

\$5,805,763 awarded since 2017

2020 awarded:
\$ 692,613

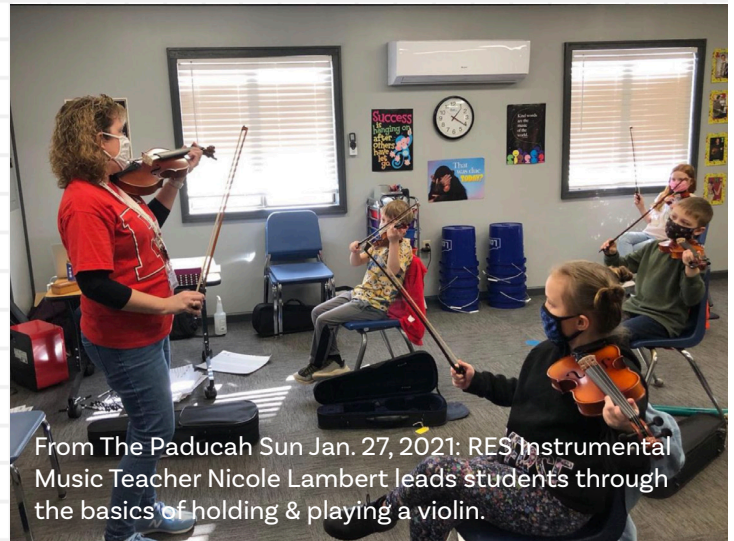
2021 awarded so far:
\$ 1,1 million +

2021 in the works:
\$ 2.2 million +

Nothing about the last year and a half has been normal, not even grants.

In early 2020 we made plans and applied for grants just as we always have. Schools got funding for greenhouses and student productions of Disney plays, and the district got more federal funds to amp up school security. But as the pandemic grew in seriousness, the grant landscape shifted. Suddenly we were applying for grants to amp up our summer meal program, and for outdoor classrooms that would allow for social distancing. Grants that had been running for years shifted their focus to COVID-19 relief, or suspended giving altogether. Even the 21st Century federal grant program tightened its belt, awarding only 14 grants statewide compared to 46 the year before.

As the 2020-21 school year closed, things began looking up. CARES Act funds made possible some of the biggest, best summer programs our schools have ever offered, right when kids needed it most. Our district's new Community Outreach & Diversity Coordinator helped secure a grant for an

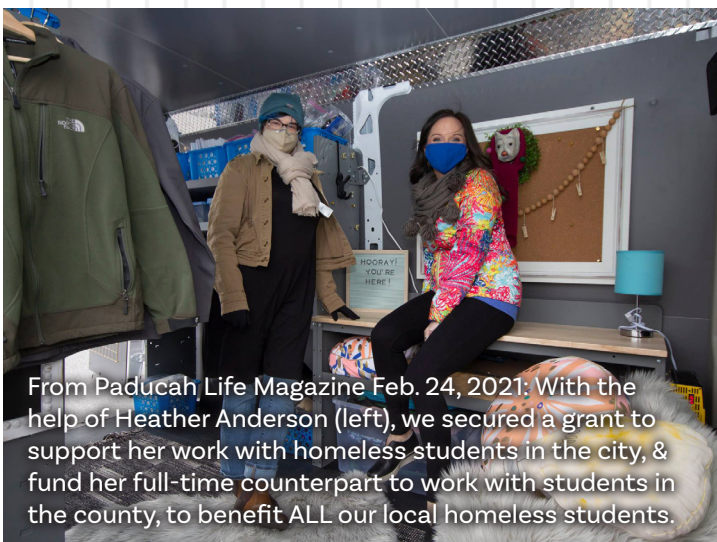


From The Paducah Sun Jan. 27, 2021: RES Instrumental Music Teacher Nicole Lambert leads students through the basics of holding & playing a violin.

intersectional student group to focus on student-driven, positive change. We worked with Paducah City Schools, and together secured a cross-district grant to support homeless students. On the last day of the fiscal year, we learned we'd also secured grants for ALL SIX of our Family Resource Centers to hire school-based mental health counselors for the next two years. I'm especially thankful for these three most recent grants. They'll help address some of the most insidious issues our kids face, and that the pandemic laid bare. This last year has been a lesson in taking things as they come, but also in gratitude.

What follows is a summary of this year's grants in review, as well as a preview of things to come. You can find an up-to-date listing of grant opportunities and sign up for my monthly newsletter at www.mcpsgrants.com. Thank you so much for your support. We have so much to be thankful for after this year, AND so much to look forward to next.

Genevieve Postlethwait



From Paducah Life Magazine Feb. 24, 2021: With the help of Heather Anderson (left), we secured a grant to support her work with homeless students in the city, & fund her full-time counterpart to work with students in the county, to benefit ALL our local homeless students.

awarded

McKinney-Vento • \$392,596 for serving homeless students countywide

Joint application with the city schools to better support students experiencing homeless across both districts; For three years would fund a full-time homeless liaison in the county, an administrative assistant in the city, and high-quality training for all staff in both districts.

GEER II • \$600,000 for school-based mental health counselors for 2 years

All six of our Family Resource Centers applied for and received \$100,000 over the next two years to fund school-based mental health counselor positions for their schools. The grant's intention is to help meet student/family needs exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

SEL in Action • \$50,000 for student-driven diversity, equity & inclusion efforts

Seed funding to launch an intersectional group of 8th graders from all three middle schools to learn leadership skills and discuss difficult topics such as racism and discrimination of all kinds. The inaugural group of 8th graders will continue at the high school where they will lead efforts toward greater equity and inclusion.

KDE Equipment Assistance • \$50,000 for new hotlines at RIS/RMS, HLOES

Funded the replacement of defunct hotlines in the RIS/RMS and HLOES cafeterias.

Classics for Kids • \$4,600 for instruments at CES, HLOES, LOIS & RES

Matching funds for ukuleles at CES & LOIS (\$1,600), guitars at HLOES (\$1,000), & violins at RES (\$2,000)

Carson-Myre Foundation • \$65,000 for MCHS/RMS band & LOMS/RMS orchestra

Funded the purchase of band & orchestra instruments to loan to students who can't afford their own.

21st Century • \$2,450,000 for before/after school at HES, HMS, HLOES, MCHS & RIS

Continuation funding for 21st Century before & after school programs. In 2020, HES, HLOES, RIS & MCHS each received \$490,000 through 2024-25. In 2021 HMS also received \$490,000 through 2025-26.

Dairy Alliance Alternative Feeding • \$2,000 to support summer meal deliveries

Funded mobile food service equipment to help with districtwide meal delivery during the pandemic.

Dollar General Literacy • \$2,000 for HES

Funded leveled readers for HES students.

Disney's Broadway Junior • \$4,500 for HLOES, LOES & RIS

Supplied production materials and curriculum for future student productions of Lion King at HLOES, 101 Dalmatians at LOES, and Jungle Book at RIS.

America's Farmers Grow Rural • \$15,000 for LOMS & RMS greenhouses

Funding for outdoor classroom spaces and greenhouse improvements at both schools.

U.S. DOJ Stop Violence Prevention Program • \$145,068 for safety upgrades

Funding for updated security and surveillance technology districtwide.

Dollar General Summer Reading • \$3,000 for RES summer reading program

Funded a personalized selection of books for every student in the summer program to read & keep.

pending

2021 Summer Learning Award • \$10,000 for summer programming at RES

In partnership with the New York Life Foundation, award recognizes exceptional summer programs that keep students safe and healthy, support their academic achievement and growth, & improve their overall well-being.

Whole Kids Garden Grant • \$6,000 for edible gardens at HES & RIS

Funding for the creation or expansion of edible gardens.

Dollar General Literacy • \$8,000 for literacy programs at LOIS & RIS

For a student-choice reading program at RIS, and high-interest/lower-level books for struggling readers at LOIS.

State Farm Neighborhood Assist • \$25,000 for after-school program at RMS

RMS is competing to be one of 200 finalists nationwide; among those 200 finalists, the 40 projects that get the most public votes will each win \$25,000 grants. RMS applied for support for its after-school program, which lost its 21st Century grant funding this year.

ALDI • \$5,000 for a food pantry project at RIS

ALDI funds projects that make a positive impact on local kids' health and wellness through education, arts, athletics, or any other program that inspires kids to be active and healthy. RIS would use the grant to establish a school food pantry that would be managed and used by students, as well as their families.

on the horizon

H.B. Fuller • \$10,000 for Future Problem Solvers at HMS/MCHS

H.B. Fuller Company funds projects that help young people grow into productive, successful adults in two areas (1) STEM Education, and (2) leadership development for youth. FPS is applying for the latter category.

Carson-Myre Foundation • Funds for a grand piano at LOMS

The LOMS choir is applying to fund a grand piano for the auditorium at LOMS. The piano can of course be used by other programs and students, but will be especially helpful for the Choir. Both the 6th and 7th/8th-grade choirs are non-auditioned, which means any student who wants to sing can participate and build a strong foundation in vocal technique and music theory.

21st Century • At least \$2,145,000 for before/after-school programming

LOMS & RMS will apply for continuation funding, and RES will apply for expansion funding (\$490,000 each over five years); LOES will apply for funding for the first time, \$675,000 over five years if awarded. For over 20 years, the federal 21st Century grant program has helped schools and community organizations provide high-quality before/after-school programs for students at no cost to families, focusing on academic acceleration/remediation as well as enriching extracurricular activities that support social and emotional growth. All MCPS schools qualify to apply.