



# IOWA FARM TO SCHOOL and EARLY CARE *VIRTUAL CONFERENCE*

## Agenda

**1:00-1:05**

### **Welcome! Using Zoom**

New to Zoom? No problem! We'll take the first few minutes to share key Zoom features that will improve your virtual conference experience. Folks are encouraged to join via video if possible!

**1:05-1:20**

### **Overview: The Iowa Farm to School & Early Care Coalition and Network**

The Iowa Farm to School Coalition and the Iowa Farm to Early Care Coalition merged in January 2020. We'll share the mission, vision, values, and structure of the coalition, along with how the state network connects us all, especially through our COVID-19 responses.

**1:20-2:00**

### **Presentations from around the State**

Hear four Farm to School and Early Care participants' engaging mini-presentations!

#### **Des Moines Schools Farm to School Challenges and Successes**

*Jen Ransom-Gach* | In this presentation, we'll learn about six unique gardens that serve their students and communities in different ways!

#### **Reading Books with Hungry Eyes**

*Anita Schuckert* | This session will explore how to look at books differently and use them as a tool to incorporate a "cooking" or new food experience in your programs.

#### **Growing the Farm to School Movement in the Waukee Community School District**

*Kaitlyn Scheuermann* | This presentation will cover best practices for integrating local food procurement, nutrition education, and hands-on agricultural opportunities into farm to school initiatives.

#### **What's all of the "buzz?" An Inside Look into the GC-B Bees,**

*Kelsey Wigans, Lilian (Lily) Hoover, Tawny Hoover* | Using live action footage, we'll take a visit to the GC-B beehives and learn how to identify the difference between brood and honey super boxes.

**2:00-2:50**

### **Planning for Farm to School Month amidst COVID-19**

Two 20-minute presentations and discussions will be facilitated by the coordinators of the Coalition's Food Education and Procurement Strategy Teams. As schools and sites prepare for October Farm to School month, we have lots to look forward to and many questions to answer.

- **Fall Food Education**, with *Lyn Jenkins and Suzy Wilson*
- **Local Procurement Plans & Partners**, with *Tammy Stotts and Teresa Wiemerslage*

**2:50-3:00**

### **Questions and Additional Information**

Stay tuned for information about a 2nd virtual conference, to be scheduled for September 2020!



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### Presenter Bios

#### **Des Moines Schools Farm to School Challenges and Successes**

**Jen Ransom-Gach** is the Nutrition Grant Specialist at Des Moines Public Schools, where she writes nutrition grants, coordinates the Pick a better snack program, teaches PABS lessons, and is the site supervisor for the three FoodCorps service members in Des Moines. Jen is also a registered and licensed dietitian and serves as the President for the Iowa Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Jen is passionate about teaching youth where their food comes from and how healthy eating and physical activity is important every day. Jen and her husband Scott enjoy staying active with their four kids, Chase, Riley, Jacob, and Caden.

#### **Reading Books with Hungry Eyes**

**Anita Schuckert** attended college in Hawaii, Idaho, and the University of Iowa. She has been operating Little Steps and Beyond Daycare (and after school program) for almost 25 years. She has her CDA, Childnet and PITC certifications, a registered 5-2-1-0 Healthy Choices Count registered site, and participated in the Farm to Early Learning (F2ECE) pilot program in 2017. Growing garden goodness, singing silly songs, enjoying the great outdoors, and preparing new and yummy foods with her kids is what her program is about. Growing healthy kids one seed at a time!

#### **Growing the Farm to School Movement in the Waukee Community School District**

**Kaitlyn Scheuermann**, MPP-D, RDN, LD has been the Registered Dietitian for the Waukee Community School District since 2016. In her role, she develops menus for all K-12 buildings, assists families with special diet accommodations, facilitates their USDA Farm to School grant and Farm to School programming, and coordinates the district's Wellness Committee that upholds the local wellness policy. Kaitlyn holds Bachelor's degrees in Dietetics and Family and Consumer Sciences Education and a Masters of Professional Practice in Dietetics degree, all from Iowa State University. Farm to School is Kaitlyn's favorite part of her role because it gives students the opportunity to learn where their food comes from, builds support and buy-in for school nutrition programs, and provides a unique way to teach nutrition and wellness habits to students.

#### **What's all of the "buzz?" An Inside Look into the GC-B Bees**

**Kelsey Wigans**, Seed to Table Manager and Registered Dietitian Nutritionist at Gilmore City-Bradgate Elementary (GC-B). Kelsey has been with GC-B since 2016, and spearheaded many initiatives, the most recent is a honeybee project!

**Lilian (Lily) Hoover**, 6th grade student and Assistant Gardening Manager at GC-B. Lily enjoys volleyball, basketball, softball, 4-H, cooking and spending time helping in the garden.

**Tawny Hoover**, GC-B School Board President. Tawny has been part of the dynamic teams that have implemented positive school-wide change, such as passion-based learning and the gardening program.