

Weld D6 Farm to School Program

How it began





Weld County School District 6 FTS

School Year 2008-2009

- Purchased one crop of cherry tomatoes for \$239
- Small grant received to begin hosting FTS meetings.
- Harvest of the Month implemented.
- Menus rely on highly processed foods.



School Years 2009-2011


- Farm to School program expands in D6 focused only on produce and school garden implementation.
- Jeremy appointed to CO FTS Taskforce
- Grants Galore!
 - School Gardens FTS Marketing
 - Salad Bars Fresh Fruit & Veg Program
 - Central Production Kitchen



Weld County School District 6 FTS

School Year 2011-2012

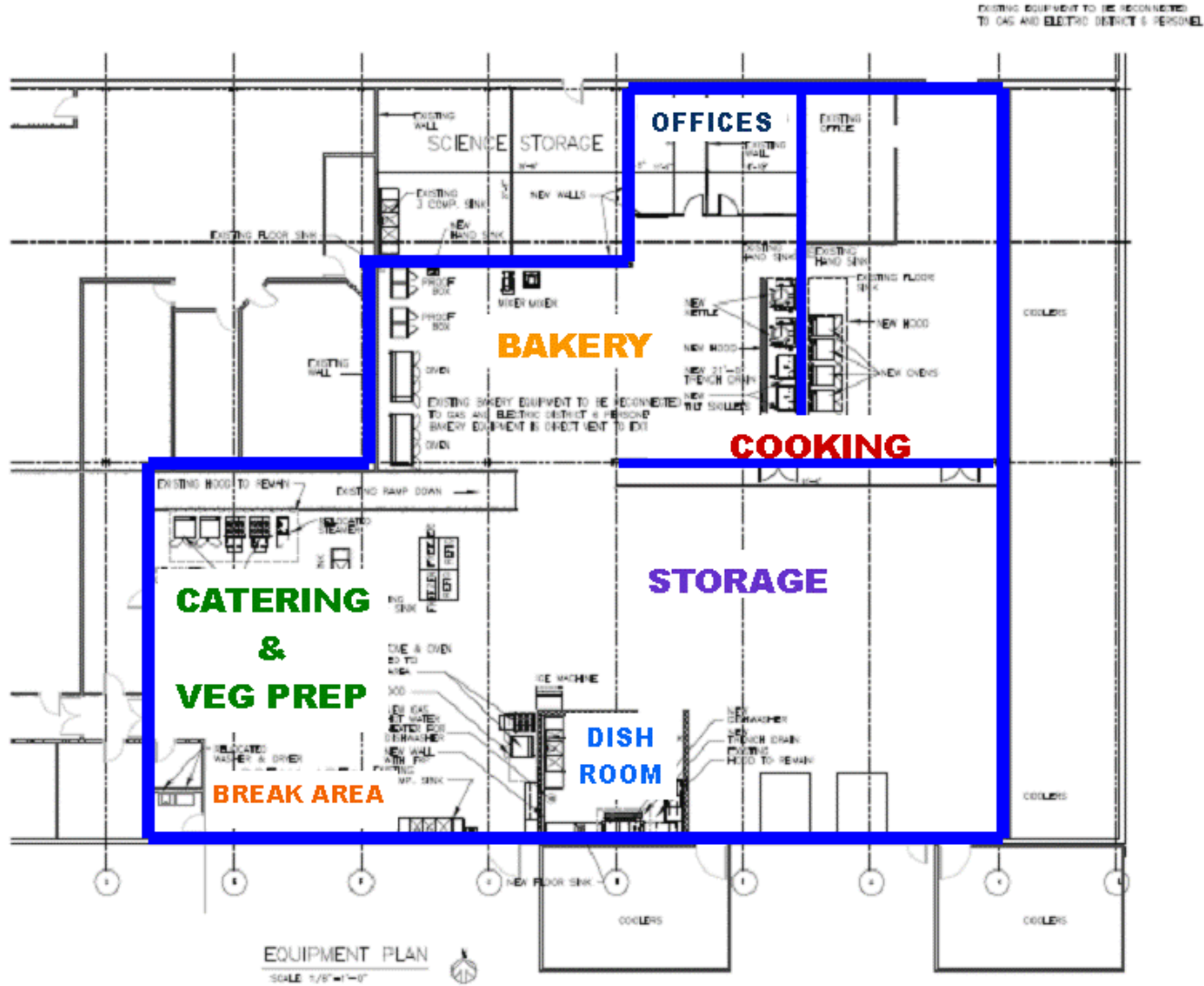
- Central Production Facility/Food Hub opens in late 2011
- Increased focus on producing food with local ingredients.
- 75% of entrees prepared from scratch
- Collective Bid process with NoCo districts begins.



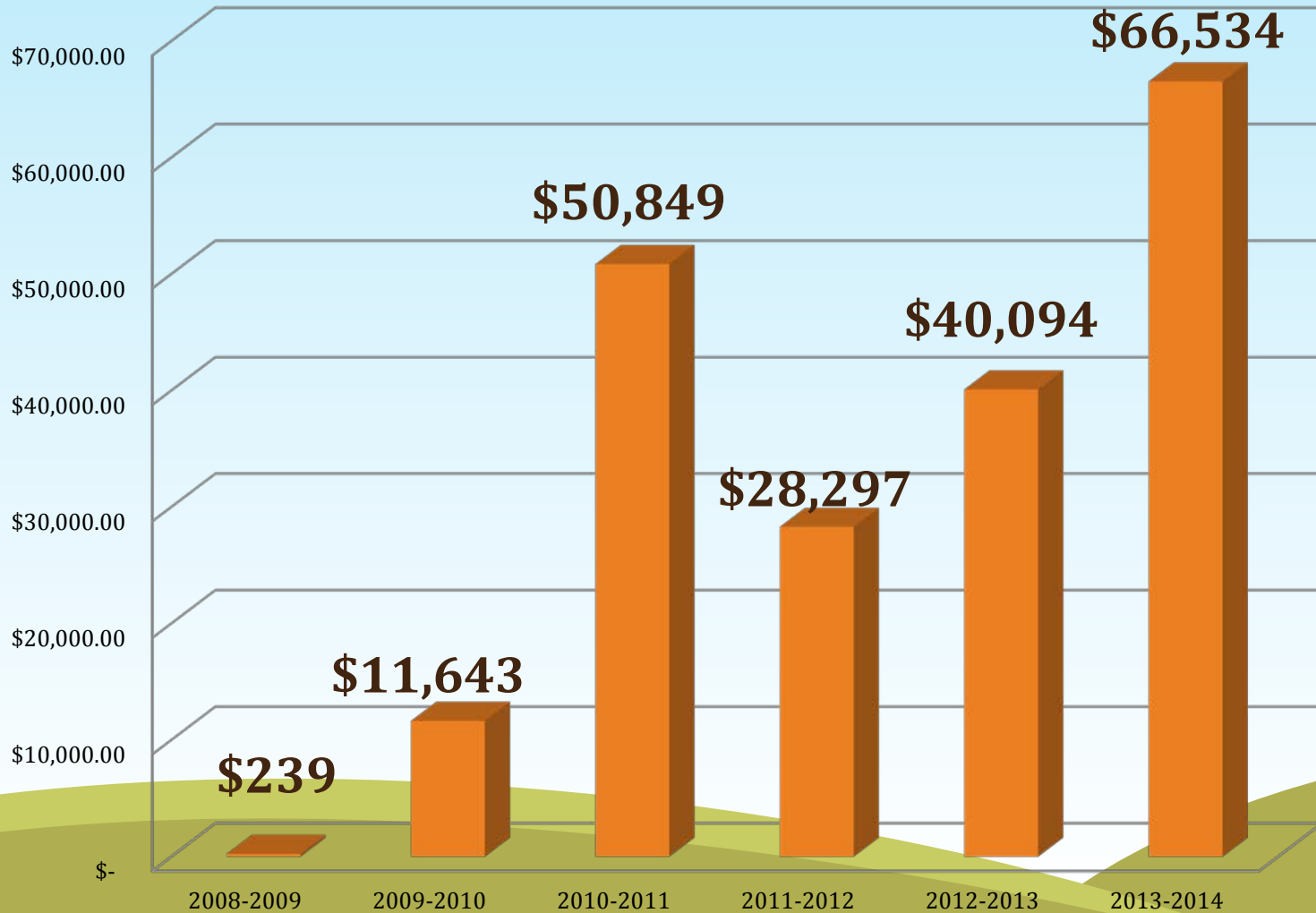
School Years 2012-Present

- Farm to School program expands in D6 adding protein items. Now accounts for 22% of all food purchases
- Food Hub work ramps up
- Grants-
 - USDA FTS Implementation Grant
 - Local Health Department Grant
 - CDA Enrich Colorado Grant

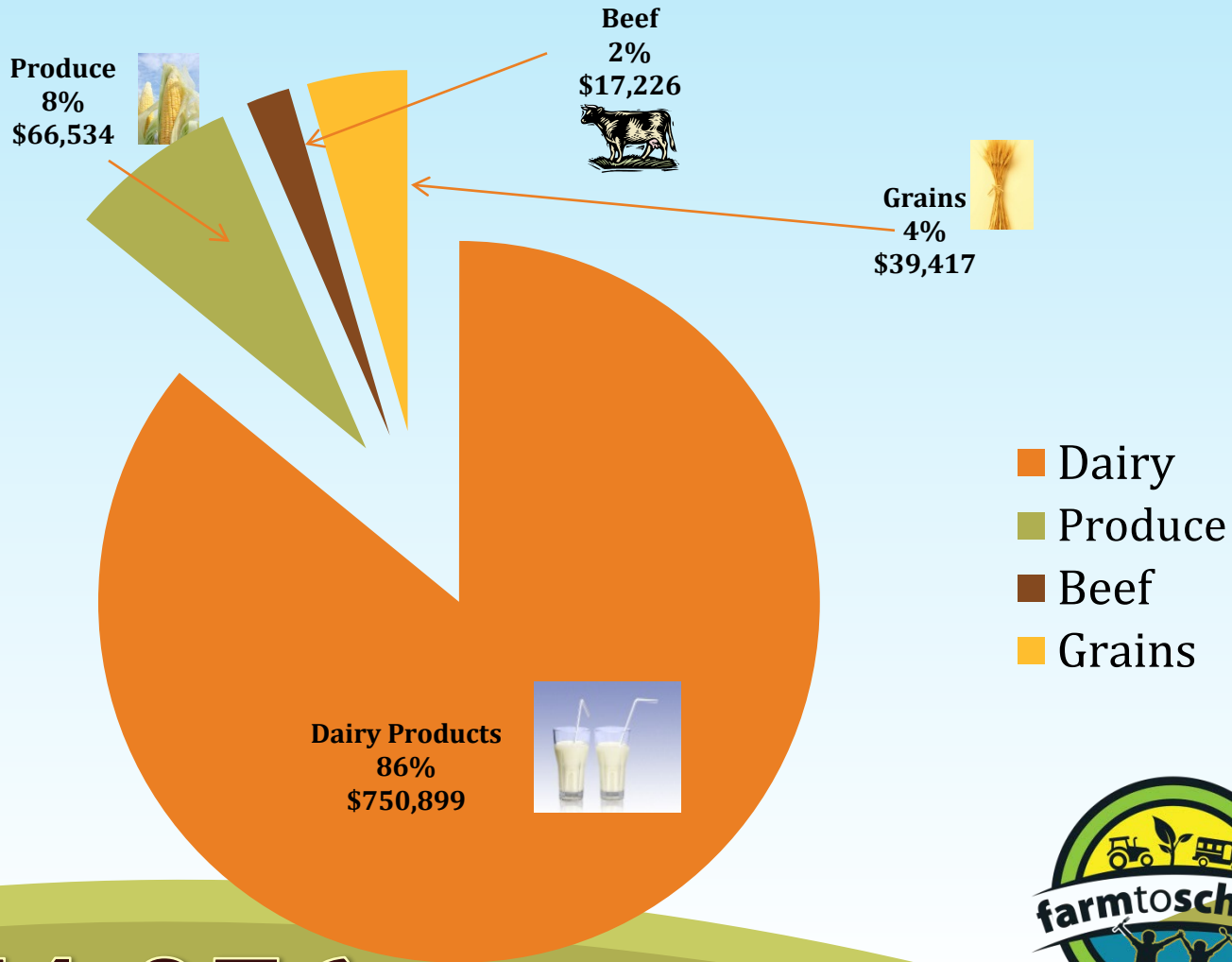
Greeley-Evans Weld 6 Central Kitchen/Food Hub Facilities



Greeley-Evans D6 Produce Purchasing History



District 6 Local Purchases 2013-14



\$874,076



Types of Products Purchased

- Apples
- Peaches
- Pears
- Corn on the Cob
- Pinto Beans
- Melons
- Onions
- Bell Peppers
- Carrots
- Summer Squash
- Tomatoes
- Romaine Lettuce
- Potatoes
- Beef Patties
- Cinnamon Rolls
- Milk





Partnerships For Success

Colorado FTS Taskforce

Other School Districts

Real Food Colorado

Weld County Dept of Public Health

USDA

National Farm to School Network

Farmers/Producers

Traditional Vendors



Successes

FTS program is growing

Improved Menus

- **Taste**
- **Nutritional Value**

Community Perception

Grants



Challenges

Locating/Keeping Growers & Producers

Finding “Seconds”

Where’s the Beef?/Beef costs

Systems Development

Systems and Equipment for Processing

Labor Costs

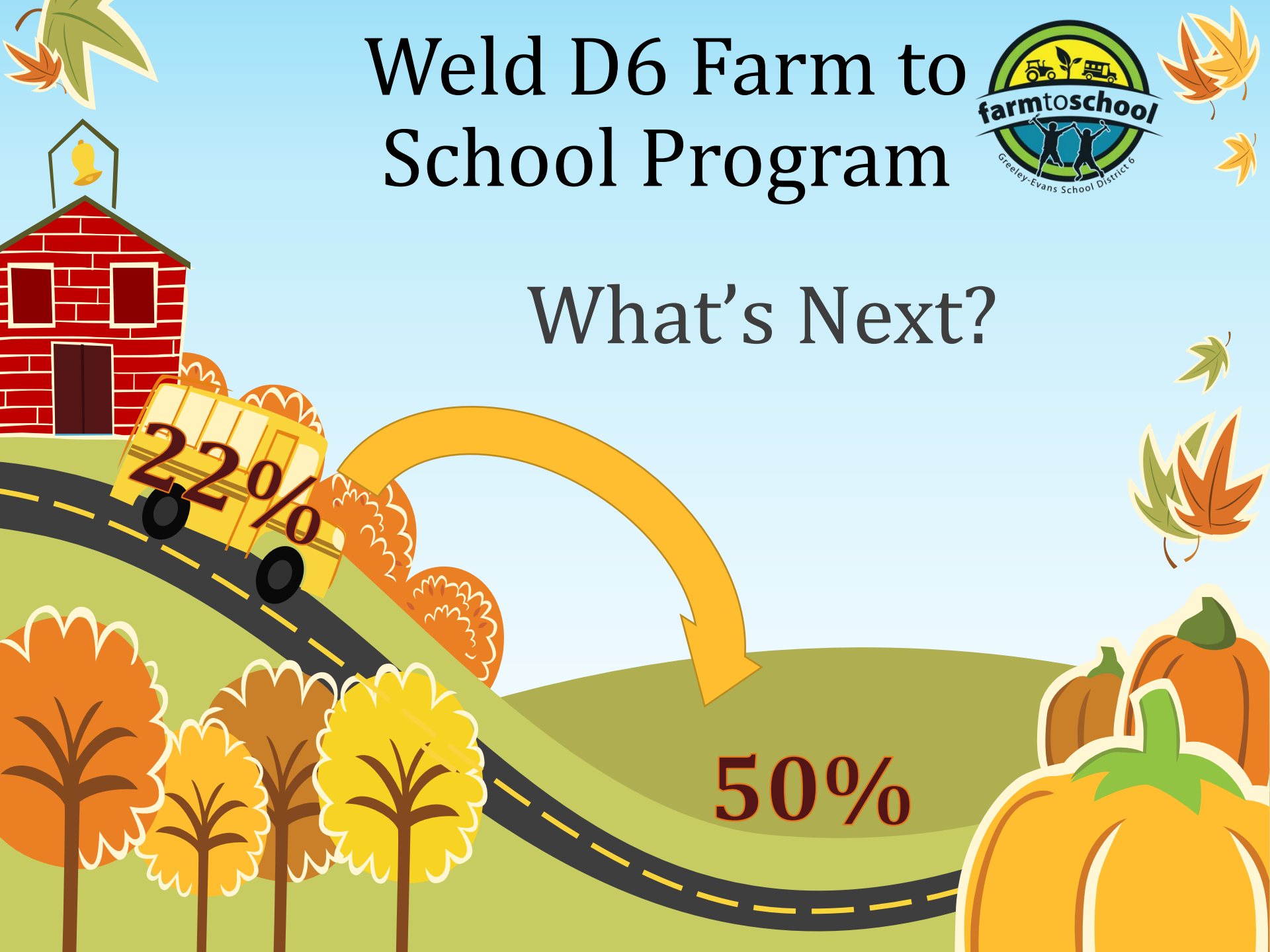
Food Cost

Student Acceptance

Weld D6 Farm to School Program



What's Next?



Partnerships For Success

Supply Chain Stability

- Develop additional long-term relationships with local producers
- Provide systems support to producers
- Provide technical assistance to producers
- Steady supply of “seconds” and “extras”.
- User-friendly, timely bid process

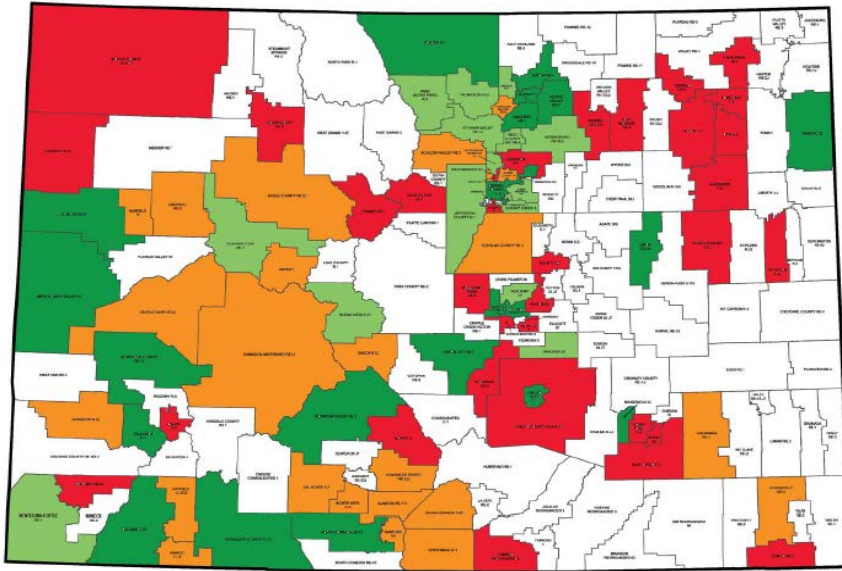
Food Hub Expansion

- Develop Food Hub Staffing Plan
- Expand Processing capabilities
- Develop pricing structure for services.
- Invest in infrastructure
- Continue to develop systems to guide our work.

Marketing & Outreach

- Determine Market opportunities
- Develop D6 Food Hub brand
- Continue to seek funding opportunities
- Website/Social Media
- Advertise to target markets
- Provide regular FTS events
- Market FTS to students

Colorado School District Map



**Colorado FTS has
Grown Four-Fold
since 2010**

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