

CATALYZING ACTION

Vermont Farm to School Network

OUR GOAL
75-50-25

75% of Vermont schools will engage students in integrated food systems education and purchase 50% local by 2025.



STRATEGIC ACTION TEAMS

GOAL

PROGRESS

Demonstrate the Economic Value of Farm to School (FTS)

Evaluate the economic value of FTS.

- Identified what economic data is most important to decision makers.
- Measuring economic impact of FTS in Vermont

Demonstrate the Educational Value of FTS

Create a stronger alignment between FTS and current priority initiatives in education.

- Conducted literature review of educational impacts of FTS
- Documenting stories of impact from Vermont schools

Make FTS Easy to Use

Connect and coordinate FTS and sustainability functions in schools.

- Surveyed FTS coordinators to understand their roles and needs
- Identifying opportunities to better support FTS coordinators

Increase Demand for FTS

Pass a bill in the Vermont State Legislature that would offer 50/50 matching grants to any Vermont school that purchases 25% local food and wants to provide universal school meals.

- Evaluating impact of universal school meals and expanding participation
- Promoting "Breakfast after the Bell"
- Researching state policy options to support FTS

Increase Supply of Local Foods in Schools

Increase innovation, coordination and transparency in local food production, processing and distribution.

- Developed a local food procurement tracking tool
- Piloting tracking tool in school districts

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OUR OPPORTUNITY

15.5 million meals are served in Vermont schools annually, with a total student population of 89,000.

60 food system leaders participated in a systems mapping process to identify key levers of change to achieve a vision of Farm to School in every Vermont community.

35 of them joined strategic action teams to carry out projects that move us towards our goal.

Coordinating Circle

- Ryan Torres | Greater Burlington YMCA
- Steve Marinelli | Milton Town School District
- Erin Roche | University of Vermont
- Ali Zipparo | VT Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets
- Jess Hyman | Vermont Community Garden Network
- Betsy Rosenbluth | VT FEED (NOFA-VT and Shelburne Farms)
- Beth Roy | Vital Communities

For More Information:

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Follow our Progress!

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