Go Local & Get GREEN!

CHOOSE IOWA PRODUCTS FOR HEALTHY FUNDRAISERS

School fundraisers using locally grown and produced Iowa food and products can be a healthier alternative to typical fundraisers focusing on sales of candy, cookie dough, or pastries. These fundraisers not only teach kids about local agriculture but also support local products and the local economy. Fundraisers using Iowa food and products can be a viable method for schools to *raise funds and engage the community*. Consider "going local and getting green" during your next fundraising effort!

Here are some ideas that would make great fundraisers:

- In-season fresh fruit and vegetables
- Seedlings, perennial plants, and fresh-cut bouquets
- Autumn pumpkins, squash, gourds, Indian corn
- Christmas trees, wreaths
- Holiday gift baskets
- Local farm passes
- Soy Candles

Ideas for Implementation that Promote Active Lifestyles:

- U Pick and You Sell: pick apples or pumpkins at a discounted rate and re-sell them for profit
- Free Labor: assist growers with the maintenance and care of seedlings and perennial plants to receive them at a discounted rate to re-sell
- Farm Passes: sell passes to local farms that have walking tours and receive part of the profit for each pass sold
- Assembly Line: help assemble wreaths and cut Christmas trees and when they are sold the school receives a portion of the sale
- Haunted Walk: organize a haunted walk during the fall months at a local park or farm and charge admission

Who is already "going local and getting green?"

- Boone Community Schools worked with a local pumpkin farmer as a fundraiser for their band. Band members went to the farm to pick pumpkins of all sizes and then transported them for a one day pumpkin sale at the high school. The farmer donated the pumpkins as he had extra and the students sold them on a free will donation basis. This was a winning situation for all!
- A local restaurant in Davenport donated 10% of their sales on a scheduled day to a local Farm to School Charter in the Davenport area. Flyers, posters and press releases were done to promote the event.

Want more information?

- Contact the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship's Farm to School Program Coordinator, Tammy Stotts at tammy.stotts@iowaagriculture.gov to find local farmers or visit: http://www.agriculture.state.ia.us/AgDiversification/farmToSchoolProgram.asp
- *Non-food Alternatives for School Rewards and Fundraising,* developed by Iowa State University Extension, can be found at: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/PM2039A.pdf
- Check out Iowa Market Maker. Market Maker is an interactive mapping system that locates businesses and markets of agricultural products in Iowa, providing an important link between producers and consumers. http://ia.marketmaker.uiuc.edu/
- Contact Iowa Department of Education's Team Nutrition Director, Patti Delger at patti.delger@iowa.gov for additional healthy fundraising ideas and visit the following website for more information about Team Nutrition: http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=373&Itemid=1332
- Check out what other states are doing with locally grown fundraisers:
    - Montana Office of Public Instruction: http://www.gvfarmtoschool.org/
    - Michigan Farm to School: http://www.mifarmtoschool.msu.edu/index.php?id=54

IOWA FARM TO SCHOOL

Iowa Action for Healthy Kids®

Iowans Fit for Life ACTIVE AND EATING SMART

TEAM NUTRITION IOWA™

Iowa Department of Public Health