

# Proof Positive

October 15, 2019  
Board of Trustees Meeting



## Six named National Merit semifinalists

This year's National Merit Scholarship semifinalists include six Lexington District One high school seniors — Lexington High's Jackson D. Goldsmith, Lyndsey M. Larick, Emma G. Powers and Jonathan D. Trowbridge, and River Bluff High's Kaitlin G. Atkinson and Reagan K. Green.

Semifinalists represent the top 1% of U.S. high school seniors. They must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, submit personal recommendations from a high school official, write an essay and earn high SAT scores.

These academically talented high school seniors continue in the competition for some 7,600 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$31 million.

Approximately 90% of semifinalists will attain finalist standing in February, with half of the finalists winning a National Merit Scholarship.



*(l to r) Lyndsey Larick, Emma Powers, Jackson Goldsmith and Jonathan Trowbridge*



*Kaitlin Atkinson*



*Reagan Green*





# Grant funds competition team

Beechwood Middle's Lois A. Byars and Gilbert High's Dana M. Sox successfully applied for an Educational Foundation Robotics Grant to launch a new competition team at their school.

The grant provides seed money to start up new middle and high school robotics teams in order to support engineering, design, STEM and soft skills learned via participation.

Both schools received \$3,800 to establish robotics teams that will design and build robots, battling later this year at robotics competitions. They can use grant funding to purchase robotics kits and parts, pay for competition and team fees, and assist with travel costs.



**Educational Foundation**  
Lexington County School District One

## Bucks for Books boosts middle school libraries

Using its LEAP education funds, the Lexington One Educational Foundation continues to support literacy in Lexington District One.

The district's Instructional Services Division, represented by Erica K. Bissell, Ed.D., and Gloria J. Talley, Ed.D., received \$20,000 to assist teachers in building their classroom libraries.

Elementary schools received the first round of Bucks for Books funding; however, this grant cycle also supports all eight of the district's middle schools. Each school received \$2,500 to purchase new high-interest titles for students.



**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
LITERACY FOUNDATION

## Dollar General grant supports all PHES readers

Pleasant Hill Elementary's Laura Coakley will use a \$4,000 grant to support the entire school in their quest to improve literacy.

Coakley received a Dollar General Literacy Foundation Youth Literacy grant, planning to use the funds to purchase materials for all teachers.

The school's RtI team believes a new benchmark assessment tool will allow teachers to determine student strengths and weaknesses, as well as match students with the correct texts.

With a deeper knowledge about their students' reading progress, PHES teachers can form groups for guided reading, tailor their instruction to meet student needs and track their growth through formative assessments.





**Educational Foundation**  
Lexington County School District One

## Innovation grants impact 2,200 students

The Lexington District One Educational Foundation works to enhance student success by supporting fresh and engaging classroom ideas with Innovation Grants for Elementary Schools.

Recipients of this year's grants include Lexington Elementary's Jim H. Hamby, Oak Grove Elementary's Christy M. Graham and Deborah M. Harmon, and Pleasant Hill Middle's Betsy P. Goodman, Jennifer E. Jones, Margaret B. Mitchum and Emalee B. Stickney.

Projects positively impact all or the majority of the students at a school, encouraging the use of decision-making skills. This year's funded projects include "Let Their Voices Be Heard" at LES, "Idea Lab" at OGES, and "Powerful, Purposeful and Positive Play" at PHES.

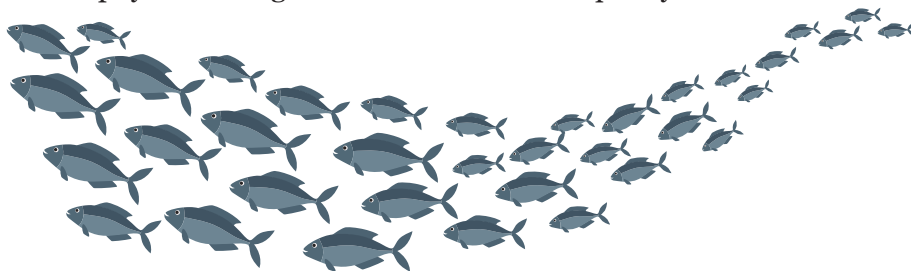
Each school received \$5,000, impacting a total of 2,205 children.

## PMS welcomes trout to the classroom

Pelion Middle's Ashley Owens will introduce a "school" of guests to her agriculture class in December after winning an S.C. Department of Natural Resources Trout in the Classroom grant.

The grant provides approximately 100 trout eggs, aquarium and supplies, hatching basket and aquarium pump, providing students with a one-of-a-kind science project.

Seeing the project through from start to finish, students raise the trout from eggs to fingerlings before releasing them into a local ecosystem. Along the way, they learn responsibility through daily care and maintenance of the aquarium, as well as observation skills as they record physical changes in the fish and water quality.



## Lake Murray Elementary named National Blue Ribbon School

Lake Murray Elementary can add National Blue Ribbon School to its lengthy list of accomplishments. The school is one of only four in South Carolina to receive the national honor in 2019.

The U.S. Department of Education bases this recognition on a school's overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

Lake Murray Elementary, recognized as an Exemplary High Performing School because it is among South Carolina's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests, serves approximately 858 students in grades Pre-K–Grade 5 with 107 employees.

The staff believes that they are there to positively impact the children who grace their halls each day. Having their best interest in mind permeates every decision made, every thoughtful word spoken and every relationship formed.

A Palmetto Gold and Silver award winner and a past Leader in Me Lighthouse School, LMES wants every child to have a mentor and actively seeks support from community members, parents, and the neighboring high school to provide their students with another caring adult to help them confidently navigate their lives.



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The district will use the grievance procedures set forth in policy to process complaints based on alleged violations of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967; the Equal Pay Act of 1963; the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008; and Titles I and II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The district designates specific individuals to handle inquiries or complaints. To find out whom to contact and how to contact them, please go to our website at <http://www.lexington1.net/contact-us>.