

\$555,995 *awarded to date*

2017 awarded:
\$555,995

2017 pending:
\$713,800

2017 applied:
\$9.7 million

Thank you for an amazing first year.

We really aimed high in 2017.

Though we didn't catch the big \$8 million fish — the Work Ready Skills Initiative grant — even that loss was a worthwhile experience. Developing our grant proposal brought together leaders from our district, community and local industry to create the **remarkable** vision for a McCracken County Skills Center, a vision that's far from faded.

As hard as it is for me to accept, we can't win them all. But I'm proud to say we won quite a few.

With the support of the School Board and help of the leadership team, schools and teachers, we brought in \$555,995 to support projects big and small, from a



August 18 at HES - greenhouse delivery for Pre-K Growing a Healthy Me program

production of Disney's *The Lion King KIDS* (see it in March at RIS!) to greenhouses for every preschool.

January will mark one year since I made the move from education reporter to education grant writer, and every day — even the toughest days with the latest nights — I've been grateful. There's really nothing better than doing work I love for a cause I believe in: the kids of McCracken County Schools.

What follows is a summary of this year's grants in review, including the wins, losses and possibilities. You can find an up-to-date listing of grant info and opportunities and sign up for my monthly newsletter at www.mcpsgrants.com. Thank you so much for your support. Here's to an even better 2018!

Genevieve Postlethwait



May 11 in Frankfort - Work Ready Skills team presenting Skills Center proposal

awarded

Read to Achieve • \$300,000 among RES, LOES & HLOES

Provides \$50,000/year for two years in support of evidence-based literacy interventions.

Baptist Health Foundation Grant • \$10,000 in AED's + supplies

Funded purchase of 5 new AED's & replacement supplies needed throughout the district, a \$10,000 value.

Energy Technology Engineering Career Pathway Grant • \$50,000 for MCHS

Funded addition of Project Lead the Way's Environmental Sustainability class (training + materials) at the high school, plus mentor partnership with UK College of Engineering. Class will begin in 2018-19 school year.

Disney's The Lion King Experience Mini-Grant • \$1,145 value for RIS

Curriculum and materials for putting on student production of *The Lion King KIDS* (scheduled for March 22, 2018)

Early Childhood Healthy Living Grant • \$40,000 for Pre-K

Funded purchase of cedar greenhouses for every district preschool, established *Growing a Healthy Me* program to teach preschoolers the importance of healthy foods & healthy choices.

Preschool Partnership Grant Tier 2 • \$150,000 for Pre-K Partnerships

Funds to bring together private childcare providers and district preschools for training and resources to improve vertical alignment and quality of early childhood services in our area.

Dollar General Literacy Foundation • \$4,000 for HES

Funds literacy programs for struggling and new readers.

Poetry Out Loud • \$850 + travel costs for MCHS

Covers costs of an artist residency at the high school leading up to the school-wide competition + travel for the school champion to attend the statewide POL competition.

declined

360 Grant • \$1,000 for LOES

From the Community Foundation of West Kentucky, funds projects for arts, education and children's programming.

Lowe's Toolbox for Education • Up to \$5,000 for CES & RIS

Provides up to \$5,000 per school for school construction and facilities projects.

Work Ready Skills Initiative • Requested \$8.08 million

Submitted proposal to construct a standalone McCracken County Skills Center on the MCHS campus.

Kentucky Registered Apprenticeship Expansion Project • Requested \$192,000

Submitted proposal for a program to allow students to enroll in registered apprenticeship programs with local businesses while still in high school (including funding for a counselor/coordinator to oversee the program).

Fresh Fruits & Veggies Program for RES

Provides participating schools with a variety of free fresh fruits and veggies for kids during the school day.

Target Field Trip Grants • \$700 for MCHS

Funding to offset educational field trip expenses

pending

Educators of America Classroom Tech Grant • \$1,300 for LOMS

Would fund purchase of Swivl for math/science department to pilot flipped classroom model.

Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grants • \$10,000 for HES & RIS/RMS

Provides up to \$5,000 per school for school construction and facilities projects..

21st Century Grant • \$625,000 for RES

Funds before- and after-school tutoring and enrichment activities for kids (covers staff, training, materials, transportation) for up to five years, when RES can reapply for funding.

KY Innovation Lab Network Travel Grant • \$2,500

Would offset cost to send team of 10 to visit Big Picture High School in Nashville (students at Big Picture attend project-based classes three days a week and work internships two days a week).

Equipment Assistance Grant for Food Service • \$40,000 for RES & RIS/RMS

Would fund the purchase and installation of top-of-the-line combination ovens for RES & RIS/RMS cafeterias.

Project Lead the Way Partner Grants • at least \$35,000 district-wide

Using one general application, PLTW matches each applicant (school) with PLTW partner grants for which they're eligible, ranging from \$5,000 to \$35,000 to support creation or expansion of PLTW programs.

on the horizon

Carson Myre Foundation Grant • \$30,000 for orchestra programs district-wide

Submitting proposal for funding to support orchestra programs district-wide (MCHS, RMS, HMS, LOMS, LOIS, RIS, HES & CES) including "scholarship" instruments, instrument repairs and music.

Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy Grant • TBD

The U.S. Department of Education recently awarded the KDE a three-year, \$24.9 million grant to support the development of pre-literacy skills, reading and writing Pre-K-12. KDE is expected to open the sub-grant process to districts by the end of December.

Collaboration with Healthy Paducah for playground grants

Beginning in December I will attend the monthly meetings of Healthy Paducah, a group that includes local hospitals, city government, the Health Department, United Way and city schools. They've expressed an interest in working with us on health-focused grant proposals.