



# Special Education in Action

Engaging Stakeholders through Promising Practices and Program Development



Fall into Action!

## A Community-Based Inclusive Opportunity: The Benefits of a Farm to School Initiative

### About Farm to School

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture has partnered with NJ farmers to develop the Jersey Fresh Farm to School Program. The farm to school program includes school garden activities, "which help teach students where food comes from by growing it themselves. Students benefit by learning the science behind farming and the nutritional values of fresh products and gain a greater understanding and appreciation of the environment. Educators can use school garden programs to teach any subject - math, science, language arts, health and nutrition, art or social studies. Farm to School programs promote and create a sense of community for all involved" (Farm to School, 2023).

### Exploring Special Education Benefits and Opportunities

- ✓ Increasing Educational Engagement
- ✓ Advancing Equity and Inclusion
- ✓ Developing Community-Based Instruction
- ✓ Providing Multi-Sensory Learning
- ✓ Leveraging Community Engagement
- ✓ Increasing Project-Based Learning
- ✓ Improving Life Skills



**Click here to learn more about the general benefits of Farm to School**

### Farm to School: A Special Education Spotlight

The **Randolph Township Schools Adult Skills Post-Secondary Transition Program** is designed to address and support transition goals. Students participate in a variety of work readiness and independent living activities which include job sampling, navigating transportation and daily living. The program consists of a partnership between the school, student, family and the community. The anticipated outcome for each student is to gain awareness, experience and better participate in the adult world with an appropriate action plan. Farm to School participating students experience a farmer's market by "selling" produce to the families in the community. They even experience utilizing the produce through weekly menu development and preparing/cooking meals as part of their functional, daily life skill development.

[Click here](#) to learn more from the Department of Agriculture.



Resources from "National Agriculture in the Classroom"

Click on the icons, images and text for direct access to updates, spotlights and opportunities.

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### Recent Release

Autism Program Quality Indicators - Revised

- [Join us for an Information Session to learn more!](#)



### Resources

Strengthen and Fund Youth Mental Health Services in New Jersey



Facilitated Individualized Education Program (FIEP)



New! Alternate Assessment Resources for Districts and Families



Functional Behavior Toolkit - User Guide and Data Collector Tool and Student Sample (Added Resources)



### Save the Date

#### 2023-2024 Dare to Dream Conference

Dare to Dream is a positive and empowering experience that highlights strategies to promote self-advocacy skills for middle and high school students with disabilities.

### Professional Development Opportunities



Calendar of Events and Registration

USOSEP IDEAs that Work Symposia Series



### The Family Connections Corner "Stronger Together"



#### Military Family Support 360 Center:

Assisting Active Duty, Retired Military, National Guard and Reserve Personnel (Birth-26)

**Planning technical assistance for this year school year?**

[Click here](#) to review our offerings and submit your requests.

#### Stay Connected

Visit our [Special Education in Action Engagement Webpage](#)

