

Partnerships

No program can be successful without partnerships, and ours have been many over the years. Here are a few of them:

City of Davis
California Department of Education
California Integrated Waste Management Board
California School Garden Network
California State PTA
Community Alliance with Family Farmers
Central Park Gardens
Chez Panisse Foundation
Center for Ecoliteracy
Davis Chamber of Commerce
Davis Downtown Business Association
Davis Farmers Market
Davis Food Coop
Davis Joint Unified School District
Davis Waste Removal
RCC Group
Sacramento State University Community Nutrition Program
Slow Food Yolo
UC Davis School Gardens Project
UC Davis Student Nutrition Association
UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program
Yolo County Arts Council
Yolo County Office of Education



Steering Committee Members

The sustained work of the steering committee members is key to meeting our goal of supporting the Davis Joint Unified School District programs.

Georgianne Brennan, Award-winning cookbook author; Co-Leader Slow Food Yolo; Principal, Evans & Brennan, LLC; DF2SC Cooking Instructor and Consultant

Deborah Bruns, Yolo County Office of Education, Science Program Specialist and CREEC (California Regional Environmental Education Community) Coordinator; DF2SC Administrative Consultant

Jamie Buffington, DF2SC Development Director

Gail Feenstra PhD, Food Systems Analyst, Research and Education Project (UCSAREP); DF2SC Evaluation Consultant

Jacqueline Clemens, Former School Teacher and Community Engagement Specialist

Lydia Delis-Schlosser, Design Consultant and Triathlete

Ann M. Evans, Co-Leader, Slow Food Yolo; Principal, Evans & Brennan, LLC; former Nutrition Consultant, CA Department of Education; DF2SC Consultant

Talia Hack-Davie, DF2SC Program Coordinator

Randii MacNear, Manager, Davis Farmers Market Association

Karen Mo, MD, Family Physician, UC-Davis Medical Group; Vice President DFMF Board; Chavez Elementary School PTA President; DJUSD Nutrition Advisory Council Member

Jeri Ohmart, Program Coordinator, UC SAREP; UC Davis Children's Garden; DF2SC Evaluation Consultant

Dorothy Peterson, President, Davis Farmers Market Foundation (DFMF) Board; Chair, DF2SC Steering Committee; DJUSD Garden & Recycling Coordinator; retired teacher of 37 years in DJUSD.

Marlene Sisemore, DFMF Board Member

Marco Vespignani, ND, Medical Director of the Restorative Health & Women's Health Services at the Institute for Restorative Health

For more information about the Davis Farm to School Connection, and to become a sponsor or volunteer, please visit www.davisfarmtoschool.org or contact Talia Hack-Davie at 530-219-5859 or info@davisfarmtoschool.org



A project of the Davis
Farmers Market Foundation

P.O. Box 1813
Davis, CA 95617



nourishing the cycle  from earth to table

Annual Report July 2008-June 2009

The Davis Farm to School Connection supports the Davis Joint Unified School District in its goals of increasing farm fresh foods in school food offerings, reducing solid waste through a comprehensive district recycling program, providing education opportunities to promote a healthy lifestyle and develop the whole child, evaluating these programs and providing information to the community.

Forged over many years, the firm partnership between the Davis Joint Unified School District (DJUSD) and the Davis Farm to School Connection was confirmed with a Memorandum of Understanding signed by both in 2007.

A project of the Davis Farmers Market Foundation



Strength Through Partnerships

The strength of a community movement such as the Davis Farm to School Connection is derived from shared vision and delivered through partnerships large and small. In 2008-2009 our funding partnerships moved to a new level with a \$20,000.00 sponsorship from local health care provider, Sutter Davis Hospital.

We launched a Planned Giving Program, consisting of annual donations from individual and community partners of \$1,000.00 to \$5,000.00 for a three-year period. Through the 4th Annual Village Feast, our signature fundraiser, we raised \$28,000, much of it coming from individual donations of \$250.00 or more and from a silent auction.

What We Do

These funds enable us to continue to provide broad program support to the Davis Joint Unified School District in key ways relating to all things food -- from school gardens, second-grade farm visits, post-lunch recycling programs in the schools and central kitchen, and local, seasonal food in the school lunch programs.

■ **DavisRISE Recycling Program:** coordinates the student-driven recycling program at each school site and a new waste reduction program in the district's central kitchen, saving the district money by reducing garbage which results in fewer hauling fees and prevents several tons of solid waste entering our landfill.

■ **Garden Based Learning Program:** offers professional development trainings and workshops for volunteer School Garden Coordinators and teachers from every school site three times a year; provides opportunities to each school garden to apply for

annual grants; and gives ongoing support and communication throughout the year.

■ **Professional Development Program:** provides a local forager to assist School Nutrition Services staff in locating quality, in-season produce for use in the school lunch program; and offers an instructor and funding for regular cooking classes for staff which include nutritional information and hands-on instruction in the use of fresh, local products using a variety of flavor profiles such as Thai, Indian, Mediterranean, and Southeast Asian.

■ **Farm Field Trip Program:** offers every second grade classroom teacher the opportunity of a spring field trip to a local farm. These field trips are connected to California State Education Standards through pre-classroom visits and further connected through a post-field trip classroom art experience. Many of the farms visited provide food to the school cafeterias' Crunch Lunch salad bar and entrees.

■ **Evaluation Program:** funds evaluators from UC Davis to measure progress of the DJUSD's farm fresh food program and our efforts to support the program to facilitate meeting established goals.



Highlights of 2008-2009

■ **DavisRISE Recycling Program:** awarded \$75.00 to each of five custodians for outstanding contributions to the DavisRISE Program at the 5th Annual July Custodial Luncheon with 60 attendees; presented keynote speech on DavisRISE Program at international BioCycle Conference in San Diego in April, 2009 (View the Power-Point presentation at www.davisfarmtoschool.org); participated in the first Green Schools Expo in May at Davis Central Park; secured a Coke grant for new recycling bins at all secondary sites.

■ **Garden Based Learning Program:** established a DJUSD acceptable fruit tree policy for school sites for nutritional education support; secured AB 1535 funding for elementary sites (\$2,500.00) and secondary sites (\$5,000.00) for garden programs; awarded six schools with \$500.00 PTA matching grants to fund garden coordinator stipends; selected five GROW Award recipients for outstanding recognition at the Village Feast; conducted a two-day "Walk-About" covering each school site with DJUSD Management and Operations to identify and prioritize infrastructure needs for gardens and recycling that F2SC can support the district in fulfilling.

■ **Professional Development Program:** developed and conducted 8 cooking classes in the Central Kitchen; piloted Crunch Lunch Taste Testing at school sites to assist in marketing the new lunch offerings based on cooking classes.

■ **Farm Field Trip Program:** received a Davis City Arts Grant to assist in the funding of the Art and Ag program for visiting artists after the second grade farm visits.

■ **Evaluation Program:** 2008-2009 Evaluation completed by Gail Feenstra and Jeri Ohmart of UC SAREP (see www.davisfarmtoschool.org for full evaluation).

■ **Recognition:** DF2SC Chair Dorothy Peterson received the 2009 Community Partnership Award for enhancing the partnership of the DJUSD and the City of Davis; welcomed visitors from all over the US to tour and learn more about the school district's program.

■ **Sustainability:** Updated DF2SC Strategic Plan for Sustainability by 2010 with special thanks to fund development consultant Deborah Dunham and former CA Superintendent of Public Schools Delaine Eastin who assisted us in this process; hired a DF2SC Program Coordinator.

Check the DF2SC website www.davisfarmtoschool.org under "Monthly Updates" for highlights throughout the year.

Milestones

During its first nine years of operation, the Davis Farm to School Connection has seen many milestones. As we approach the ten-year mark, we find it meaningful to reflect on a few of our past accomplishments.

- Acquired Memorandum of Understanding with DJUSD
- Achieved sustainability for DavisRISE
- Received \$450,000 in grants to support DJUSD in meeting its goals
- Worked with DJUSD on Measure Q to provide parcel tax funding for fresh, local food for the school lunch program
- Co-located office into the Davis Farmers Market Office and hired Program Coordinator
- Developed a web presence
- Partnered with Student Nutrition Services to provide professional development to its staff



Strategic Priorities for Year 10: July 2008 – June 2009

1. Continue professional development with staff at Student Nutrition Services to achieve goal of 60 percent of the product served in the school lunch program coming from local sources.
2. Finalize the functioning of the Earth Tub to assist the DJUSD Central Kitchen in bringing it to a zero waste framework of operation which will make compost to return to the school gardens.
3. Expand existing DJUSD Solid Waste Management Policy to include Student Nutrition Services and establish basic guidelines of Best Management Practices in ordering materials and supplies.
4. Secure approval by DJUSD of the DavisRISE Procedural Manual.
5. Expand the number of school sites which accept the \$500.00 grant challenge, offered to any school garden in the district that has PTA/PTO/Site matching funding.
6. Expand the number of second grade teachers who accept the farm tour, offered to every second grade class.
7. Develop sample lessons for Farm to School Teams at each school site with the help of the garden coordinator and the DavisRISE coordinator at each site and in partnership with Green Schools.
8. Share quarterly evaluation results with DJUSD administration and expand scope of evaluation to include other F2SC supported programs.
9. Raise \$84,000 for DF2SC support for DJUSD programs.
10. Secure a new Development Director.