

IOWA CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

FARM TO SCHOOL GRANT

MAY 12, 2026



**IOWA CITY COMMUNITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

All In for All Kids

Farm to School Grant Award Presentation

**FARM TO
SCHOOL
GRANT AWARD**

1

**CURRICULUM
CONNECTIONS**

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**2 YEAR ACTION
PLAN & NEXT
STEPS**

3

FARM TO SCHOOL GRANT HISTORY

- HUGE Teaching & Learning and Operations team effort
- Planning for the Greenhouse grant began in 2023-2024 school year with the partnership of Johnson County Poor Farm and Iowa Valley Resource Conservation & Development (IVRCD)
- The grant included an extended and sustained partnership with IVRCD and Johnson County Poor Farm - expanding from working with only 6th grade students to other curricular areas in the Middle Schools and High Schools
- Re-applied for the grant in 2024-2025 school year and got through the initial review phase but did not receive it due to federal grants pauses
- Re-applied for the grant again in the Fall of 2025. We were awarded the grant in April 2026

FARM TO SCHOOL GRANT AWARD



\$50,000

3 Greenhouses

Cost of three greenhouses structures and foundations at the middle schools

\$210,000 (USDA Federal) + \$45,000 (STEM BEST)

Personnel

Funds for personnel that will support the greenhouse oversight and curriculum development

\$139,946.44 (USDA Federal)

IVRCD Subaward

Funds the New Century Farmer Training Fellowship managed by IVRCD

\$92,071 (USDA Federal)

Indirect Revenue

Allowable funds for indirect administrative costs associated with greenhouses

\$56,241.97 (USDA Federal)

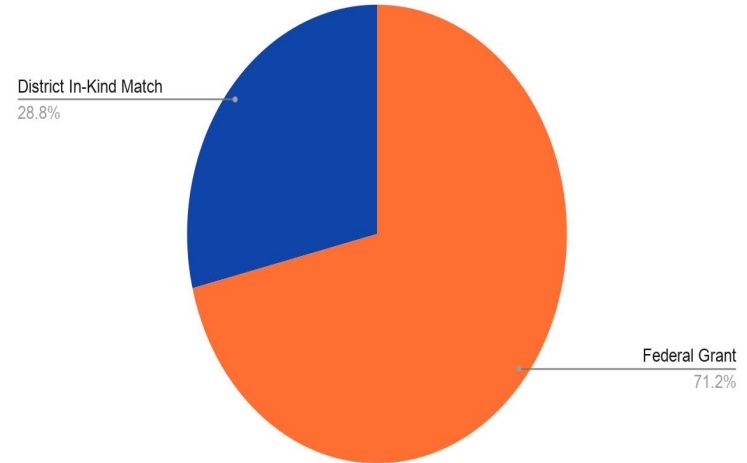


\$498,259.81

FARM TO SCHOOL GRANT AWARD

- **Award Start Date:** May 1, 2026
- **Award End Date:** June 30, 2028
- The total project capitalizes at **\$699,419.81.**
- ICCSD surpasses the minimum 25% USDA requirement by committing a 28.76% \$ match to ensure long-term sustainability.
- Total Federal Award= **\$498,259.81 (71.2%)**
- Total District In-Kind Match = **\$201,160.00 (28.8%)**
 - \$156,160.00 = District Match for Personnel
 - Potential expense of **\$18,000** over two years for Farm to School grant project lead
 - \$45,000.00 = District Match for Capital Projects (STEM BEST)

Federal vs. District Match Contributions



An in-kind gift refers to non-cash contributions that support a project, program, or organization without a financial payment being exchanged.

FARM TO SCHOOL GREENHOUSE (SAMPLE)



FARM TO SCHOOL CTE CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Courses	Focus Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Family & Consumer Sciences (Food & Nutrition)● Industrial Technology Courses● (HS) Geometry and Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Understanding food systems and farm-to-table processes.● Exploring careers in culinary arts, nutrition, and agriculture.● Using greenhouse-grown produce in student-prepared meals and class demonstrations.● Build plant beds, tables, and hardware for greenhouse use

FARM TO SCHOOL SCIENCE CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Courses	Focus Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grade 6 Science ● Grade 7 Science ● Grade 8 Science ● Earth and Space Science (8th grade) ● Science and Technology of Foods (7th-8th grade) ● (HighSchool) AP Environmental Science <p>Optional: Garden and Plant Clubs in the middle schools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Soil composition, biodiversity, and plant physiology. ● Agricultural sustainability and food-chain systems. ● Greenhouse gases (CO₂, methane, water vapor) ● Water and soil conservation, irrigation, and recycling techniques. ● Renewable energy applications and Human impacts on Earth systems ● Climate impact and sustainable farming practices.

FARM TO SCHOOL COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

- **High School Partnerships:**
 - **AP Environmental Science** students will co-design greenhouse experiments, mentor middle school students, and provide demonstrations on soil health, composting, and water conservation.
 - **Industrial Technology** and the **Geometry & Construction** class will build plant beds, tables, and supports for the greenhouse use.
- **Community Partnerships:**
 - The **Iowa State Extension Office Master Gardeners** will support the project through volunteer participation and educational assistance.
 - Additionally, we will continue to partner with **Johnson County Historic Poor Farm (JCHPF)** to work on promoting learning about climate, soil chemistry, and plant systems and also reinforce environmental responsibility and food literacy.

FARM TO SCHOOL WORK BASED LEARNING

- Work-based Learning Internship with [JCHPE](#) or [IVCRD](#)
 - WBL 200 (summer and in school year)
 - Students receive dual credits (Kirkwood and ICCSD)
 - This subaward funds the **New Century Farmer Training Fellowship** managed by the Iowa Valley Resource Conservation & Development (IVRCD).
 - Recruit and train ~10 beginning farmers to supply local produce directly to ICCSD cafeterias.
 - Fellows serve as interactive classroom partners for middle school students.
 - IVRCD handles master plan training workshops and assists with evaluation data mapping.
- Sustained Project Based Learning with Iowa State Agricultural Extension Office
 - Master Gardeners Partnership

FARM TO SCHOOL – NEXT STEPS & EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Year 1	Year 2	Expected Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Build curriculum for CTE and Science classes ● Professional Development for teachers leading curriculum ● Recruit 10 beginning farmers for New Century Farmer Training Fellowship ● Solidify partnerships with IA State University Extensions and JCPF/IVRCD ● Oversee construction of 3 greenhouses in Spring 2027 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Implementing curriculum and use of greenhouses ● Partnerships with Iowa State University Extension, IVRCD, and Johnson County Poor Farm ● Monitoring program implementation for adjustments as needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increased student engagement and performance in STEM and CTE courses. ● Improved understanding of sustainable food systems and environmental literacy. ● Strengthened vertical cross-curricular collaboration between grade levels ● Opportunities for career exploration in agriculture, construction, culinary arts, and environmental sciences.

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION