

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** Farm to School enriches the connection communities have with fresh, healthy food and local food producers by changing food purchasing and education practices at schools and early childhood programs; and
- WHEREAS,** Farm to School supports students' access to healthy local foods and educational opportunities, including school gardens, cooking lessons and farm field trips; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont's local farmers, farm workers and school nutrition professionals are key components of Vermont's vibrant food system and continue to serve as frontline heroes, expanding their efforts to provide food to our students and families during the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont's child nutrition programs have worked creatively and relentlessly to support families by providing over 5.5 million free meals to children since the unanticipated school closure in March; and
- WHEREAS,** racial and ethnic disparities exist in our food system, both in access to healthy food and in income from producing food, inextricably linking food justice to racial justice; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont recognizes the importance of child nutrition programs to support student success and lifelong healthy eating habits, improving academic performance and food security; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont schools and early childhood programs provide an important market for local producers and connect children with fresh, Vermont-grown foods; and
- WHEREAS,** the Vermont Farm to School Network goal includes that, by 2025, 75% of our students will be engaged in integrated food system education and nourishing universal meals, with schools purchasing 50% of their food from local and regional producers.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim October 2020 as

FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH


in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of October, A.D. 2020.



Philip B. Scott
Governor




Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs