

County	Organization	Project Name	Project Description	Amount Awarded
Avery	8 awards = \$11,683			
Avery	Avery Middle School	AMS Sixth-Grade Wonder Works Experience	This grant will cover costs associated with a field trip to WonderWorks. WonderWorks promotes interactive learning, STEM-focused activities, a vast variety of hands-on exhibits supplemental to classroom learning, and promotes the development of social skills. Overall, WonderWorks offers an educational, entertaining, and inspiring experience for middle school students, making it an ideal destination for school trips or educational outings. This project will serve approximately 70 sixth-grade students.	\$5,420
Avery	Cranberry Middle School	A Real World Journey	This project will purchase a variety of literature books, and students will be conducting a literature study that examines fictional characters grappling with decisions about how to balance conformity and their need for personal identity. They will simultaneously conduct a personal examination of their own identity through their own writing process. This project will serve fifty-eight eighth graders through their English Language Arts classroom.	\$548
Avery	Marjorie Williams Academy	Exploring Earth's Treasures: A Rocks and Minerals Unit	This grant will cover costs associated with a field trip to Greater Foscoe Mining Company in Foscoe, NC. Grant money will also be used to purchase several classroom items to enhance the students' learning experience. The primary goal of this project is to provide students with a hands-on learning experience that aligns with the NC Essential Standards for Science and fosters a deeper understanding of Earth's geological processes. This project will serve 35 students in kindergarten through third grade.	\$850
Avery	Avery County High School	School Learning Library: A Marketplace of Ideas	This grant will purchase a variety of tools that will increase student engagement with classroom learning. Tools will include do-it-yourself ebooks, 3D pens and materials, woodburning tools, robotics, crafting and building supplies, instruments, and iPad apps. Students will use these items to create original work that directly reflects learning and increases student engagement. The project serves all 594 students, in all subject areas, across all grade levels.	\$1,000
Avery	Freedom Trail Elementary School	Bucket Drumming	This grant will purchase materials for Bucket Drumming. Bucket Drumming is a style of music that involves drumming on plastic buckets to create melodies and rhythmic movements. Students learn to play percussion through this fun and engaging art. Bucket Drumming can be a social activity to promote ensemble skills or a solo exercise for students who aspire to be drummers but cannot afford a drum set. It can improve focus/attention, rhythmic movement, fine/gross motor skills, mental speed, listening ability, and hand/eye coordination in young learners. This project would serve students in grades 3 - 5 at Freedom Trail Elementary School and students in grades 6 - 8 at Cranberry Middle School (275 students total).	\$1,000
Avery	Marjorie Williams Academy	Appalachian Wildlife Study	This grant will cover costs associated with a field trip to Bays Mountain Park and Planetarium. The curriculum this year includes Appalachian wildlife and an introduction to the solar system. Students will participate in a nature program, a planetarium program and a barge ride. Bays Mountain will be the perfect location for the children to see first hand the things they will be reading and learning about in their classroom. This project will serve 35 kindergarten through third grade students.	\$975
Avery	Marjorie Williams Academy	Center Stage with Junie B. Jones	This grant will cover costs associated with a field trip to the Barter Theatre in Abingdon, VA. At the theatre students will have the privilege of watching a live performance of "Junie B. Jones," a beloved children's story brought to life on stage. This immersive theatrical experience will provide them with a unique opportunity to connect with literature in a dynamic and memorable way. Prior to the trip, each class will have exposure to a reading of Junie B. Jones to be able to compare and contrast the book with the play. Following the play, students will enjoy a picnic lunch at a local pavilion/playground. This project will serve 35 students in K-3.	\$995
Avery	Cranberry Middle School	Look at what I see	This grant will purchase kits for students to dissect a cow's eye and learn the anatomy of the eye. The learning that occurs courtesy of dissection is vastly different from that afforded by a lecture or textbook lesson. This unique hands-on learning environment can impart an appreciation and understanding of anatomy, unparalleled by second-hand teaching techniques. The hands-on approach of dissection allows students to see, touch, and explore the various organs. This project will serve 68 sixth graders.	\$895
Cherokee	14 awards = \$18,565			
Cherokee	Andrews Middle School	Magic Microscopes!	This grant will purchase microscopes for 7th and 8th grade students at Andrews Middle School! Students will be able to look at the differences between Volvox, Amoebas, Euglenas and Parameciums! They will explore animal cells, versus plant cells and have the opportunity to show see mitosis and Meiosis under the microscope. These items will be used again and again with future classrooms.	\$1,000

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Cherokee	Peachtree Elementary School	Morehead Planetarium	This grant will cover the cost of Morehead's Mobile Planetarium. The Planetarium will deliver a unique full-dome theater experience to the school with an inflatable dome, a digital projection system, and an inventory of shows to serve all grade levels. In the classroom, students will experience exciting astronomy visualizations, explore moon phases and light, learn to map planetary surfaces, and much more. This project will serve the entire school (155 students) over a two-day period.	\$2,000
Cherokee	Peachtree Elementary School	Georgia Aquarium Field Trip	This grant will cover costs associated with a field trip to the Georgia Aquarium. Students are learning about how living things survive in their environment. Through this trip they will be able to see and apply what they have learned. The Education Department loves teaching, sharing, and showing real life scenarios that help students of all ages learn about the sea and its many creatures. This project will serve 16 third grade students.	\$1,000
Cherokee	Murphy Elementary School	Bringing Science to Life Through Experiences	This grant will cover costs associated with a trip to a science museum and learn about space, earth land formations, dinosaurs, and many other things that are covered in our curriculum and standards. Students will get to see the bones of dinosaurs and pan for minerals, as well as dig for fossils. In addition, they will see spacecraft and spacesuits that have actually been used by real astronauts. Finally, there is a planetarium there in which the students will watch a movie and presentation about the stars. Students being served by this project consist of four third-grade classrooms.	\$1,900
Cherokee	Andrews Elementary School	hand2mind Learning	This grant will purchase hand2mind literacy manipulative kits that students will be able to use during small group centers/rotations that will help students master many literacy skills needed to reach grade-level proficiency. Hands-on learning is essential for early childhood development and building a strong, happy classroom. This project will serve 19 first grade students	\$1,000
Cherokee	Peachtree Elementary School	Tellus Museum	This grant will cover costs associated with a field trip to a nearby hands-on Science Museum and Planetarium. The Tellus Museum has many museums/galleries, collections of rocks, mineral, fossils, dinosaur replicas, a Solar house, a planetarium, a fossil dig and a gem panning station, and a History of transportation exhibit. There are lots of hands-on exploratory activities that allow visitors to experience the science concepts that are explained and displayed. The project will serve 50 fourth and fifth grade students.	\$1,000
Cherokee	Murphy Elementary School	Tellus Science Museum and Hands on Lab	This grant will cover costs associated with a trip to a science museum and learn about space, earth land formations, rocks and minerals, and many other topics in the science curriculum. There will be a special program on electricity. Students will see the bones of dinosaurs, pan for minerals, and dig for fossils. They will also visit the planetarium and view a show. Leading up to and following the trip, the classroom materials will allow students to do hands-on activities within the classroom that tie into the things they will see at the Tellus Science Museum. This project will serve 80 fourth grade students.	\$2,000
Cherokee	Cherokee County Schools	Blue Ridge Mountain Food Tour (Brittany Pleasants)	This project will allow students to travel to Blue Ridge, GA and participate in a guided walking food tour. Students will walk downtown (about a mile), traveling to four or five different restaurants. Students will be allowed to sample menu items. The owners, managers and/or chefs will talk about their restaurant and culinary creations. Students will be able to select one recipe to recreate in the Foods Lab at school. This project will serve the Foods II students enrolled for the fall semester at Andrews High School (12 students).	\$1,000
Cherokee	Murphy Elementary School	Happiness Grows with Love and Care	This project will purchase materials needed for gardening and all the aspects necessary to grow food successfully. It will be made up of 5 galvanized raised beds which will be located on the school campus for student use. This project will serve, but not be limited to, 35 4th and 5th grade students with exceptionalities that range from specific learning disabilities, Social Emotional Disability, and Autism.	\$1,000
Cherokee	Murphy Elementary School	Learning Creatively With 3D Pens	This grant will purchase 3D pens for art students. These pens are an incredible tool that enable students to utilize critical thinking skills, as well as STEAM skills. When students create using 3D pens and filament, they are using mathematical measurements, up-to-date technology, and engineering skills as well as strengthening artistic skills. Specific projects this year with the pens would include creating a 3D topographical map, an animal and its habitat, and a US landmark. This project would serve approximately 244 students in third, fourth, and fifth grades and all future students.	\$800
Cherokee	Peachtree Elementary School	Art and Music Mountain Style	This grant will purchase dulcimer kits for students. This hands-on learning project will be an art, music, and social studies integrated lesson for fourth graders. This project will introduce students to the dulcimer, a traditional mountain instrument. In art, students will learn about regional artists in the mountains. They will use kits to build a dulcimer and paint it using inspirations from the mountain region of North Carolina and the artists we have studied. After creating their dulcimers, students will learn about the history of the dulcimer in the mountain region and will learn to play it in music class. This project will serve the entire fourth grade at Peachtree Elementary School.	\$1,865

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Cherokee	Murphy Elementary School	Morning STEM Bins	This grant will purchase a variety of materials to create STEM bins for student use. Students will have access to morning STEM bins, allowing them to have a soft, stress-free start to their school mornings. Bins will include individual and group activities that will allow students to collaborate with their peers on activities such as constructing buildings out of three-dimensional blocks, building time machines & other inventions, craft activities, jigsaw puzzles, and much more. This project will serve all students in grades K-5.	\$1,000
Cherokee	Murphy Elementary School	Why Do We Need to Know This? Math and Science Generation Genius	This project will purchase an online program called Generation Genius that has both engaging science and math lessons. Each lesson starts by asking, "why do we need to know this?", and then shows students how they will encounter those topics in their everyday lives. Students enjoy the lessons, which include engaging videos, labs and experiments, valuable vocabulary, and knowledge of both science and math topics. Every lesson includes a hands-on, do-it-yourself activity which students enjoy and can try at home or in the classroom. This project will serve 550 students in grades Pre-K- 5.	\$2,000
Cherokee	Cherokee County Schools	CTE: Design, Produce, and Promote (Teresa Hayes)	This grant will purchase materials needed for students to create t-shirt. This project will involve several CTE classrooms and walk them through the process of creating an promotional product. The t-shirts will be created and provided to the CTE internship students they can wear during their end-of-year presentations, to the worksite, and during special events to encourage students to register for the internship program. Extra t-shirts made will be used as promotional incentives, prizes or drawings. Pictures will be taken of students during the different stages and used on social media for promotional purposes. This project will serve 46+ ninth through twelfth grade students.	\$1,000
Clay	4 awards = \$4,000			
Clay	Hayesville High School	Building Bilingual Literacy	This grant will purchase arts supplies and materials to create books for students. Students will create and publish a children's book and then provide copies of the student publication to classrooms at our local primary and elementary schools. Both of these schools are experiencing growth in the Latinx populations. Students in the Spanish class would like to provide bilingual children's literature to our local schools so students see their languages represented in the books that surround them. This project will serve Hayesville students in grade 9-12 enrolled in Spanish class; it will also serve Hayesville students in grades PK-5th.	\$1,000
Clay	Hayesville High School	HHS Future Farmers of America Poultry Passion Project	This grant will purchase materials needed to build a chicken coop to raise chickens. The premise of this project is to create a school-based enterprise that will provide experience in construction, egg production, marketing and finance management. The initial goal is to build a chicken coop, raise chickens to maturity (egg production stage), and market the eggs to school faculty and the local community. The project construction and initiation will serve all of the Agriculture classes at Hayesville High, which total approximately 100-120 students throughout the school year.	\$1,000
Clay	Hayesville Elementary School	Music Composers and Producers in Training	This project will purchase a variety of materials for a recording studio setup in a classroom that will allow students to work independently and/or in small groups. Using iPads they will have access to GarageBand allowing them to create and record their own music using digital instruments, voices and rhythm patterns. These projects are then saved and can be easily shared with others. In addition, the camera on the iPads allows visual recording capabilities as well as audio. The project will serve over 550 students in K-5.	\$1,000
Clay	Clay County Schools	Project Based Learning using Children's Literature (Kimberly Worley)	This grant will purchase reading and writing materials for a project through the AIG program at three different schools. Students will have access to books to take home to read and will be asked to keep a journal of all of their thoughts, connections, and questions related to the materials they have read. This project will serve 148 students at three different schools.	\$1,000
Graham	3 awards = \$14,585			
Graham	Robbinsville Middle School	Celebrating Graham County as Global Citizens - A Year of Bringing Cultures to Life	RMS is partnering with Global Leaders to become a more globally conscious campus, resulting in students being exposed to new experiences and cultures. Through this grant, individual teachers will have the funds to (1) purchase multicultural resources (Grade level novels) to enrich lesson planning using current curriculum and (2) create innovative projects (Olympic PE Units, Entrepreneurial Opportunity, Outdoor Space). The grant will also allow the school to have community-centered events to celebrate different cultures (A Countywide Kickoff). This project will serve all students at Robbinsville Middle School and also Graham County Schools and the entire community.	\$12,641

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Graham	Robbinsville High School	Short Story 3D and Digital Project	This grant will purchase a variety of materials for a 3D art creation and digital project. Students will create a 3D and digital project for one of the short stories they have chosen. They create a physical/3D setting of the story and a website that includes a title page, a central idea page, a main conflict page, a protagonist and antagonist page, and a character development page. They then create QR codes for each of their website pages and print them. Students will present their settings and websites to teachers and other classes. As a learning extension, 30 students attend an Encore play performance of some of the short stories. This project will serve 75 students in the 10th grade in both English II classes.	\$1,000
Graham	Robbinsville High School	The Knight Rider	This grant will purchase materials for students needed to build a soap box derby-style car. Students will enter it in the NC Gravity Games in Lenoir, NC in April 2024. The project will serve ten students in grades 11-12 enrolled in the physics class.	\$944
Jackson	5 awards = \$7,329			
Jackson	Western Carolina University/The Catamount School	Plants in the classroom... And on Mars?	This grant will purchase materials for a garden project for students. This project will cover 6th grade science standards and end with students growing vegetables and flowers that mature before students leave school in the spring. The students will ask the question, "how can we grow plants on Mars?" They will start seeds after researching soil amendments and use a grow light cart to model growing conditions on Mars. The students will raise plants in the winter, adjusting growing conditions, and have mature plants by May. This project will serve 18 sixth grade students.	\$850
Jackson	Jackson Community School	Experiential Learning Trips	This grant will cover costs associated with a variety of field trips for students at Jackson Community School. These field trips provide an incentive for attendance, achievement of behavioral and academic goals, and learning opportunities for students throughout the year. These field trips include hands-on learning experiences that this population of students may not otherwise get to experience. Students will apply what they have learned at school through these field trips. This project will serve 74 students.	\$3,500
Jackson	Smokey Mountain Elementary School	Making a Great Exhibition	This grant will purchase a variety of art materials used to create an art exhibition. Students will learn about the different roles/careers of the team used in creating an art exhibition from idea inception to a museum/gallery opening night. Students will use the process of printmaking/painting to create art. Students will build three dimensional mini-museums to house the tiny art show that they have curated. The students will write an artist's statement for the show and prepare art museum labels to describe the individual artworks. A culminating event will be a school-wide art show for which the middle school students have helped select artwork, sorted it into collections, and matted, labeled, and hung it. Students will assist as docents to talk to parents and guests about why the works were arranged together. This project will serve 80 middle school visual arts students in 6th grade through 8th grade.	\$1,000
Jackson	Western Carolina University/The Catamount School	TCS Theatre Arts Production	This grant will purchase a variety of materials for a theatre class. The class will host its student run production of a full length play in May of 2024. Students spend the semester learning and studying technical skills in acting, directing, costuming, set design and construction, prop creation, marketing, and light and sound production. Student leaders guide the class to the culminating performance at the end of the semester. The teacher facilitates opportunities for hands-on, active learning of each element of technical and performance theatre. This project serves a class of 15 students from grades 6-8.	\$1,000
Jackson	Smokey Mountain Elementary School	"CodeQuest: Navigating Titanic's Legacy Through Interactive Reading and Coding Adventures"	This grant will purchase materials for a three-part project related to the Titanic. Students will read The Watch that Ends the Night, an historical novel written from 15 unique perspectives. Students will explore ethics of historical preservation, cultural sensitivity, and environmental impact of continued exploration of the Titanic's resting place. Using Lego Robotics, students will code their "submersibles" on an underwater robotics mat and collect artifacts from the bottom of the ocean. Finally, students will explore the Titanic using VR tech. Using a list of recovered artifacts, students will virtually walk the rooms of the Titanic to infer the original location of the items. This project will serve 55 7th graders and 8th graders.	\$979
Madison	1 award = \$4,000			
Madison	Madison Middle School	6th Grade Super Sleuths	This grant will purchase a variety of STEM materials to provide hands-on investigative science labs, STEM activities, project-based learning opportunities, and targeted lessons to develop inferencing, deductive reasoning, and critical thinking skills that students need to successfully analyze and evaluate critical information. This project will serve 172 sixth graders in multiple subject areas.	\$4,000
Mitchell	15 awards = \$32,439			
Mitchell	Deyton Elementary School	Reading, Writing and Creation Center	This grant will purchase materials for a project in which students can select books based on their interests in science, technology, hobbies and novels. Scrapbooking material will be available for students to be creative and artistic with their writing. The class will also have foods and materials available to create the concepts discussed in class. This center will be open every day to any student in the classroom for reading, math, science and social studies. This project will serve 42 students in 5th grade reading, math, science and social studies.	\$990

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Mitchell	Mitchell High School	Transformative Cafeteria Mural	This grant will purchase materials need to create a cafeteria mural. The mural will beautify the cafeteria space and provide an opportunity for artistic expression and collaboration among students, allowing them to take ownership of their school environment, promote a positive and inclusive atmosphere by depicting imagery that resonates with the school's location, enhance the overall well-being and morale of the school, and foster creativity with students and staff. This project will allow 50 students to participate but will benefit the entire school community.	\$851
Mitchell	Harris Middle School	A JPEG is Worth a Thousand Words	This project will purchase equipment necessary to build what is needed for receiving SSTV images from the Interational Space Station (ISS). This project will allow STEM students to put what they are learning in the classroom to practice. A picture will be a slow-scan television (SSTV) image broadcast via ham radio from the ISS, live, as it passes overhead. This project was born from the "ISS Project" from 2022 held at Harris Middle School and then replicated on August 28, 2023 at Bowman Middle School. The goal is for students to be able to receive live SSTV images from the astronauts on the ISS. The video and images will supplement classroom instruction, promote student discussion, and generate interest in the STEM fields of study. This project will serve 400 students at two middle schools.	\$12,000
Mitchell	Harris Middle School	8th Grade Mountains to the Sea	This grant will cover costs associated with a field trip for students. They will travel across NC to get hands-on experiences after spending a year learning about NC. Students will visit historical sites for interactive tours, as well as go to two aquariums within the North Carolina Aquariums system to learn about the marine biomes and organisms that inhabit coastal areas, watersheds, comparing what they experience to the biome they reside in. They will also participate in hands-on activities like pier fishing, wind turbine science, and others. This project will serve 80 eighth grade students.	\$4,000
Mitchell	Deyton Elementary School	Where the Wild Things Are!	The "Where the Wild Things Are!" grant funds will cover costs associated with a field trip to the Brights Zoo in Limestone, TN and hands-on life cycle and habitat curriculum materials. Prior to visiting the zoo, students will complete hands-on activities to learn about various animal life cycles and habitats, such as classroom butterfly gardens, egg incubator materials and frog life cycle habitats. Students will become experts on habitats using technology such as Epic! to research environmental conditions needed to sustain and promote life in various terrains. Then, the unit will culminate with a trip to the Brights Zoo in TN where students can see an array of the life cycles and habitats they researched come to life in a zoo setting. This project will serve 66 third-grade students.	\$2,500
Mitchell	Harris Middle School	Facilitating Art History Understanding through Art Making	This grant will be used to purchase art supplies to make studying art history more engaging for students. Students will be challenged to recreate a famous piece of art and add their own ideas to it. This is called a master study. When creating their master studies they will have a variety of art supplies to choose from, promoting engagement through choice of art materials. Students will also participate in a hands-on activity with magnetic images of famous artwork studied; they will categorize and sort the works of art and curate their own miniature art gallery. This project will serve 141 seventh and eighth grade students.	\$1,000
Mitchell	Bowman Middle School	STEM at the Nascar Hall of Fame	This grant will cover costs associated with a field trip to the Nascar Hall of Fame in Charlotte. Students will tour the exhibits, participate in a science-based lab activity, and will be able to utilize the racing simulator. During the workshop, students will have the opportunity to learn about how science, technology, engineering, and math are applied to the sport of stock car racing. This project will serve 48 fifth grade students	\$1,718
Mitchell	Bowman Middle School	Multiplication Boot Camp	This grant will purchase items for a multiplication boot camp outdoor activity that helps students practice multiplication facts. Students rotate between stations, each focusing on a multiple. Stations include a ropes course, a target throw, and a "write a letter to a soldier." This project will serve all 243 students at Bowman Middle School.	\$1,600
Mitchell	Bowman Middle School	"History in the Making"	This grant will cover costs associated with several field trips that align with the curriculum. Students will visit historical sites and experience a unique cultural dining experience. Students will be required to keep a journal of their experiences. The project will serve 50, 8th-grade students.	\$2,325
Mitchell	Gouge Elementary School	Through The Looking Glass	This grant will purchase glass kits for students. Students will take a hike on the Creek Walk in Mitchell county. The students will be listening, looking and feeling for signs of life. They will learn to take notes in journal form to accumulate data for later use. Students will return to the classroom, draw and write what they encountered. Students will then choose their favorite picture and turn it into a glass piece of art to depict their findings. The project will serve three second grade classes with 47 students.	\$1,000
Mitchell	Deyton Elementary School	Bright Learning at Brights Zoo	This grant will cover costs associated with a field trip to Brights Zoo. Student will first learn about animal adaptations in the classroom and then apply what they have learned through this hands-on experience. Students will gain a wealth of knowledge about animals through extensive reading and investigation. This project will serve approximately seventy-two fourth-grade students.	\$864

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Mitchell	Mayland Early College High School	MECHS Fashion Club Formalwear Makeover	This grant will purchase sewing materials for students who participate in the Fashion/Design Club at the school. Students will work with volunteers to make alterations and create tailored formal dresses from donated thrift store items. They will learn sewing skills and host a fashion show where they will model their projects. Students will also wear their designs to the prom or other formal occasions. Members will do a formal interview with the school news crew to document their experiences. The knowledge, tools, and supplies gained from this project will be used to offer alteration services to people within the school community. This project will serve all students in grades 9-13 that participate in this club.	\$1,000
Mitchell	Deyton Elementary School	Fiber Arts Center	This grant will purchase a variety of sewing materials for art students. Students will be able to learn about basic beginner sewing to create artwork that is sewn, woven, wrapped, felted and collaged using natural and synthetic fibers and cloth. The projects will emphasize aesthetics, although some may be utilitarian (such as a pillow or purse). By creating a center, students will have choices in pursuing their own interests within fiber arts. Many of the supplies in the center can be used year after year. This project will serve approximately 225 students in grades 3rd, 4th, and 5th.	\$1,000
Mitchell	Mitchell High School	"Say Cheese!"	This grant will purchase a camera and additional materials for the yearbook class. Students will have hands-on experience taking pictures in school and at out-of-school functions. Students will collaborate and photograph multiple school functions, sporting events, extracurricular events, drama, and art performances. This project will serve about 10-12 students per semester.	\$1,000
Mitchell	Mayland Early College High School	Capture the Moment	This grant will purchase a much-needed camera for the yearbook staff. Students will be designing the yearbook from cover to cover. The camera will be used by students for yearbook photography. The students on staff have wonderful ideas about sections that will spotlight student success, showcase student activities, and document memories for years to come. This project will directly serve the students participating on the yearbook staff. It will indirectly serve all students in creating a yearbook filled with as many memorable moments as possible.	\$591
Multi	4 awards = \$13,000			
Multi	Mountain Discovery Charter School	Reading Workshop	This grant will purchase materials for a Reading-Writing Workshop that was started last year. Students will engage in the work of mature readers as they select books to read, track their growth as readers, and share favorite books and authors through book talks with their peers. Students will also compose written work in a variety of genres, including poetry, memoir, short fiction, and advocacy journalism. They will compile three class anthologies and host readings of their work for the school community. Students will attend the Spring Literary Festival at WCU to hear a reading by the popular young-adult author Alan Gratz. This project will serve the 56 sixth through eighth grade students.	\$1,000
Multi	Summit Charter School	3rd Grade Capstone: Greenville Zoo	This project will cover costs associated with a field trip to the Greenville Zoo. This zoo trip exemplifies Summit's experiential learning curriculum. Students will engage in interactive activities, team challenges, animal encounters, and opportunities to learn more about wildlife and habitats in this capstone experience. This project will serve 17 third grade students.	\$3,000
Multi	Mountain Discovery Charter School	Bus shop/ Craft lab	The grant will purchase hand tools and materials so students can learn to create functional objects. An old bus has been turned into a shop space. The bus shop will be used to teach a middle school elective where students will make simple woodworking and leatherworking projects as well as various bushcraft projects using local materials such as kudzu. This project will serve 18 middle school students.	\$1,000
Multi	Summit Charter School	8th Grade Capstone: Barrier Island/Charleston	This grant will cover costs for a field trip to Barrier Island, SC and Charleston, SC. This capstone experience has been designed to culminate the academic and social experiences of the 8th grade class. Honoring Summit's tradition of experiential learning opportunities, the hands-on opportunity will: reinforce curricula across all academic subjects and provide a unique opportunity to learn about and experience nature in a way that is memorable, engaging and fun. The five day trip features four days on Barrier Island and one day in historic Charleston, SC. This project will serve 36 eighth grade students.	\$8,000
Rutherford	5 awards = \$5,990			
Rutherford	Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy	"The Straight Skinny" Theatrical Production	This grant will cover costs for students to put on a theatre production. Students will stage a theatrical production of Frank Cerabino's play "The Straight Skinny" that will be performed before school and public audiences. Students will audition and perform as actors in the show. Students will also be responsible for all technical roles across the entire production process. This includes construction of scenic elements as well as costumes and props. Students with an interest in technology will be trained to operate light, sound, and video equipment. Students will also fulfill responsibilities as the publicist, director, stage manager, and show crew. The performance time is approximately 45 minutes. This project will directly serve approximately 30-40 students in both middle and high school grades 6-12. The play will be performed before a student audience of approximately 700 students, and public performances will be open to the community.	\$1,000

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Rutherford	East Rutherford Middle School	Fostering Excellence in Science Education: Enhancing Classroom Impact Through Hands On Learning	This grant will purchase science kits for classroom experiments. Coriolis boards consist of a rotating platform with an adjustable pole at its center. By placing objects on this platform and spinning it, students can witness firsthand how the Coriolis effect influences the objects' paths. The hands-on nature of this experiment allows students to engage with the concept directly, making it easier for them to grasp. Density tanks, on the other hand, are clear containers filled with fluids of varying densities, such as water, oil, and colored liquids. By carefully layering these fluids, students can observe how the different densities cause objects placed in the tank to float or sink. This hands-on approach allows students to explore the principles of buoyancy, density, and fluid dynamics. This project will serve 100 seventh graders and all future students.	\$1,000
Rutherford	Chase Middle School	WNC All-District Honor Band Funding	This grant will help cover transportation and registration fees for students to attend the All-District Honor Band auditions at Tuscola High School as well as a clinic at Western Carolina University. This grant will foster their musical growth and enrich the local cultural scene. The project will serve 7th and 8th grade band students at Chase Middle School.	\$1,000
Rutherford	Rutherford Opportunity Center	Fostering Confidence and Career Readiness through the "Four Cs"	This grant will purchase a variety of materials that students will use to complete hands-on learning projects. Students will use various tools, 3D printers, and recyclable materials in the STEM lab, Coffee for Credits lab, and new makerspace to complete hands-on, real-world challenges correlated with the North Carolina Essential Standards. Students will become scientists, technicians, engineers, artists, and mathematicians. Through the tangible results of their work, they will experience success and fulfillment through our project, discovering gifts and talents that will lead to hope for a career and a bright future. This project will serve all students at the school.	\$1,990
Rutherford	R-S Middle School	All The World Is A Stage	This grant will purchase materials for students to put on a theatre production. The primary aim of this project is to continue offering students the opportunity to experience the magic of live theatre. Participants will learn valuable skills through the discipline of performing and serve in various technical roles as they rehearse for the project's culmination, a full-scale production to be performed for their classmates and the public. The show is a 30-35 minute comedy that delivers important messages about the challenges of growing up. This project will be open to all students with a goal to serve approximately 90 adolescents in grades 6-8.	\$1,000
Swain	2 awards = \$1,600			
Swain	Swain County High School	Drumming Class	This grant will cover costs for a drumming instructor that will travel to teach students drumming. Drumming helps with reading and math literacy (reading left to right, recognizing symbols, letters and numbers), provides an opportunity for positive socialization among students of varying ages, helps with following instructions and enhances motor control and coordination. The project will serve students with moderate to severe cognitive disabilities 12-22 years of age (6th - 12th grades).	\$800
Swain	Swain County Middle School	An Artistic Outlet	This grant will cover the cost of a local artist who will instruct students in a painting party setting. This artist would provide a stenciled canvas and instruction on which parts to paint first for optimal results, colors that work well together, and - most importantly - the opportunity for self expression. The paint parties will be held in the classroom, outside when warm, and at a community center. This project will serve 10 students with special needs from grades 6 - 12.	\$800
Total				\$113,191