

## **USDA Satellite Features Feed**

**June 11, 2009**

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### **FEATURE – USDA PROMOTES SCHOOL GARDENS FOR HEALTHY FOOD**

**INTRO:** Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack helped plant a fruit and vegetable garden at a Washington D-C public school to provide healthy food to the students. The USDA's Bob Ellison has more.

**AGRICULTURE SECRETARY TOM VILSACK HELPED UNVEIL THE GOOD FOOD GARDEN AT A WASHINGTON D-C SCHOOL. STUDENTS WILL WORK THE GARDEN TO HELP GROW HEALTHY PRODUCE FOR THE SCHOOL AND TO LEARN WHERE FOOD COMES FROM.**

Tom Vilsack, Agriculture Secretary: Understand the connection between hard work and the food that you eat so that you have an appreciation for what all of our farmers and ranchers throughout the country do for us each day and two is to make sure that you have an ample supply of nutritious, healthy good fruits and vegetables to eat.

**THE SEED SCHOOL IS A PUBLIC SCHOOL IN SOUTHEAST WASHINGTON D-C. IT OPERATES AS A TUITION FREE BOARDING SCHOOL PROVIDING COLLEGE PREPEATORY CLASSES FOR STUDENTS FROM UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES. TEACHERS AND STUDENTS LOOKED FORWARD TO THE CHALLENGE OF GROWING PRODUCE.**

Kassandra Heath, SEED School teacher: They're going to learn responsibility. They going to learn how hard it is to grow and the dedication it takes. So they are going to have more appreciation for the food they eat all the time and we are going to have some healthier food at our school.

Joseph Johnson, SEED School student: It's helping our school and I think that we will have healthier vegetables and since I'm helping plant it I think that we should be a part of taking care of it more and helping to help it grow.

**DURING THE GARDEN'S UNVEILING STUDENTS WERE TAUGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF HEALTHY EATING. SECRETARY VILSACK SAYS THEY'LL LEARN LESSONS THAT WILL LAST THEIR ENTIRE LIVES.**

Vilsack: These youngsters are going to learn a lot about nature. They're going to learn a lot about gardening. They're going to have fun doing it and they'll also become great consumers of more nutritious food because they'll understand the history behind the seeds and they'll understand a little bit more about the food they're eating.

**IN WASHINGTON D-C FOR THE U-S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, I'M BOB ELLISON.**