

Spring 2011 Update

The SNAC committee is currently working to establish our first on-site school garden and greenhouse through the generous support of the Chichester DuPont Foundation. Our current host school is Southern Delaware School of the Arts, and we are currently working in collaboration with the Sussex Child Health Promotion Coalition to expand SNAC to other schools in Sussex County next year. For more information, visit www.sussexkids.org

In addition to lunch time learning sessions with the SNAC Menu, and outreach events providing nutrition at All School Meals, we are working with our team of volunteers to create our on-site school garden and greenhouse. We are evaluating items such as curriculum integration, basic storage space, student gathering areas, raised beds, clearly marked paths, rainwater collection, and plant choices such as: native species, food, flowers, and culinary herbs, and other details.

This spring, administrators, teachers and parents, including those with construction, landscape designing skills, gardening experience will discuss plan and design the site. Summer 2011 – parties will complete the planning, approval of drawings (district level), and prepare for a successful August or September groundbreaking.

Three key SNAC Program Requirements are:

Children will have access to hands on learning about food production issues, through various integrated garden based curriculum lessons.

All activities in the SNAC Garden/Greenhouse will be organic, including no pesticides or herbicides. No chemical fertilizers are to be used at any time.

Children will have access to consumption of food grown on site- either through cafeteria garden menus (to be determined); through in-class preparation and sharing of foods grown; and/or through vegetables and herbs sent home to families(as harvests/production allows.)