



For Immediate Release

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### **Goosefoot to Present South Whidbey School Farms with \$50,000**

LANGLEY, Whidbey Island, WA (June 5, 2018) – Goosefoot is proud to continue supporting the South Whidbey School Farms with a \$50,000 grant to be presented on Thursday, June 14 at 3 PM at the Elementary School Farm.

In 2014, 2015, and 2016, Goosefoot, a local non-profit community and economic development organization, ran a challenge grant from the Goose Community Grocer in support of the farm program. Over the three-year matching grant challenge, the community and the Goose together raised \$170,423, all of which went to the School Farms.

“The South Whidbey School Farms are such an important part of our healthy, growing food system on Whidbey,” says Goosefoot Executive Director Sandra Whiting. Because of this, Goosefoot will continue supporting the program next school year with another \$50,000 grant.

In addition to grants from Goosefoot, the success of the garden program hinges on continued support of the community. The School Farms deliver over 1,000 pounds of fresh organic produce to the Chartwells-managed school cafeterias. Students have been able to create salad bars, Taco Tuesdays, and more, all with produce the students grew and picked themselves.

The School Farms have expanded to the high school within the last year as well. A second garden allows for more students to learn about their local food systems, growing more produce for use by the school cafeterias, Good Cheer, and Whidbey Island Nourishes.

Press and the public is invited to attend the check ceremony on Thursday, June 14 at 3 PM at the South Whidbey Elementary School Farm, located at 5476 Maxwellton Road, Langley WA 98260. Free cake, lemonade, carrots, and peas will be available after the presentation of the check.

Those wanting to donate to the School Farms may send a check, made payable to the South Whidbey School District with “School Farm” on the memo line, to

5520 Maxwellton Road, Langley, WA 98260, or visit <https://whidbeyschoolgardens.wordpress.com/donate/> to donate online.

Goosefoot is a local non-profit community & economic development organization. Goosefoot uses proceeds from the Goose Community Grocer, which it owns, to support the local community through grants and programs that help “build a sense of place and community, preserve rural traditions, enhance local commerce, and help create a healthy, sustainable future for South Whidbey Island. Learn more about our support of the School Farms and other local grants at [www.goosefoot.org/grants/](http://www.goosefoot.org/grants/)