

STATE OF OREGON
PROCLAMATION
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

- WHEREAS:** Farm to School enriches community connections with nourishing food and local producers by changing food purchasing and education practices at schools and preschools, providing local food to children, and providing educational experiences including farm field trips, cooking lessons, and school garden activities; and
- WHEREAS:** Farm to School and school garden programs support students' access to healthy, local foods and have been shown to increase children's participation in school meal programs and consumption of fruits and vegetables, thereby improving childhood nutrition and preventing obesity and obesity-related diseases; and
- WHEREAS:** Oregon has a \$10.2 million Farm to School grant program and 784 established school gardens that improve children's knowledge about, and attitudes toward, agriculture, food, nutrition, and the environment. Farm-to-school programs have been shown to result in increased market opportunities for farmers, fishers, ranchers, food processors, and food manufacturers and to support economic development; and
- WHEREAS:** Racial and ethnic disparities exist in our food system, both in terms of access to healthy food and income from producing food, inextricably linking food justice to racial justice; Oregon's Farm to School efforts involve state agencies, community partners, academia, producers, and child nutrition programs working together to lift up children, families, and communities in an equitable and inclusive way; and
- WHEREAS:** Oregon's local farmers, farm workers, and school nutrition professionals are key components of our state's vibrant food system; during this month we should show our support and appreciation for our local food and farming heroes and celebrate Farm to School Month in Oregon.

NOW,

THEREFORE: I, Kate Brown, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim **October 2022** to be

Farm to School Month

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, September 16, 2022.

Kate Brown

Kate Brown, Governor

Shemia Fagan

Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State