



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

December 19, 2025

Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers  
President, Board of Alders  
City of New Haven  
165 Church St, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New Haven, CT 06510

Re: Agreement with Trifecta Ecosystems -CT Grown for CT Kids Shipping Containers

Dear Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers,

We respectfully submit the enclosed request for approval by the Board of Alders Authorization to approve agreement with Trifecta Ecosystems – Connecticut Department of Agriculture, CT Grown for CT Kids Program for High School in the Community.

The service would support the installation of a climate-controlled shipping-container mushroom farm at a district high school located within **High School in the Community**. This innovative project is designed to provide students with authentic, hands-on learning experiences centered on agriculture, sustainability, nutrition, and entrepreneurship, while also strengthening career and technical pathways within the district.

We are pleased to submit this agreement in partnership with Trifecta Ecosystems for High School in the Community, whose mission and student population align strongly with the goals of this initiative. The project will transform an underutilized space into a productive, revenue-generating learning environment where students engage directly in food production, environmental stewardship, and small-business operations.

The mushroom container farm will serve as a living laboratory, exposing students to modern agricultural practices—including controlled-environment agriculture, hydroponic and aquaponic systems, and traditional growing methods—while reinforcing science, technology, engineering, and math skills. Students will gain real-world experience in cultivation, data collection, quality control, logistics, and sustainability planning.

Central to this initiative is the integration of the **Weekly Harvest Micro-Business Experience**, which enables students to participate in the full farm-to-market cycle. Through this model, students will learn budgeting, marketing, workforce collaboration, and customer engagement, developing essential skills that prepare them for postsecondary education and careers in agriculture, bioscience, food systems, and entrepreneurship.

This project represents a strategic investment in workforce development, sustainability, and student engagement. By aligning innovative agricultural education with economic and community impact, the shipping-container mushroom farm advances the City's goals of expanding green workforce opportunities while creating meaningful, career-connected learning experiences for New Haven students.



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The shipping container farm would be implemented in partnership with Trifecta Ecosystems Inc., the vendor as presented. Trifecta Ecosystems, Inc. specializes in modular, controlled-environmental agriculture systems designed for educational and community-based settings. The project would align with district goals related to career and technical education, environmental, stewardship, and community engagement.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Signed by:

*Robert McClain*

BOB MCCAIN

Science Supervisor