Farm Fresh Fridays at Livingston School District



A Farm to School Success Story

Livingston School District food service staff, also known as the "Livingston Lunch Ladies," are collaborating with Farm to School of Park County (F2SPC) to bring delicious, farm fresh meals to students, staff, and families. Each Friday during the 2021-2022 school year, Chef Carole Sullivan, a popular Livingston chef and F2SPC team member, works alongside Michele Carter, Nutrition Services



Director, and her dedicated and talented staff in the Livingston School District's kitchen to plan and prepare the meals. The scratch cooked meals feature fresh, wholesome ingredients that highlight Harvest of the Month foods, locally sourced ingredients, and tried and true F2SPC recipes.

Montana Team Nutrition staff visited Park High School to try a delicious Farm Fresh Friday for themselves. The meal, pictured below, included Montana ground beef and lentil sloppy joes, beet ketchup, herb roasted potatoes, fruit and yogurt salad, sun butter cookies, and fresh grapes and carrots. The sloppy joes were made with Montana beef from Felton Angus Ranch and Montana grown lentils. The potatoes were from the Farm to School Garden and were roasted with pesto made from basil also from the garden. The sun butter cookies were made with sunflower butter provided by the USDA Foods program. Under current USDA Seamless Summer Option, all students in the district can eat Farm Fresh Friday meals for free.

"Farm Fresh Fridays is the culmination of 6 years of farm to school efforts to improve consistency between our classroom lessons and the food served in our schools. The recipes are not only tasty, attractive, and nourishing; they are prepared on time and on-budget. We all learn something new with Carole in the kitchen!"

-Rachael Jones, Executive Director, F2SPC



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CONTACT

Aubree Roth, Montana Farm to School Coordinator

aubree.roth@montana.edu

(406) 994-5996

324 Reid Hall PO Box 173370 Montana State University Bozeman MT 59717-337

Montana Farm to School is a collaboration between Montana Office of Public Instruction, Montana Team Nutrition Program, Montana State University, and other partners. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

THE FARM FRESH FRIDAY DREAM TEAM

The care and dedication that goes into each meal at Livingston School District is evident. Michele Carter, Livingston School Nutrition Services Director, shared that she, Rachael Jones, F2SPC Executive Director, and Chef Carole have been meeting weekly since the spring of 2021 to plan and execute Farm Fresh Fridays. The COVID19 pandemic has resulted in many changes in school nutrition in the last school year, and challenges have persisted into this new school year. Many schools in Montana, including Livingston School District, have been experiencing significant and persistent shortages in both staff and supplies for months. That the Livingston Lunch Ladies and Farm to School of Park County have found a way to serve these delicious, local meals despite all these challenges is a testament to their incredible ingenuity and commitment to the Livingston and Park County community.



THE FARM FRESH FRIDAY DREAM TEAM: PICTURED FROM LEFT, CHEF CAROLE SULLIVAN, TINA MITCHELL, LESLIE AMMERMAN, MICHELE CARTER, AND RACHAEL JONES.

For more information on Farm Fresh Fridays or Farm to School of Park County, contact Rachael Jones at rachael@f2spc.org or at 406-220-2204. You can find Farm to School of Park County on Instagram and Facebook, and the Livingston Lunch Ladies on Facebook.



