



# ODE Farm to School Newsletter



May 1-31, 2021

## FARM TO SCHOOL: INSIDE THE ISSUE



### Oregon Harvest for Schools

The newest videos are here! In this issue we feature Leeks in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) and Mushrooms in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)!

### Grant Updates

The last round of the Competitive Procurement Grant closes May 31st at 2pm PDT. Applications can be found on the [Farm to School Grants webpage](#).

### FFVP Update

If a school participating in the 2020-2021 FFVP will use up the awarded FFVP funds before the end of the program year, additional funds may be requested by emailing [FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us](mailto:FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us).

### Farm to School Spotlight

**Growing a Future School Farm** hosted a four-day Earth Week event for about 300 students from Veneta Elementary School. **Oregon State University's** garden-enhanced nutrition education curriculum, Growing Healthy Kids (GHK) has been adapted to a [Virtual Toolkit](#) for teachers and other educators to use during remote learning. We are interested in featuring and learning about what other programs and meal sites are doing as well. If you have pictures and stories you'd like to share with us for future issues please send them to us at [FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us](mailto:FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us).



Oregon School Garden count for the month of May: 780!

Take a look at the [Oregon Farm to School and School Garden Map](#) to explore and learn more!



## Our newest videos are here featuring Leeks and Mushrooms!

The month of May brings new additions to the Oregon Harvest for Schools (OH4S) video series; Leeks in English and Spanish and Mushrooms in English and Spanish!



An English language version of the [Leeks Video](#).



A Spanish language version of the [Leeks Video](#).



An English language version of the [Mushrooms Video](#).



A Spanish language version of the [Mushrooms Video](#).

The Oregon Department of Education's Child Nutrition Program and OSU Extension's Food Hero campaign have teamed up to launch this series which will include a total of 50 videos when complete. The series aims to educate students on healthy, Oregon food. For a comprehensive list of the videos we have available to date visit the [Oregon Harvest for Schools website](#) and click on the Videos tab under "Other Items."

To find local vendors selling leeks, mushrooms or any of our other fruits and vegetables, please visit the [Oregon Harvest for Schools Portal](#) website.

Please visit the [USDA Food Buyers Guide website](#) for more information on USDA crediting for leeks and mushrooms in Child Nutrition Program meals.

## Updates on the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable (FFVP) Program

Please continue to submit claims by the following dates.

- March claims must be submitted no later than Tuesday, June 1, 2021.
- April claims must be submitted no later than Tuesday, June 29, 2021.
- May claims must be submitted no later than Friday, July 30, 2021.

You can view the full calendar of claims deadlines on the [FFVP website](#).

**REMINDER:** Please submit claims to [FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us](mailto:FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us).

### Do you need more FFVP money for program year 2020-2021?

If your school has spent down the FFVP funds awarded for this program year and could use more, please send us an email at [FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us](mailto:FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us) with your request for additional funds. Requests will be considered as we receive them.

General questions about the FFVP program can also be sent to [FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us](mailto:FarmtoCNP@ode.state.or.us).





# Farm to School Grant Updates

## **Competitive Procurement Grant**

Applications for the Competitive Procurement Grant are now available on the [Farm to School Grant webpage](#).

### **What is the Competitive Procurement Grant?**

The Competitive Procurement Grant is part of the Farm to School Program and is intended to provide eligible Farm to School grantees with additional funding above their original Farm to School award amount. These funds are derived from a reallocation process in which the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) redistributes unspent Farm to School award dollars from grantees that have determined they are unable to exhaust their original awards.

To be eligible for these funds, applicants must be either a School District, a provider of center-based programs for children in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, or be an entity that provides meals through the Summer Food Service Program. In addition, applicants must have been awarded a Farm to School Noncompetitive Procurement Grant and 1) have spent all of the Noncompetitive funds, **or** 2) have a zero balance (due to the legislative reduction process).

The intent of the Farm to School Noncompetitive Procurement Grant has always been to support grantee purchasing of Oregon grown and processed food that might otherwise be cost prohibitive. To ensure grant funds are spent within the intent of the grant, the Farm to School team has designed the grant application process as follows:

- 1) Complete and submit the Competitive Procurement Grant RFA. Every applicant is guaranteed a base award amount (depending on availability of funds), that can be spent on any allowable Oregon grown or processed foods, as with the Noncompetitive Procurement grant.
- 2) Applicants can be awarded MORE funding by filling out the RFA and achieving preference points. Preference points are given for purchasing plans that include categories such as: purchasing from minority or women-owned companies, serving culturally relevant foods, purchasing a variety of Oregon products or purchasing new Oregon products and developing new commercial relationships. The higher the applicant's preference point score, the higher the additional funding (see RFA for preference point matrix).

The ODE Farm to School team offered a training session on March 17th. A link to the webinar is posted on the [Farm to School Grants website](#).

### **Timeline:**

#### **Round 4**

Questions/Requests for Clarification Due - **May 24, 2021, 10:00AM**

Applications Due - **May 31, 2021, 2:00PM**

Please send any questions about the RFA to Noemi Rios, Procurement and Contract Specialist, at [Noemi.Rios@ode.state.or.us](mailto:Noemi.Rios@ode.state.or.us).

# Farm to School Spotlight: Growing a Future School Farm



## **Earth Day/Week Superheroes Training at Growing a Future Farm**

Approximately 300 Veneta Elementary School student Superheroes, grades K-5, began their training as they learned about how they could save our soil, our air and our water one seed, one plant, one tree and one heart at a time.

Personally guided by the School Farm Director (Trey Hackett), 16 groups of students explored the 2.5 acre school farm located in Fern Ridge School District, Lane County, Oregon, over a four day period.



Not only did they learn about the School Farm, they experienced hands-on training stops where they learned how to identify plants and where their food comes from, the life cycle of a plant, soil differences and how composting can bring our soil alive again and grow healthy plants and trees. They ended the superhero training by planting their own seed to take home and grow.



## Farm to School Spotlight: OSU's Growing Healthy Kids Virtual Toolkit

In 2020, with many children learning from home, Oregon State University created a Growing Healthy Kids (GHK) [Virtual Toolkit](#) for elementary school teachers in distance or hybrid learning settings and for parents and other caregivers teaching elementary school-age children at home.

### **Highlights:**

- The [Virtual Toolkit](#) brings pieces of the full GHK curriculum alive digitally, including an interactive tour of each lesson (see Lesson 1).
- There are a total of 7 lessons.
- Virtual GHK lessons are available in English and Spanish.
- Thanks to the ODE Farm to School grant and the partnership between OSU, Food Hero, and Child Nutrition Programs, the Virtual Toolkit is further enhanced by the 6 Oregon Harvest for Schools videos developed to extend each GHK lesson.



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1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
2. fax: (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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