Workshop Proposal Webinar
Wednesday, January 23rd, 10-11am
Save the Date!

The Iowa Farm to School Coalition is pleased to invite you to the 2019 Iowa Farm to School Conference. Interested in or already implementing farm to school and farm to early care and education? Then join us as we share ideas, resources, and successes to help grow the farm to school and farm to early care and education movement in Iowa.

Central College
Pella, Iowa

Full Conference Day and Evening Social: June 21, 2019
Field Trips and Intensive Courses: June 22, 2019
Racial and Social Equity in Iowa Farm to School

As a state network of community supporters, we share the understanding that all children have a right to healthy food, regardless of race, class, or geography. We pursue farm to school work and systems change that makes food equity a reality for IA students. We recognize and help our partners name and understand the structural inequities and cycles of discrimination that reinforce issues we address, such as –

- Access to healthy food
- Opportunity for local producers
- Growing safe places to play and gather
- Student-driven projects and programs
- Teacher trainings and resources related to cultural relevance and experiential learning
- And Food Service partnerships to enhance local and fresh food options

Farm to School work presents ample opportunity to organize systems change within schools that reinforces student leadership, collectivist culture, and inclusive learning. And food is the best way to take care of each other through all of this.
About Presenting

1. All presentations will be 90 minutes long. Please plan to fill the time and allow some time for questions. **Please plan to have interactive sessions.** Slide presentations may be used but are not required.

2. Consider co-presenting with other people who can share a variety of perspectives and experience. We also value adult-youth presenter teams that can speak about growing leadership skills, empowerment strategies, and to better describe building partnerships.

3. The review committee will prioritize proposals that integrate a racial and social equity lens.

4. Conference registration fees will be waived for presenters and travel stipends may be provided upon request.
5 Conference Tracks

**Cafeteria:** Local procurement strategies and guidelines within federal nutrition programs, technical skills needed to use seasonal foods, menu planning, substitution methods, budgeting strategies, purchasing processes, staff-training needs, evaluating strategies, cafeteria promotion and celebration of local foods, etc.

**Classroom:** Farm to school curriculum used, best practices, resources, connection to learning standards, academic content area tie-ins, cross-generation teaching strategies, measuring impact, classroom connections to school gardens, etc.

**Community:** Advancing the movement through partnerships, networks, coalitions and collaborations. Engaging farmers, youth leadership promotion, empowering parents and caregivers, broad cultural backgrounds, intersections between the core elements of classroom, gardening, and food purchasing, etc.

**High School Track:** With project-based content delivered by professors and other qualified high school educators, this track will appeal to high school students interested in farm to school, local food systems, and food justice. High school students will be invited to attend the conference for a track that has been curated to meet their learning objectives and investigate career/work opportunities in said fields.

**Early Childhood Track:** Developmentally appropriate curriculum connections and examples aligned to the Iowa Early Learning Standards. Content will be delivered by early childhood practitioners. The target audience for this track includes: early childhood practitioners, program administrators, non-profit supporting roles.
Training Space Options

Smart Classrooms in Roe Center
Flexible desk arrangement, projectors, speakers, recording capacity, whiteboards

Outdoor Garden Space
Raised beds, compost infrastructure, fruit trees, beehives, grassy gathering area

Kitchen Classroom
Indoor seating for 30-40, demonstration kitchen, refrigerator, air conditioning

**Consider amenities useful for Cafeteria Track**
Reviewers received 15 proposals: 2 paper, 13 online applications

Organizers and presenters developed 9 sessions within 3 tracks

- Classroom
- Community
- Cafeteria

32 presenters collaborated on sessions (an average of 3 people/session)

- School District Representatives
- Non-profit Representatives
- ISU Extension & Outreach Staff
- State Agencies
- Tribal Nation Representations
Community

The Garden is for Healing & Growing: Trauma-Informed Education in the Garden

Advancing Food Sovereignty through Farm to School

S.O.S. - Seeds of Success: Cultivating Future Food Leaders, Community Support, and Local Food Projects

Classroom

School Garden Toolshed: Gathering tools for community support and academic learning in the garden

How to GROW your School Garden Project through Student and Community Engagement

Garden to Table: Building Strong Partnerships for Hands-On Learning

Cafeteria

Demystifying Local Procurement: Farm to School in Practice!

A School District’s Path to Incorporating Local Produce for the School, Students, and Community

“Quick-Firing” Students’ Tastebuds via Local Ingredients and Nutrition Ed: Tips for Incorporating Local Products for All Age Groups

2018 Conference Sessions
Tips for Developing Your Session

Let people know what they’re in for at the beginning of your session

- Post an overview of the agenda and session objectives so people will know what to expect and “what’s coming up.”

- If it is an option to bring folks outside, consider the transition time and let people know so they bring their jackets.

- If you are cooking, recommend that participants arrive to the session with washed hands so you save time during the session.
Mix Up the Format

- **Include opportunities for diverse ways of prompting discussions.** This could include: small group discussions, round robin brainstorming, give one/get one, or think-pair-share.

- **Build in time for reflection to help participants identify takeaways and solidify their learning.** You may want to ask questions about how the participants will apply what they’ve learned to their work. Also be sure to allow time for participants to ask clarifying questions throughout the session.

- **Model your knowledge**- if you are talking about an activity, can participants “experience” the activity instead of simply hearing about it?

- **Repeat key content or takeaways**- it takes hearing something more than once to really learn and understand it. Consider ways to present the same key concepts several times in different ways.

- **Get people moving and keep it fun!** Slides are a good way to quickly share knowledge, but remember, people will be better engaged and will learn better by doing, whenever possible. Think creatively about how your session can be hands on!

- **The audience will respond well to a variety of voices.** Remember to mix up who is speaking throughout the session and estimate the time of each section and speaker to allow for full session completion.

- **Remember to share stories, photos and case studies, if possible.** Stories help participants to relate their own experience to their learning. Consider asking attendees to share how the story or case study relates to their work.
Providing Handouts

- Consider highlighting material that is already available online. In an effort to be environmentally friendly, it is recommended that you develop a resource list (one page) rather than printing out all materials or handouts. If you have a page or two that will greatly improve your session, we encourage you to print it, or ask us for support.

- You will be asked to share final documents and presentations with our planning committee so that resources can be shared widely amongst attendees and be uploaded online after the Conference.

Timekeeper

- Consider asking someone in your group to keep an eye on time. If someone is going over their allowed time, make an agreement before your session that it’s ok to provide a “time reminder” to presenters. Your room will be assigned a “room support person” who can serve as your timekeeper if you’d like.
Your Go-To Checklist for Farm to School Conference Session Preparation

As you are crafting your session, ask these questions to make sure you are on track for a great experience.

- If I were attending this session, would I have a clear sense of objectives, agenda and the takeaways?
- Have we made a session that is interesting, engaging, and hands on for our attendees?
- Is our session clearly connected to the Farm to School ‘category’ we selected?
- Did we mix up the format of the session? Are there opportunities for people to: discuss as a group, pair and share, move around, and experience the topics in a hands-on way?
- Are we meeting the needs of different types of learners and using a variety of teaching modalities? How?
- Do we have clear takeaways from the session? What are they?
- Did we submit our materials and handout printing requests in time?
- Have we met the critical deadlines? (listed on your session planning document)
January 23rd: Informational webinar

February 1st: Online proposal application opens (online or paper option)

March 1st: Online proposal application closes

March 8th: Applicants are notified of status

March 29th: Session titles and descriptions due to planning committee

April, May, June: Session development with planning committee support

June 21st - 22nd: 2019 Iowa Farm to School Conference!
On the Application…

1. Draft name of session and best track fit (out of 5 options)

2. 8-15 sentence description

   “Please share an overview of your session (central themes, topics, very basic 90 minute agenda breakdown). Describe specific activities and facilitation techniques that will make your session interactive and how you will incorporate time for reflection and questions.”

3. Presenter(s) information: names, organization, contact info

4. Planning to present with others or open to sharing the presentation (yes/no)

5. Do you plan to include youth in the presentation; if so how?

6. Select session audience(s)
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Questions?

Reach out for additional information or clarification!

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