“Michigan Farm Bureau applauds the success of the 10 Cents a Meal program. It provides yet another opportunity for our state’s farmers to move additional produce inventory at the local level, providing a healthy, great tasting option to their school lunch programs. We support the future endeavors of the program, and encourage it to build on its success, and remain a paramount program example for other states to follow.”

Michigan Farm Bureau

10 Cents a Meal for School Kids & Farms is a state pilot program that provides schools with up to 10 cents per meal in match competitive grant funding to purchase and serve Michigan-grown fruits, vegetables, and dry beans.

By the Numbers

93 Different fruits, vegetables, and beans purchased and grown by
143 farms located in
38 counties, plus
20 additional businesses such as processors, distributors, and food hubs

See county list below left, with map.

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Michigan Farm Bureau
Serving New Foods to Students

67 Total new foods tried because of 10 Cents a Meal

40 New Michigan-grown vegetables tried for the first time.
Top new Michigan-grown vegetables on the menu: Winter squash, carrots, cherry/grape tomatoes, salad greens, potatoes, radishes

19 New Michigan-grown fruits tried for the first time.
Top new Michigan-grown fruits on the menu: Apples, plums, blueberries, peaches, watermelon

8 New Michigan-grown beans tried for the first time.
Top new Michigan-grown beans on the menu: Black, red kidney, Great Northern, navy, and pinto

Preliminary survey results of food service directors, through December of the 2018-2019 school year, MSU Center for Regional Food Systems

“10 Cents a Meal brings the community together and allows our school nutrition programs to support the local economy while providing healthy, locally grown food. As School Nutrition Professionals, the School Nutrition Association of Michigan sees the great benefits this program can continue to offer and endorses this program and the positive impact it is making for the future of Michigan’s kids.”
School Nutrition Association of Michigan

588 Promotional or Educational Activities Engaged Kids in Michigan Foods

Fun Taste Test
Beet Hummus
Aggregated data from five Prosperity Region 2 school districts. Source: School districts, FoodCorps AmeriCorps service members/Service Sites (MSU Extension and Groundwork Center), and Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District.

Fun Taste Test
Cabbage Salsa
Prosperity Region 4
Source: Montague Area Public Schools

Fun Taste Test
Sweet Chili Cauliflower
Prosperity Region 6. Source: Flint Community Schools FoodCorps AmeriCorps/Crim Fitness Foundation in Flint

Fun Taste Test
Apples: Favorite Varieties
Prosperity Region 8. Source: Battle Creek Public Schools

Fun Taste Test
Apples: Favorite Varieties
Prosperity Region 9. Source: Bedford Public Schools

Kids Talk:
“I never had this. It’s actually good.”