

WHEREAS; Wisconsin’s farmers and food system workers play an essential role in the prosperity of rural and urban communities alike, providing local fruits, vegetables, dairy products, meats, and grains to all Wisconsinites and working diligently to nourish and maintain food access for the state’s youth; and

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Farm to School Advisory Council within the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) joins the National Farm to School Network in its commitment to ending inequities in the state’s food systems; and

WHEREAS; as part of the National Farm to School Network, the Wisconsin Farm to School Network engages local food businesses, community leaders, educators, policymakers, parents, caregivers, and students in creating resilient food supply chains across the state and advancing racial and social equity by addressing disparities in access to program benefits; and

WHEREAS; in collaboration with the Wisconsin Farm to School Network, DATCP’s Farm to School and Institution Program supports local food businesses, equitable food systems, and supply chain developments by connecting food suppliers to local procurement initiatives, promotes student access to local nutrition, agricultural engagement, and educational opportunities, and in 2023, piloted the Wisconsin Farm to School Grant Program, investing \$250,000 in eight initiatives across the state; and

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) supports student access to nutritious local foods, educational and enrichment experiences, and school garden development through school meal programs, procurement opportunities, and training for school food service professionals; and

WHEREAS; every school year, Wisconsin schools invest in local foods to serve millions of meals to kids across the state, creating an important and reliable market for local farm products and economic opportunities for producers and communities; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins DATCP and DPI, along with kids and families across the state, in expressing appreciation for local farmers, resilient and thriving local food systems, and school nutrition professionals;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 2024 as

WISCONSIN FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state’s residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 23rd day of September 2024.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State