

Farmers in the Classroom Series

JJC Farm to School Program

Matt Tansley, Planner
Kane County Agriculture Committee
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JJC Farm to School Program Snapshot

Status of program investments / activities backed by USDA Farm to School Grant

➤ Outdoor handwashing station	★	➤ Custom JJC Farm to School Program curriculum	✓
➤ Farmers in the Classroom Speaker Series	★	➤ Garden fruit orchard (apple trees, blueberry, and raspberry bushes)	✓
➤ UV grow light system for indoor seed starting	✓	➤ New textbooks on Horticulture Basics and Horticulture Science for JJC students	✓
➤ JJC Farm to School Local Food Procurement Policy	✓	➤ Garden safety supplies (protective & washable footwear, gloves)	✓
➤ Tower Garden installation, growing, and resupply	✓	➤ Enhanced outdoor garden (raised beds, tools)	✓
➤ Farm to School Guidebook	★		



Completed Items



Ongoing / Active Items

Farmers in the Classroom Series

Goal: Enhance the curriculum program with career development-focused presentations by farmers and other food and agricultural specialists.

Series Kick-off

The first iteration of the program will recruit an active farmer to talk about their farming experience and share a recorded video tour of the farm where they operate.

The participating farmer will be compensated for their time to prepare and deliver JJC classroom presentations.



An On-Farm Experience in the Classroom

If we can't bring the students to the farm then bring the farm to the students

The selected farmer will be asked to submit a pre-recorded video tour of their farm.

Emphasis is on showcasing the activities taking place on the farm.

The selected farmer will be able to discuss the content of their video tour as part of their classroom presentation.



Program Recruitment

Targeted outreach to a broad spectrum of farmers and networks

- Growing for Kane farmer database / e-newsletter
- Kane County Farm Bureau
- Kane County Connects
- Advocates for Urban Agriculture
- Urban Growers Collective

The selected farmer shall be compensated for developing their presentations and time spent away from their farming operation during the peak of the growing season. Program compensation for the selected farmer provided by USDA Farm to School Program grant.



FARMERS IN THE CLASSROOM: KANE COUNTY OFFERS TO PAY FARMERS TO TEACH AT JJC

kanecountyconnects / June 7, 2021 / Comments Off / Agriculture, Business, Communities, Consumers, Education, Events, Gardening, Government, Jobs, Kane County Health Department, Public Service, Quality of Life, WK-Communities

The Kane County Juvenile Justice Center's Farm to School Program is launching a new teaching series called "Farmers in the Classroom," designed to introduce students to experiences and careers in agriculture by learning from the professionals.

To kick start this new series, Kane County will be recruiting an active farmer who will be paid to speak with the JJC students about their experience and production activities, and share a short video tour of the farm where they operate.



Process & Next Steps

Ongoing Activity

- The application period for farmers to apply shall remain open through June 18th – farmers need only answer a brief set of questions.
- Nearly a dozen applications have been submitted to date.

Next Steps

- The staff review team will assess the applicants and schedule calls with a few of the top candidates.
- The selected farmer will have until the end of July to film their tour video and deliver a set of classroom presentations at the JJC