



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!

