



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH**

**2018**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, farm to school initiatives provide educational opportunities for students related to agriculture, health, and nutrition, and connect schools, early care and education sites, farms, educators, farmers, families, and communities to improve student nutrition, health, and academic performance; and

**WHEREAS**, farm to school programs purchase local food for school meals and provide a market for local agricultural producers, supporting development opportunities for regional food and agricultural economies; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm to School Census, 62 percent of North Carolina school districts participate in farm to school activities, investing more than \$25 million into local food; approximately 46 percent of school districts plan to increase local food purchases; and

**WHEREAS**, school districts are reaching children of all ages, with 64 percent engaging preschool children in farm to school activities; and

**WHEREAS**, National Farm to School Month was established to recognize farm to school initiatives and their benefits for schools, early care and education sites, farms, and communities, and to promote the importance of farm to school activities; and

**WHEREAS**, there are many opportunities and ways to celebrate Farm to School Month, including North Carolina Crunch which encourages participants of all ages to crunch into a locally grown apple at noon on October 10, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina joins the Farm to School Coalition of NC, NC Preschool Network, early care and education sites, K-12 schools, and organizations and communities across our state in celebrating Farm to School Month to encourage children and adults to learn about and support locally grown produce;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER**, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October, 2018, as **"FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH"** in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



**Roy Cooper**  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-eighth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.