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Fwd: Partnership with Sarah Frey of Frey Farms

1 message

Jason Bauer <jbauer@panaschools.com>
To: Bridgett Heinrich <bheinrich@panaschools.com>

Mon, Mar 7, 2022 at 12:46 PM

March Board Meeting

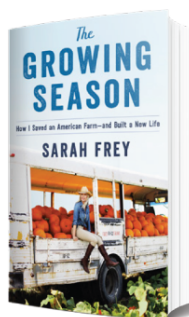
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From: **Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools** <execdir@airssedu.org>
Date: Mon, Mar 7, 2022 at 12:07 PM
Subject: Partnership with Sarah Frey of Frey Farms
To: <jbauer@panaschools.com>



**The Association
of Illinois Rural
and Small Schools**

Partnership with Sarah Frey of Frey Farms



On behalf of **James (Jim) W. Keyes of Frey Farms**
and **the Association of Illinois Rural and Small
Schools**, we would like to offer this book,

THE GROWING SEASON
as our gift to you.



The Association
of Illinois Rural
and Small Schools



@FREYFARMS @SARAHSHOMEGROWN



In November 2021 AIRSS Executive Director David Ardrey was honored to share the stage with Sarah Frey of Frey Farms. Frey, born and raised in rural Southern Illinois, served as the keynote speaker for the National Forum to Advance Rural Education held in Indianapolis.

Ms. Frey shared her life story and experiences growing up on a struggling Illinois farm, the youngest in a large family with challenging family dynamics. By her own perseverance, grit and determination Frey bought the failing family farm at 17 years old and began to build her own family operated company, which is now one of the largest fresh produce growers and shippers in America, with farmland spread across seven states.

In a conversational setting Frey and Exec. Director Ardrey discuss Sarah's book [The Growing Season](#) and stories from the book that highlight in her words, her scrappy rural childhood, choosing to stay and live in a rural place, the success you can have in a rural community and the values that are learned and shared with family friends and business associates.



Executive Director David Ardrey speaking with Sarah Frey at the National Forum to Advance Rural Education in November 2021

From this meeting a friendship was born and a mutual respect for each other's work has developed. In the coming days, an exciting opportunity for our rural schools in partnership with Ms. Frey will be shared with you - a free copy of The Growing Season for your school library.

AIRSS is honored to call Sarah Frey one of our own - an Illinois rural school alumna - and recognize her success as a rural business owner. We thank Ms. Frey for representing Illinois rural schools on the national stage this past November.

Thank you,

Dave Ardrey

David M. Ardrey

Executive Director - Association of Illinois of Rural and Small Schools



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