Illinois

# MERCER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 404

## 2015 Farm to School Census Responses

*The responses for this district are shown below. Please note this is self-reported data and may conflict with other data sources.*

### Participation

Did your district or any schools in your district participate in farm to school activities during the 2013-2014 school year?

- **No farm to school activities currently and no plans for the future.**

*All possible answers*

- Yes, doing farm to school in 2013-2014 school year
- No, but started farm to school in 2014-2015 school year
- No, but plan to start farm to school in the future
- No farm to school activities currently and no plans for the future.

Are any of the following considered to be problems in procuring local products or reasons why your district does not purchase local products?

- **Hard to find year-round availability of key items**
- **Higher prices**
- **Lack of availability of processed/precut products**
- **Hard to find new suppliers/growers or distributors**
- **Hard to get information about product availability**
- **Hard to place orders with vendors**

*All possible answers*

- Local producers aren't bidding
- GAP or other food safety requirements
- Lack of compliance with your institution's purchasing regulations and policies
- Lack of availability of processed/precut products
- Hard to find new suppliers/growers or distributors
- Hard to get information about product availability
- Hard to place orders with vendors
- Getting on time deliveries
- Getting product delivered that meets your quality requirements & other specs (i.e., size)
- Having quantity delivered equal to quantity ordered
- Resolving problem deliveries
- Hard to find year-round availability of key items
- Inability to pay farmers according to farmers' needs due to school district payment procedures
- Hard to coordinate procurement of local with regular procurement
- Local items not available from primary vendors
- Vendors for local items don't offer a broad range of products
- Higher prices
- Unstable product prices
- Lack of reliability in delivering ordered items
- Lack of kitchen equipment to process/prepare local foods.

### Can't find your district?

It's because USDA does not have a record for your school district.