

NEW ENGLAND FOOD FOR SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Attention School Nutrition Directors: New Local Food Funding Available



Massachusetts K-12 schools are set to receive **\$3.5 million dollars** to spend exclusively on local, unprocessed or lightly processed foods from within a 400 mile radius. This one-time funding will be available from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to schools beginning in the spring of 2023. Schools will have 18 months to spend these additional funds. The funding is part of the USDA's Local Food For Schools program.

School districts must actively opt-in to receive funding. DESE will be getting in touch with School Food Authorities (SFAs) in January 2023 to determine interest and funding requests. Mass Farm to School, in partnership with DESE, will be providing technical support to schools and local producers throughout the course of the program.

Visit www.massfarmtoschool.org for additional information on farm to school.

Contact Lisa Damon at lisa@massfarmtoschool.org for more information.