

Growing Farm to School



Elizabeth Douglass March 2, 2020

What is Farm to School?

CORE ELEMENTS OF **FARM to SCHOOL**



USDA Child Nutrition Programs

Child and
Adult Care
Food
Program

National School Lunch Program

Summer
Food
Service
Program

Adult
Care

At Risk
After
School

School
Breakfast

Seamless
Summer

After
School
Snack

Fresh Fruits
and
Vegetables

Meal Patterns



Protein (Meat or Meat Alternate)



Grain



Vegetables



Fruit



Dairy



School Lunch Meal Pattern

Vegetable Subgroups:

- Dark Green
- Red/Orange
- Beans/Peas/Legumes
- Starchy
- Other



Purchasing Foods

Program sponsors can purchase food and supplies from:

- Private companies/Distributors
- Commodity foods
- Food Cooperatives
- Local Food Hubs
- Local Farmers
- Farmer's Markets



Small Purchases

Ohio Department of Education
Office of Integrated Student Supports

CACFP SMALL PURCHASE VENDED MEALS CONTRACT

Is this the right contract for me?

Answer the questions below. A “yes” response to the questions below indicates that this is the appropriate contract for your organization. A “no” response to any of the questions below indicates that an individual from your organization should contact your assigned education program specialist (EPS) to discuss other meal purchasing options.

Yes	No	
		I want to purchase completed meals to serve in my center(s)
		My total meal purchases for the year will not exceed the lesser of: 1. \$250,000 or 2. My organization's small purchase threshold
		I will award the contract to the lowest bidder who meets the criteria that I list in the “Vended Meal Specifications”
		If I apply Geographic Preference to this contract, I will contact ODE for guidance prior to obtaining any bids

Buying from a Co-op

(cooperative group or
group purchasing organization)



Using a Local Food Hub

Food hubs serve their communities by providing the infrastructure for smaller farmers to combine their products and sell into local markets with higher demands, like schools and nonprofits participating in the SFSP.

School Gardens



Early Child Care Centers



School Garden Q&A!

Q: Can the you use funds from the nonprofit food service account to purchase seeds for a garden?

Yes, with the understanding that the garden is used within the context of the program, e.g. selling the food or providing food in the classroom as part of an educational lesson.

Q: Can food service use funds from the nonprofit food service account to purchase items for the garden such as fertilizer, watering cans, rakes, etc.?

Yes, if the items are used for the purpose of starting and maintaining the garden.

The background of the slide features a close-up of several hands, likely of different ethnicities, gently cupping a glowing blue sphere. The sphere has a textured, almost crystalline appearance with internal light patterns. The hands are positioned around the sphere, with fingers visible, creating a sense of care and support. The overall color palette is dominated by the blue of the sphere and the warm, natural tones of the skin.

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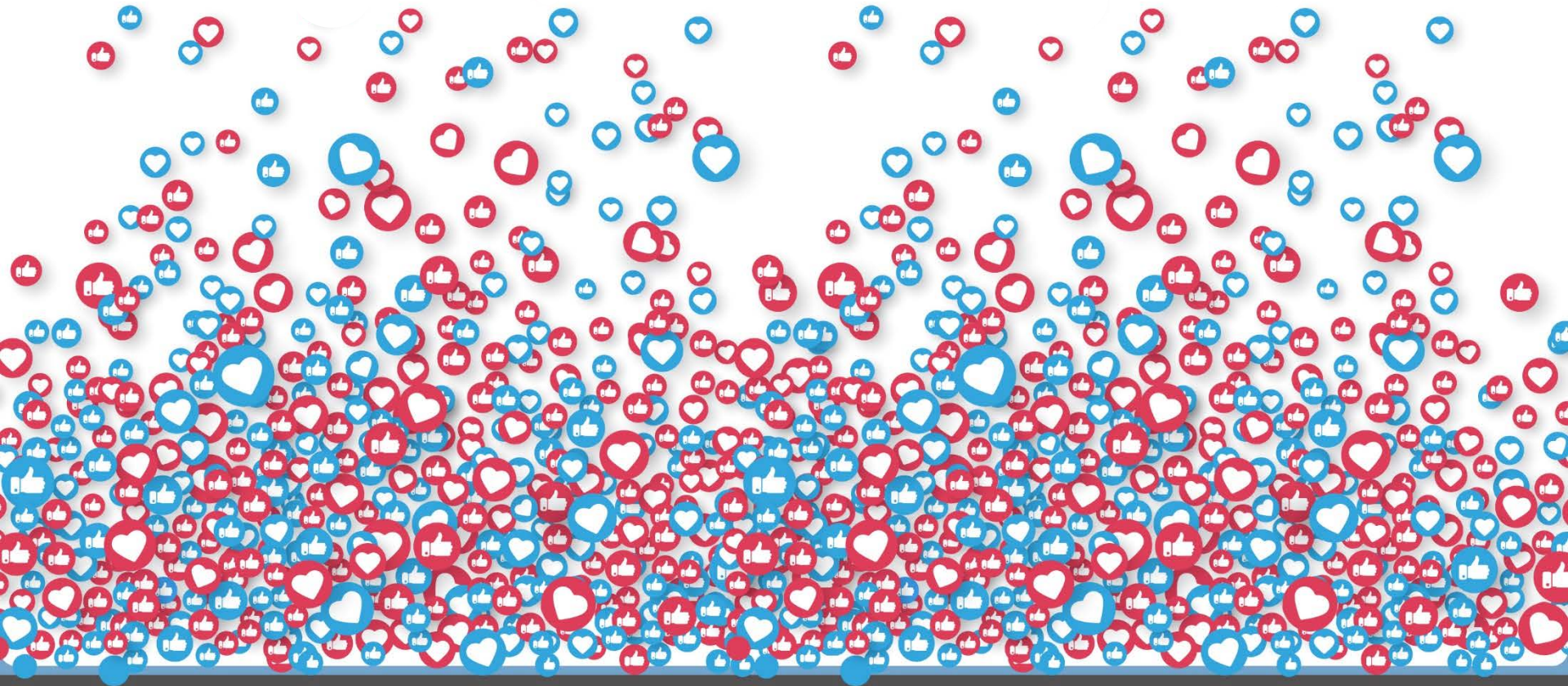
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