

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, when schools can purchase food directly from local farms, it improves the health of students, strengthens the local economy, and creates increased learning opportunities both in and out of the classroom. This movement is called "Farm to School"; and,

Whereas, Farm to School provides hands-on learning, farm visits, and an understanding that food does not just appear on the grocery store shelf. It is grown and raised by South Dakota farmers and ranchers; and,

Whereas, Farm to School provides financial opportunity for local food producers, ranchers, and their communities by helping create a market for their products in their local community; and,

Whereas, Farm to School integrates food, agriculture, and nutrition education into the classroom to promote healthy lifelong choices; and,

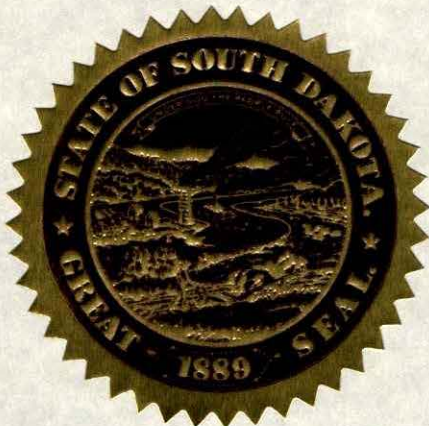
Whereas, Farm to School fosters relationships between schools, families, and local food producers, encouraging strong community engagement; and,

Whereas, Farm to School expands networks and collaboration among local food networks and schools, supporting communities in their transition to be less reliant on distant supply chains:

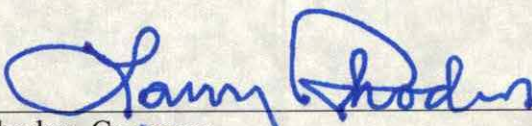
Now, Therefore, I, Larry Rhoden, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 1, 2026, as

Farm to School Month

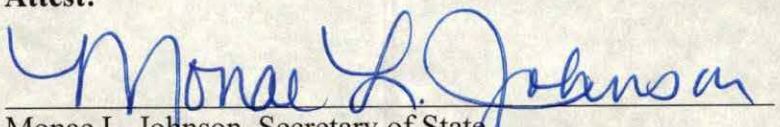
in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Third Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.


Larry Rhoden, Governor

Attest:


Monae L. Johnson, Secretary of State