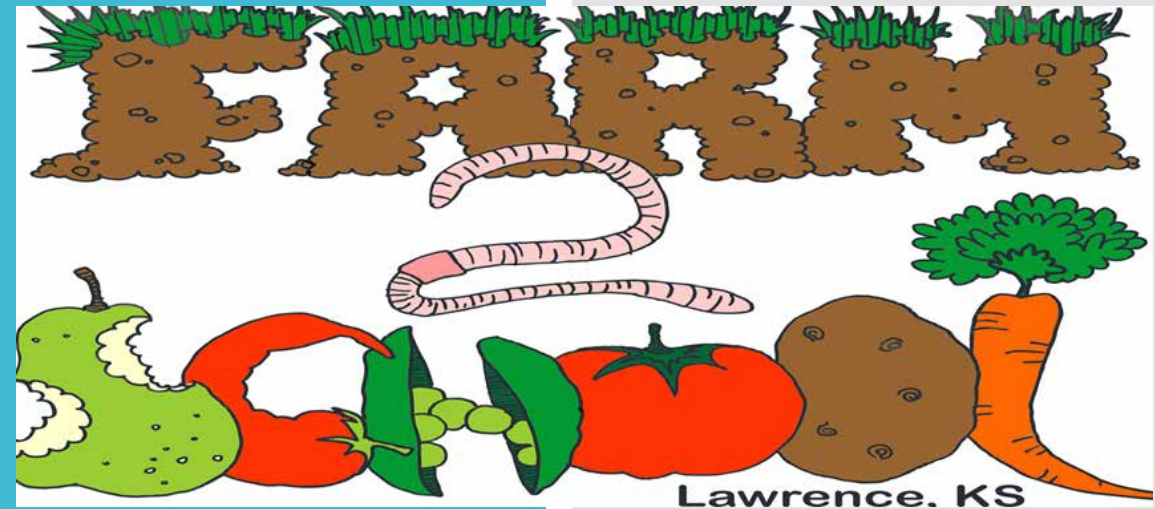
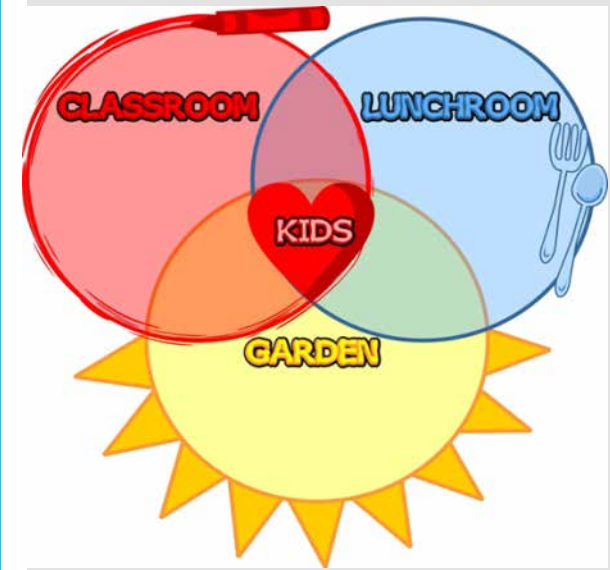


KS Rural Center Conference

November 18, 2016

Lindsey Morgan, RD/Food Service Supervisor

USD 497 Lawrence, Kansas



Lawrence, KS

USD 497

- 14 Elementary Schools
- 4 Middle Schools
- 2 High Schools
- 1 College and Career Center
- 11,400 students



History

- 2010 grant- LiveWell Lawrence
 - Elementary kitchen manager
 - Built relationships with farmers
 - Served local produce at school
 - Worked on food safety protocol
- 2012-present
 - Farm to School Meal- features day of local food items during Farm to School Month
- 2013- Hired Curriculum Coordinator
 - Enhance student wellness by integrating supports and service across the district
- 2014
 - Grant- Kansas Health Foundation (two year position)
 - Farm to School Coordinator
 - Farm to School Committee organized
 - Maintenance, grounds, food service, teaching and learning
- 2015
 - Request for information (RFI) created for local produce
 - Forward contracting with 3 farms
- 2016
 - Hired Outdoor Education Educator
 - 6 farms providing produce





How a farmer supplies USD 497

- Annual Farmer meeting in December
- Farmers Complete RFI by early January
- Forward Contract for Next School Year Completed in Early Spring
- Visit Farms and Complete a Food Safety Checklist
- Receive Weekly Emails about Availability
- Order via Email
- District Sets Pricing for the School Year



Challenges

- Communication
- Supply vs Demand
- Juggling Multiple Farms Supplying Produce
- Brokering is Second Tier
- Delivery



Success

- Purchasing from Six Farms this Year
- Creating Par Values
- Have received:
 - cantaloupe, watermelon, pears, tomatoes (grape/cherry/slicing), jalapenos, green beans, orange snacking peppers, green/red bell peppers, cucumbers, lettuce, radishes
- Purchased 28,000 pounds



Outdoor Learning Environments/ Nutrition Education

- Elementary
 - Raised beds
- Middle School
 - Production gardens
- High Schools
 - Green house
- Taking the classroom to where the food is...



How to get involved?

- Work with farms/schools to see what their interest is
- Talk to multiple people in the district
- Ask questions
- Create excitement
- Volunteer
- Start small



Contact



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