLII)**. First Nations will award about 12 grants of up to \$90,000 each to build the capacity of and directly support Native language-immersion and culture-retention programs. The full RFP can be found [here](#). It contains information on eligibility, the application process, grant requirements, selection criteria, allowable activities and more. The application deadline is **March 23, 2018.** Eligibility is limited to U.S.-based tribal government programs, tribal 7871 entities, Native-controlled nonprofit organizations, and Native-controlled community organizations with a fiscal sponsor.

#### 4. Get Out and Grow: School Garden Sweepstakes

Your school could win \$15,000 toward a garden—plus a visit from a Team USA Athlete! Smucker Away From Home wants to help schools across the country develop gardens that help cultivate hard work and healthy eating habits. The Get Out and Grow School Garden Sweepstakes is open to School Administrators or Foodservice Directors of K-12 schools. [Learn more and apply here.](#) Deadline for this application is 11:59:59 p.m. CST on **March 11, 2018.**

#### 5. 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.](#)

## 6. Center for Disease Control (CDC) Grant

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently announced the availability of fiscal year 2018 funds to implement initiatives to improve student health and academic achievement through nutrition, physical activity, and the management of chronic conditions in schools. [This grant](#) is available to state education agencies (SEAs). Deadline: **March 5, 2018**.

## Cool Resources, Reports, Opportunities

### **Native Youth in Food and Agriculture Leadership Summit – \*\*\*NEW\*\*\***

The 2018 Native Youth in Food and Agriculture Leadership Summit is seeking applications from American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian youth entering grades 9-12 during the 2017-18 school year. Participants will be chosen to attend the event held June 7-14 by the Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative at the University of Arkansas School of Law. Go to the [online application](#).

### **Second Annual Conference on Native American Nutrition 2017 Report Released**

Last fall, more than 500 people – tribal officials, elders, youth, researchers, and practitioners from 37 states, four countries, and more than 50 different tribes – attended the Second Annual Conference on Native American Nutrition in Prior Lake, Minnesota.

To share the lessons learned, a report was created [Second Annual Conference on Native American Nutrition Conference Report](#). Inside you'll find speaker information, key takeaways from presentations and panels, and testimonials from attendees. You can also find videos and presentations from speakers at the 2017 conference on the website Seeds of Native Health website [here](#).

### **Start Planning for National School Breakfast Week (March 5–9)**

Have you started planning for National School Breakfast Week (NSBW)? Students, parents, food service staff, educators, public officials, and advocates from across the country will be celebrating school breakfast during NSBW — March 5–9, 2018. [Learn more here](#).

### **Registration Open for 9th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference**

**April 25-27, 2018 // Cincinnati, OH**

Early Bird registration is now open for the 9th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference, which will take place in Cincinnati, Ohio, April 25-27, 2018. This biennial event, hosted by the National Farm to School Network, is the top national training and networking event for farm to cafeteria professionals working to improve community health, build economic opportunities for farmers and producers, and ensure long-term sustainability for local food efforts nationwide. Get the best rates on all ticket options by registering before March 9. Learn more at [www.farmtocafeteriaconference.org](http://www.farmtocafeteriaconference.org).

## Growing/Gardening/Farming News

### **Ester's Calypso Farm & Ecology Center Announces Two-Week Farming Intensive**

I am sharing this announcement for my friends up at Calypso!

We are reaching out to let you know about Calypso's **Two Week Farming Intensive**, offering production and business planning skills to aspiring farmers and homesteaders. The Intensive is a great fit for those wanting to start their own food project, who can't afford months off work or the cost of a longer Farmer Training Program.

We are focusing our outreach to Alaskans, and ask that you might help spread the word within your Alaskan Ag and Ag Education network. I have attached a flyer, and the links to the program below. Please let me know if you would like further information or resources!

**Full Program Details & Application:** <http://www.calypsofarm.org/education/farmer-training-program/farmingintensive/>

**Farming Intensive on Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/808771582641050/>

### **Division of Agriculture Plant Material Center Surplus Potato Seed**

The Plant Material Center (PMC) has surplus certified, virus-free seed potatoes available to the public for purchase. If you would like a variety that may be difficult to find in May to plant in your garden or your school is interested in getting some great seed potatoes please go to this site [here](#) to get all the details you need. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Rob Carter ([robert.carter@alaska.gov](mailto:robert.carter@alaska.gov)) – there are opportunities for educational discounts.

## **Success Stories**

### **Juneau Greens are Up and Running. . .**

Director Arthur Keyes got the chance to check out Juneau Greens last week and the amazing indoor growing operation they have created to bring fresh salad greens and culinary herbs to the Juneau community year-round. He said, “it was lovely to see such beautiful greenery this time of year!” Juneau Greens are currently providing greens to local restaurants, IGA stores, and have a weekly CSA box. Check them out online: <http://www.juneaugreens.com>



I am so proud of all the great work you have done that I want you to share it and let others know about your successes!! Reflect on all the great work you did (because you DID!) . . . now, send me a little about your success.

**Tell me 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**