



# URBAN EDUCATION FARM

Feasibility Study



## What is an urban education farm?

Urban education “farms” can take many shapes. Central themes often include: merging indoor and outdoor learning experiences, building connection to food sources, learning by doing, and building community.

Here are a few notable examples:

- **Edible Schoolyard Project** in California is a garden, kitchen, and cafeteria at King Middle School, serving as a demonstration site and innovation hub for the edible education curriculum and pedagogy.
- **The EUSD Farm Lab** is an innovative outdoor learning campus for students in the Encinitas Union School District. It includes a community garden, a play forest, a food meadow and more.
- **Great Kids Farm** in Baltimore City is a living, working farm that educates students of all ages about healthy eating, sustainable agriculture and the natural sciences.

### HOW IS THIS FUNDED?

The feasibility study is fully and generously funded by Target. As part of the study, our partners will be developing self-sustaining funding options for the educational farm. Neither the feasibility study nor the farm itself will have any negative impact on the MPS general fund.

### WHAT WILL MPS'S URBAN EDUCATIONAL FARM BE LIKE?

The purpose of the community engagement phase (now-May 2018) is to involve students, community groups, parents, and faculty/staff in contributing their perspectives about what's best for MPS. No matter the outcome, education will be the core purpose.

### WHERE WILL IT BE LOCATED?

We are excited to be working with curriculum and learning experts, landscape architects, soil professionals, agricultural educators, surveyors, planners and other experts to conduct a site selection process based on the outcomes of the input phase.

### WHEN WILL WE FIND OUT MORE?

The community engagement phase lasts through May, 2018, when the Culinary and Wellness Services team will host a culmination and celebratory event. In August-September, 2018, the consulting team will recommend a site and model for the educational farm. We look forward to sharing more as the process moves forward!

