

Davis Joint Unified School District and Davis Farm to School Memorandum of Understanding

The Davis Joint Unified School District (DJUSD) and Davis Farm to School (DF2S), a project of Yolo Farm to Fork, enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in order to further collaborative efforts to support the health and education of all DJUSD students, to teach students about where their food comes from and how it is grown, and to protect the natural environment. This agreement is subject to availability of appropriate DJUSD and DF2S resources and covers the five-year time period from 2013 through 2018. DJUSD and DF2S will report annually to the Board of Education and the community on progress towards these goals¹ and will strive to appropriately recognize the contributions of each party towards attaining these goals. **Our work together is guided by the following goals and implementation strategies:**

Goal #1: Promote farm fresh foods in schools

1.1 DJUSD and DF2S will work together to promote farm fresh foods in the school meal program, encourage students to increase consumption of fresh produce, and support Student Nutrition Services to increase purchases from area farmers, with the goal of at least 40%² of the total district produce purchased from local³ growers by 2018.

Implementation Strategies:

- 1A.** When requested, DF2S will provide guidance to farmers, distributors, and Student Nutrition Services in order to facilitate the availability of local produce for the school meal program.
- 1B.** When requested, DF2S will collaborate with DJUSD Student Nutrition Services on the planning, publicity, and facilitation of the DJUSD Nutrition Advisory Committee.
- 1C.** DF2S will recruit and train volunteers to offer seasonal tastings through the development of an agreed upon method such as “Harvest of the Month” and/or “Taste Testers.”
- 1D.** DF2S and Student Nutrition Services will work together to identify and promote voluntary professional development opportunities for Student Nutrition Services staff

¹ This MOU is supported by the following DJUSD Board of Education policies: Food and Nutrition Policy 10.7-1 (April 2004) and BP 3550 (May 2008), Student Wellness Policy (BP 5030), and Integrated Waste Management Policy (BP 3511).

² 40% was chosen as an attainable goal because it represents an approximately 10% increase from local produce purchases at the baseline school year of 2012-13.

³ “Local” is defined by DJUSD and DF2S as a 300 mile radius from Davis, California, with preference for Yolo County.

that builds on their knowledge of selecting, preparing and serving seasonal and local foods, such as cooking classes and local farm visits.

- 1E.** DJUSD and DF2S will continue to collect data in mutually agreed upon formats and processes to monitor progress towards the above goals, evaluate impacts, and report annually to the community as part of the report on wellness policy compliance (see [DJUSD Student Wellness Policy](#)).

Goal #2: Reduce solid waste through a comprehensive waste management program

- 2.1.** DJUSD and DF2S will work together to maintain and expand a comprehensive waste management program through DavisRISE (**R**ecycling **I**s **S**imply **E**lementary) and ALL (**A**ll **L**unch **L**eftovers) Compost programs integrated into district operations at all district sites (school sites, central kitchen, district offices).

Implementation Strategies:

- 2A.** DJUSD will maintain a DavisRISE District Coordinator job description and DavisRISE site coordinators for each school as VSA stipend employees, paid for with the savings generated by waste reduction efforts.
- 2B.** DJUSD will endeavor to integrate responsibilities for maintenance of the waste management program into job descriptions for Maintenance and Operations staff, as appropriate, and subject to necessary negotiations with certified or classified staff.
- 2C.** DJUSD Student Nutrition Services, DavisRISE, and DF2S will work together to identify school meal products and packages that can be reused, recycled, or composted in order to minimize the solid waste generated by the school meal program, reduce solid waste disposal fees, and protect the environment.
- 2D.** DJUSD and DF2S will work together to foster community partnerships that support the expansion and sustainability of the waste management programs, including partnering on grant proposals, as appropriate.

Goal #3: Provide school garden and farm-based education opportunities.

- 3.1.** DJUSD and DF2S will work together to sustain existing school gardens at every school site to the extent resources are available.
- 3.2.** DJUSD and DF2S will work together to offer an educational farm field trip for every second grade student in the district.

Implementation Strategies:

- 3A.** DJUSD will work with DF2S and school site principals to designate areas at all school sites for school gardens.
- 3B.** DF2S will offer competitive matching grant opportunities for school gardens.
- 3C.** DF2S will provide regular meetings for school site Farm to School teams, including school garden coordinators, DavisRISE coordinators, and DJUSD teachers, staff and parent volunteers. Meetings will include voluntary professional development opportunities that support using the campus environment (school gardens, waste management programs, and school cafeterias) as venues for teaching core academic standards, subject to the oversight and approval of the Director of Curriculum or similar position.
- 3D.** DJUSD Maintenance and Operations and DF2S will conduct “walkabouts” every other (odd numbered) year to ensure strong communication between school sites, Garden and DavisRISE Coordinators, DJUSD Maintenance & Operations, and Davis Farm to School.
- 3E.** Garden and DavisRISE coordinators will be encouraged to utilize the Garden and Recycle Progress Form to maintain clear communication with DJUSD Maintenance & Operations about changes to school garden sites.
- 3F.** When planting new fruit trees, Garden Coordinators will be encouraged to follow the Fruit Tree Agreement and list of approved fruit trees.