

What's Happening....

Down on the Farm

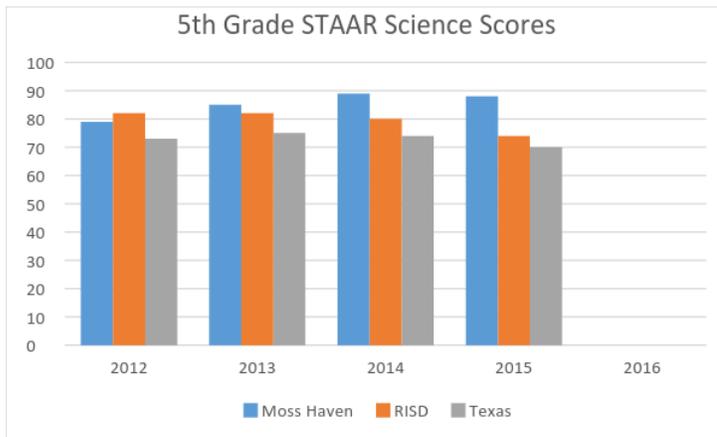


Moss Haven Farm (Est. 2012)

Moss Haven Farm exists to cultivate a respect for the earth and food-growth process in our students. Our vision is that they will develop a lifelong interest in responsible environmental practices, seek to live a healthy lifestyle, and cultivate a passion for giving back to the community. In addition to enriching academics, our program seeks to spark positive growth in our students' families and our community.

Moss Haven Farm Mission: Our garden is cultivating tomorrow's community-minded leaders, deeply rooted in healthy living, educational growth and environmental stewardship.

Fig. A: We've seen a measurable increase in students' pass rates on the Texas standardized science test since the implementation of our farm - curriculum partnership.



Moss Haven Farm Purpose: Building environmental awareness, healthy habits, connecting curriculum and giving back to the community for East Dallas youth. Current statistics show that most school gardens start strong but are no longer viable within four years. However, at Moss Haven, parents and students alike are **dedicated to a sustainable program**. Here's what our parents have to say:

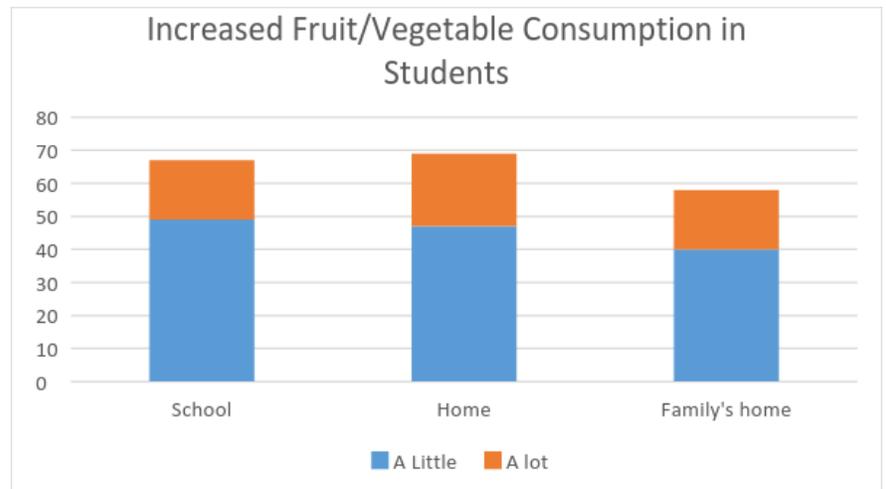
"I truly think that the farm is giving my children great perspective on the cycle of life...and the importance of healthy eating, being active and recycling/composting/repurposing."

"My child has unique eating habits – we're working on getting him past this stage and I do feel the farm program helps because he's curious and

is always informing us about healthy eating."

"The Moss Haven Farm has changed the way my children look at food and has made such an impact on our entire family."

Fig. B: We've seen **students making healthier choices**. Moss Haven adopted one of the first elementary cafeteria salad bars in the district. As you can see from the graph, the results are apparent both at school and at home. Indeed when a child grows the broccoli from seed to harvest, eating it becomes more fun!



We have the support of our wonderful staff and teachers. **100% of Moss Haven faculty** agree the **Farm benefits student learning and engagement**, and 100% of teachers believe the Farm builds community in the neighborhood.

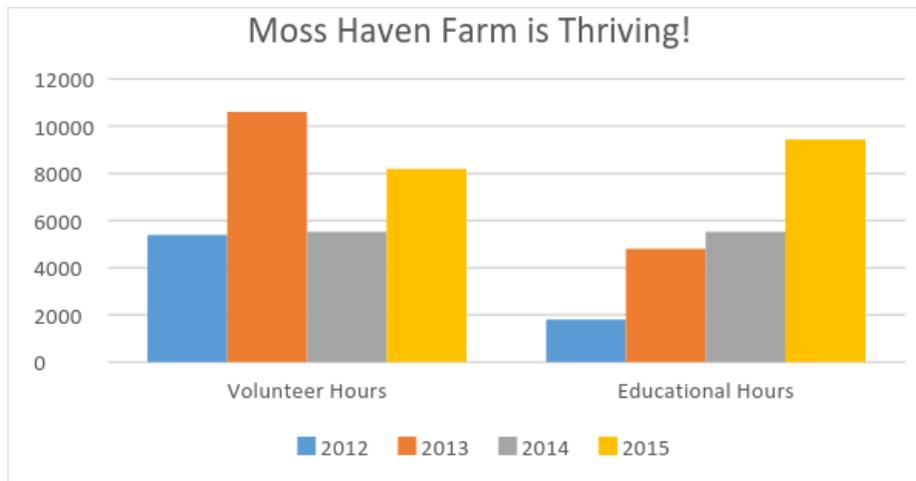
Here's what teachers have to say about our Farm:

"The farm builds community, gives struggling students a place to shine, helps students understand where our food comes from, gives students a place to bond and develop friendships and provides countless opportunities for kids to grow. All of these things together excite the kids. They are proud to be part of such an enthusiastic and exciting school."

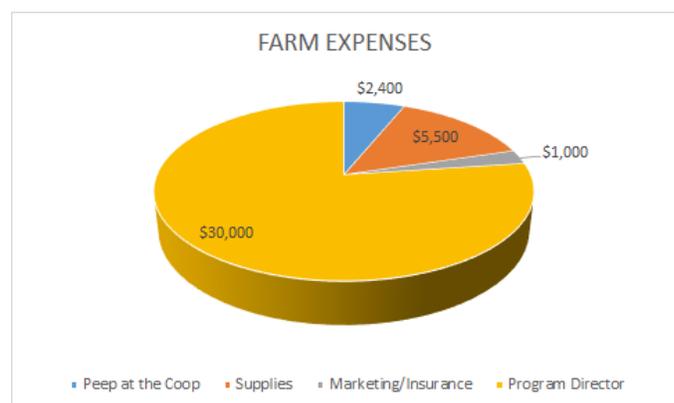
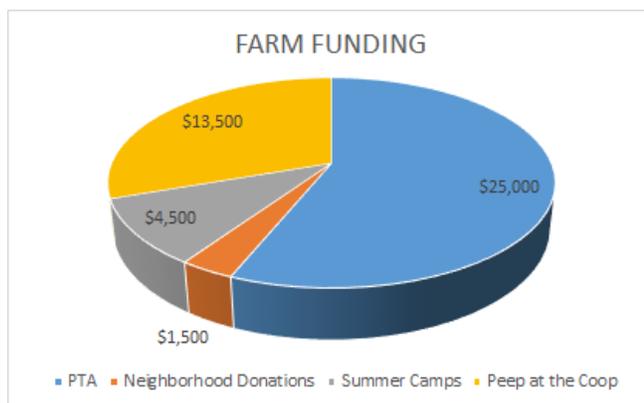
"They love growing things, eating things and working in the garden. They feel connected to the Earth and a part of an exciting movement that doesn't take place in many schools across the country. Many kids feel more important that they are doing something meaningful and healthy that hopefully will carry over into adulthood."

"Our farm provides so much enrichment to us as teachers and students. There are so many curriculum connections and ways to learn that are hands on and applicable to real life. It provides opportunities to these urban kiddos that they might not get otherwise. We love the chickens and the farm!"

Our recent collaboration with the **North Texas Food Bank** has students excited to give back. We continue to increase our crop yields, donating over **1,800 pounds of fresh, organic produce** to the local community since 2014. Our school garden continues to find new and innovative ways to grow and thrive, enabling all of our students to succeed now and take important life skills into their future endeavours.



Moss Haven Farm is a non-profit organization which depends on public support to achieve our goals. A critical component of our year after year success is funding. Take a peek at our **annual funding and expenses**:



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Email: MossHavenFarm@gmail.com