July 2021 Volume 1 Issue 25

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Lynchburg City Schools Education Foundation, Inc. P.O. Box 2497 Lynchburg, VA 24505-2497 434-515-5081 gillettejk@lcsedu.net www.lcsedu.net/edfoundation

For More Information:









Celebrating Our Emerging Future

The COVID-19 pandemic has clearly taught us that education is a precious commodity that must be accessible to all and never be taken for granted.

We faced some very trying times over the course of the pandemic which revealed troubling inequities across our society. From housing to nutrition, healthcare, and education, we learned that



SMILE: Seeing Myself In the Library Everywhere Grant

access to key services is essential to achieve equal opportunity. Sadly, these resources are not always equally available to all.

When the world of education was challenged over the past many months, communities rose to the occasion to meet student needs, and Lynchburg was no different. We worked together to address problems that previously existed below the radar, re-evaluated our priorities, and redefined our societal obligations. Socially conscious businesses, foundations, and individuals expanded their philanthropy, were proactive in identifying where help was needed, and invested in programs that address critical needs. Creative solutions emerged as we developed new ways to reach and engage students to ensure that all students have the basic tools they need to learn. We now have a new appreciation for highly qualified teachers, meaningful and deeply engaging experiential education, and the resources necessary not only to prepare but also to launch our students to the next level of success. Thanks to enthusiastic outreach from very generous donors, the following new investments have been added to our program roster to help us reach our goals:

- funding for student internet access from the Bank of the James, Lynchburg Morning Rotary, United Way of Central Virginia, Truist Foundation, and the Lewis Family Fund;
- funding to enhance teacher recruitment through The Ainslie Teacher Talent Recruitment Incentive from Sandy and Sharon Ainslie and the Ainslie Foundation; and
- funding for 3 years of James River Environmental Education from the American Electric Power Foundation.

The LCS Education Foundation is part of a network of education foundations across the country designed to engage business and community members to enhance public education in their districts. Our mission is to advance excellence and equity in the Lynchburg City Schools through advocacy and educational funding as we connect donors to projects that influence education in the city of Lynchburg beyond what public revenues allow.

We invite you to read the articles in this newsletter and learn how your friends and neighbors are taking the initiative and investing in the future of education as we emerge from some challenging times into a bright future with lessons learned and, perhaps, appreciation gained. There is much to celebrate!

From the President



Mr. E. Mac Frankfort

On behalf of the LCS Education Foundation Board of Trustees, I thank all of you who have been so supportive of our programs over the years. We are

very fortunate to live in a city where public education is valued so highly, and where individuals and businesses are so generous with their contributions.

Despite the challenges and unknowns of the past school year, the Education Foundation was able to keep its programs moving forward at full force, with over \$80,000 awarded to support our teachers through Classroom Innovation Grants, over \$27,000 invested in our

Tools4Schools warehouse to put needed school supplies into the hands of students and educational resources into the hands of teachers, and continued administration of \$69,500 in scholarships for LCS students.

Our Ed Foundation, with your support, has not only weathered the incredible challenges of the last year-and-a-half, but we have also been able to add new programs that benefit our students with fascinating opportunities: The AEP Foundation provided funding for environmental education; members of our local arts community provided funding for the therapeutic art program; the continued generosity of a group of donors keeps the Excellence in Science scholarship funded; and we have received donations to support teacher recruitment.

While we are hopeful that we are now emerging from the strains and restrictions of the pandemic, we will not relax our commitment to maintain these programs, and to continue to find and implement new opportunities for helping Lynchburg City Schools' students and staff.

I am asking for your support again this year. Please send a contribution to the Education Foundation. You can be a positive force in supporting our schools. Thank you.

Leading with C.A.R.E.









Student Jaiden Scott

Superintendent Crystal M. Edwards

Teacher Rachel Parr

Our fifteenth annual Breakfast with the Superintendent was held on Thursday, March 18, 2021. 'LEAD WITH C.A.R.E.: How LCS is Connecting, Adapting, Reimagining, and Educating in new ways during COVID-19' was a live, online, event with a keynote address by Superintendent Crystal M. Edwards. Dr. Edwards wove together insightful remarks from a team of administrators which included LCS Director of Technology John Collins, E. C. Glass Athletic Director Elizabeth Masencup, and Students Services Director LaTonya Brown. The presentation also included a video featuring the 2021 LCS Teacher of the Year, T. C. Miller teacher Rachel Parr. LCS junior Jaiden Scott shared her experience from the student lens to demonstrate how LCS has been Leading with CARE. Missed the event? You can go to youtube.com and search on Lynchburg City Schools or you can find it here:

THANK YOU TO OUR LEAD SPONSORS:



















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The Truitte Family in honor of Kids' Haven

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Responding with Care

The arrival of COVID-19 resulted in the summer of 2020 being filled with more unknowns than knowns. Although there were many concerns to address, one issue rose to the top not only in Lynchburg but in communities across the country: the impact of internet access disparities on student success. News of this challenge hit the airwaves and our community responded with care as the Education Foundation received calls from people asking how they could help. Thank you to the Bank of the James, the Lewis Family Fund at the Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation, the Lynchburg Morning Rotary Club, the Truist Foundation, and the United Way of Central Virginia for helping to close the digital divide as we work toward equitable access to education for all.

Celebrating Scholarship



On May 2nd, our annual Senior Honors Celebration, held virtually this year, recognized the top fifteen graduates (based on their GPA) from both E. C. Glass and Heritage High Schools for their academic excellence. During his keynote remarks, University of Lynchburg Associate Professor Price Blair shared insights and advice to help prepare these graduates as they head off to college. Students received certificates and social media recognition, and each senior was also able to honor a special teacher who has had a lasting impact on his or her life. All students and honored teachers received a gift certificate to enjoy an individual banquet thanks to the support of our area colleges and universities. Watch it now:

E. C. Glass High School

Ben Barnett, Drew Flint, Ryan Gallagher, Sam Hite, Megan Knight, Cynthia Lam, William Lankford, Dylan Myaing, Hollins Pierpoint, Preston Pitzer, Wolfgang Ploch, Kathleen Salmon, Randall Trost, Sean Wiger, Lelia Williams

Heritage High School

Graysen Arnold, Jalasia Jones, Maya Lewis, Jane Lin, Dusting Manning, Aleesha Mays, Sana Mustafa, Alexis Petty, Charlie Smallshaw, Angel Thompson, Maris Tiller, Ana Venters, Kevana Woodcox, Desiree Younger, Morgan Zahabi

Thank you to our Senior Honors sponsors!















Belvac

Central Virginia

Supporting Future Goals



















Belvac Production Machinery awarded two \$500 scholarships for leadership, scholastic achievement, community service, and ability to overcome personal or circumstantial obstacles: Maya Lewis (Heritage)

Excellence in Science Scholarship is a \$30,000 scholarship awarded to a top science or engineering student:

Angelica Rodriguez (E. C. Glass)

Dylan Myaing (E. C. Glass)

Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation awarded two \$500 scholarships for scholastic achievement and community service: Benjamin Barnett (E. C. Glass) Joudly St. Fleur (Heritage)

James Howard Scholarship is a \$500 scholarship awarded to a Heritage High School college-bound football player selected by his coach: Chris Colbert

Lynchburg Junior Woman's Club

awarded two \$1,000 scholarships for exceptional community service: Maya Lewis (Heritage) Dylan Young (E. C. Glass)

Lynchburg Morning Rotary Club awarded two \$500 scholarships for students pursuing careers in the trades: Jaden Charles (Heritage) JaKasia Kittrell (E. C. Glass)

M.H. Masonry awarded two \$500 scholarships for scholastic achievement and community service: Angelica Rodriguez (E. C. Glass) Lelia Williams (E. C. Glass)

Orthodontic Arts awarded a \$500 scholarship to a Heritage student who plans to study nursing, dentistry, or medicine: Desireé Younger

Stroobants EXCEL Scholarship awarded \$13,000 to a student nominated for outstanding work in a career tech class in recognition of his or her scholarship, leadership and compassion for other students: Kevana Woodcox (Heritage)

Stroobants Focus Scholarships totaling \$16,000 were awarded to students pursuing a career in the trades: Carrington Harvey (E. C. Glass) Nickolas Harvey (Heritage) Jason Pastora-Cruz (Heritage)

Taylor Brothers of Lynchburg awarded two \$500 scholarships for scholastic achievement and community service: Andrew Flint (E. C. Glass) Sarah Handel (E. C. Glass)

Technical Management & Resources awarded two \$1,000 scholarships and a Chromebook for leadership, scholastic achievement, and community service for African American students: Daniel Gubay (E. C. Glass) Desireé Younger (Heritage)

Stacy Knight Westgate Scholarship is a \$500 scholarship awarded to a Heritage High School college-bound baseball player as selected by his coach: Javier Palacios

Engaging Students in a Virtual World

With the generous support of 59 sponsors, the LCS Education Foundation awarded funding to projects which enhanced the hybrid learning environment. Projects such as virtual paint classes, installation of disc golf courses, COVID safe musical instruments, expanding research skills and social awareness by engaging students in the selection of library books that reflect the diversity of their student population, real-time study tutorial portals for students who were challenged by the virtual learning model, a robust outdoor classroom, and invasive beetle research were just some of the projects funded during the pandemic and are described below.

Ranging in value from \$500-\$5,000, all Classroom Innovation Grants are supported by tax-deductible donations from businesses, foundations, and individuals. Contact our director today to join our team of generous sponsors!

More information about these 38 projects totaling \$84,714 for 2020-2021 can be found at www.lcsedu.net/edfoundation:



'Lynchburg Students RISE'

IMPACT GRANTS: (\$2,001-\$5,000)

Genworth Foundation

"Determined to be the Best!"
Division-wide—Kirsten Filiberto

Berglund Toyota, The News & Advance

"Spartan Audio Production"
Sandusky Middle School—Kenneth Brand

Genworth Foundation

"TruTouch Interactive Display"
P. L. Dunbar Middle School for Innovation—
Tina Smith

BB&T|now Truist, TRAX LLC, LCS Education Foundation

"Art in the Time of COVID"

E. C. Glass High School—Ashley Marot
Heritage High School—Ella Schwarz

Economic Development Authority of the City of Lynchburg, Merryman Charitable Trust, Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation, LCS Education Foundation

"Violin Acquisition"

Dearington Elementary School for Innovation
& Perrymont Elementary School—

Makayla Jewell

BWX Technologies, Inc.

"Laser into the Future"
Heritage High School—
Kennon Edwards, John Meadows

Piedmont Community Health Plan, LCS Education Foundation

"Disc Golf for Schools"
All Elementary Schools—
Jacob Heidorn, Brandon Kinne

MH Masonry & Associates, First National Bank, Coleman-Adams Construction, Genworth Foundation

"Breezin' Thru Piano Curriculum" Sandusky Middle School—Rebecca Rea

Successful Innovations, George Rainsford Fund, Rev. Haywood Robinson Fund

"In the Zone"
Bass Elementary School—Sarah Wallace

LCS Education Foundation

"Racial Justice Initiative"
Division-wide—Ethel Reeves

Walmart (Wards Road), Walmart Neighborhood Market (Timberlake Road), Walmart (Old Forest Road), Moore & Giles, Generation Solutions,

Innovative Wireless Technologies

"Real-Time Online Study Center" Heritage High School— Traci Lipscomb, Brad Bradley

WestRock, Wiley | Wilson, GLCF Teacher Grant Fund

"SMS Outdoor Classroom" Sandusky Middle School— Julia Guca, Emma Cartolaro

Framatome, Genworth Foundation

"Building Fact Fluency"
R. S. Payne Elementary School—Tracy Proffitt

CLASSROOM INNOVATION GRANTS: (\$500-\$2,000)

Anonymous, Economic Development Authority of the City of Lynchburg "Lynchburg Students RISE"

Heritage High School—Cathy Drumheller

Westminster Canterbury

"Expressive Exchanges"
T. C. Miller Elementary School for Innovation—Cathy Webb, Shawn Lipscomb,
Katherine Hudson

Delta Star, Bank of the James

"8th Graders Investigate the James River" Linkhorne Middle School—Katie Cyphert

Virginia School Equipment, HumanKind

"Moving to Succeed in First Grade!"
Sandusky Elementary School—Leah Carwile,
Teresa Woods, Gwen Robinson

Central Virginia Federal Credit Union

"Super Science Magazines for Language Arts Integration"

Bedford Hills Elementary School— Heather Burkhardt

Carter Bank & Trust, Sam's Club

"Fanciful Beetles and Butterflies"
E. C. Glass High School—
Kimberly Gibson-McDonald
Bedford Hills Elementary School—
Keena Collins

Schewel Charitable Foundation

"Lynchburg Students RISE"
E. C. Glass High School—Casey Wood

Fleet Laboratories,

Colwell Banker Commercial Read & Company "Pioneer PRIDE Path"
Heritage Elementary School—Karen Heaphy

American National Bank, Harrington Corporation, Hurt & Proffitt "Art Kits"

Sandusky Middle School—Karen Camden

Wegmann USA Inc., Economic Development Authority of the City of Lynchburg

"SMS CTE Go Venture"
Sandusky Middle School—Mary Beth Potter

Candler Oil Company, Roger & Winston Green, Liz Sumpter & Brian Carlton

"Digital Theatre Plus"
E. C. Glass High School—
Allison Daugherty, Erin Foreman
Heritage High School—
Larry Hart, Kaydan Ferguson

L.G. Flint General Contractors, Lynchburg Municipal Employees Federal Credit Union

"Inspiring Positivity Through Art Murals" Bedford Hills Elementary School— Keena Collins

Dominion Seven Architects, Electronic Design & Manufacturing Company, Beacon Credit Union, LCS Education Foundation

"Sculpture at Home"
Heritage High School—Ruth Glaze
E. C. Glass High School—Kimberly GibsonMcDonald

Lynchburg Nissan

"Zoom Painting Across the Curriculum"
P. L. Dunbar Middle School for Innovation—
Rachel Shaw

BWX Technologies, Inc.

"4th Grade Surface Math"
Dearington Elementary School for Innovation—Meagan Swithers

ABC 13 WSET-TV

"Spartan TV"
Sandusky Middle School, E.C. Glass High School—Kris Mela

Sylvan Learning Center of Lynchburg "Tools for Virtual and Hybrid Learning of

"Tools for Virtual and Hybrid Learning of Mathematics"

P. L. Dunbar Middle School for Innovation— Danielle Brown, Emily Kelly, Amy Jennings

Old Dominion Furniture

*"Flexible Seating"*Sheffield Elementary School—Jennifer Keller

R.M. Gantt Construction, Scott Insurance

"SMS Breakout Kits"
Sandusky Middle School—
Emma Cartolaro, Julia Guca

Master Engineers & Designers, Pinnacle Financial Partners, Wooldridge Heating · Air · Electrical "Creative Technology" Turning Point Academy—Lynn Halsey

Dodson Pest Control, Tracy & Al Baker "SMILE: Seeing Myself in the Library Everywhere"

R. S. Payne Elementary School—Tracy Proffitt, Elicia Fleshman, Beth Thornhill, Barbara Eggleston, Diane Stratton

Economic Development Authority of the City of Lynchburg "FACS Entrepre-

"FACS Entrepreneurship Project" Linkhorne Elementry School— Renee Stephens

Hanwha Azdel, Kim & Stephen Tibbs

"Perrymont SMILE"
Perrymont Elementary School—
Debbie Bonnett, Pam Thomas, Lisa Smith,
Lynne Arbaugh

'Art in the Time of COVID'

BWX Technologies, Inc.

"Monitoring Invasive Beetles"

E. C. Glass High School—Michael Justice



'8th Graders Investigate the James River'

American Electric Power Foundation: Investing in Environmental Education

Classroom Innovation Grants are designed to fund new initiatives but some projects graduate from this program and require sustainable funding. One such project is our James River Environmental Education program that combines STEM education and environmental stewardship, demonstrating the importance of research and environmental monitoring through experiential learning. Thanks to funding from the AEP Foundation over the span of three years, LCS will offer environmental stewardship education centered around the James River to all 8th grade students and in-depth river studies for the AP Environmental and Ecology Classes at E. C. Glass and Heritage high schools as well as science students at the Empowerment Academy. This funding will also provide professional development for LCS teachers.



Donations to our *Tools4Schools* Warehouse allow us to provide 1,100-1,300 school supply sets and 600-800 backpacks to students with financial need each year to ensure that all students begin the school year with the materials that they need to be ready to learn! The warehouse also fills between 700 and 800 orders of educational materials and classroom rewards and incentives free of charge to teachers annually.

Thank You to our Tools4Schools Donors and the following Warehouse Sponsors!









chewel





Teacher Talent

Over the past few years, school divisions in Virginia have reported over 1,000 unfilled teaching vacancies in our schools and the number keeps rising as more teachers retire and fewer candidates are available to take their places. Competitive salaries, opportunities for advancement, and tuition reimbursement are a few of the incentives LCS has put in place to help recruit exemplary teachers. The LCS Education Foundation and LCS are extremely grateful for the generosity of the Ainslie Family for funding another much-needed incentive through their multi-year commitment to provide a signing bonus to two teachers each year to help attract top talent to Lynchburg City Schools.

See a challenge you'd like to address? Call us today at 434-515-5081!

Lynchburg City Schools Education Foundation Contributors July 1, 2020—June 30, 2021

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This fund supports teacher recruitment
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This fund supports scholarships for earned academic opportunities for students with financial need while attending LCS.

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This fund supports scholarships for top students who plan to study in a field of science or engineering.

Mr. & Mrs. Lee S. & Sharon Ainslie, Jr. BWX Technologies, Inc.

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Augustus N. Lushington, VMD Historic Marker Donors



The LCS Education Foundation served as the fiscal agent for the Augustus N. Lushington historic marker. Dr. Lushington was one of the first Black men in the U.S. to earn a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree. Arriving in Lynchburg in 1900, Dr.

Lushington worked as a large animal veterinarian for 40 years while serving this community as a teacher, a probation officer, and a meat inspector. Thank you to Jane White for keeping Lynchburg's history alive through historic markers and securing community support to fund this project from the following donors:

Sam & Lauren Baum Drs. Keith Jones & Amy Joseph Jones Drs. Richard & Jean Krason Anne & Bruton Langley Susan McConnell, DVM Ashby Kendall Sydnor, Jr.

Thank you to all of our Classroom Innovation Grant sponsors, including the following who are celebrating special donor anniversaries:

First Year:



Five Years: Master Engineers & Designers, Old Dominion Furniture Company,







Ten Years: American National Bank, Economic Development Authority of the City of Lynchburg,







Twenty Years: ABC 13 WSET-TV



Students Soar Thanks to Community Investment in Scholarships

The Stroobants Foundation invests heavily in student success through several scholarship opportunities including the Stroobants Aspire Scholarship which awards a \$15,000 scholarship each year to a 7th grade student enrolled in a career or technical education class, and the Stroobants Focus scholarships which are awarded to graduating seniors entering a certified trades program. The Stroobants Excel Scholarship provides an annual \$13,000 scholarship to an 11th grade student nominated for outstanding work in a career or technical education class in recognition of his or her scholarship, leadership, and compassion for other students. Kevana Woodcox, a 2021 graduate of



Kevana Woodcox

Heritage High School, is the second student to receive this prestigious scholarship. Kevana will attend the University of Lynchburg where she plans to pursue a career as a Physician's Assistant.

CS



Dylan Myaing

In an ongoing commitment from BWX Technologies, DTE Energy Foundation, Framatome, Mr. & Mrs. Lee and Sharon Ainslie, Dr. & Mrs. David and Judy Frantz, and Dr. & Mrs. Charles and Mary Jane Pryor, the Excellence in Science Scholarship awards \$30,000 to a graduating senior for outstanding achievement in science or engineering. This year's recipient, Dylan Myaing, graduated from E. C. Glass High School & Central Virginia Governor's School and plans to major in Kinesiology at the University of Virginia. While in high school, Dylan was an athlete, an artist, and a scholar. In college, he plans to research the effect of exercise on individual health and later plans to obtain a doctorate in physical therapy or sports medicine.

CS

Joey Henderson was awarded the Pryor Scholarship (predecessor to the Excellence in Science Scholarship) in 2017 and recently graduated from the University of Virginia's School of Engineering and Applied Science with a degree in Computer Science. While at UVA, Joey played on the Rugby Club Team, was a member of the Black Student Alliance, the National Society of Black Engineers, and served as a teaching assistant for Digital Logic Design. His next endeavor is a job at BlackRock, an asset management company based in NYC, where he interned last summer.

Joey is grateful for the preparation he received through XLR8 STEM Academy at CVCC and the assistance of Beacon of Hope in submitting applications and applying for scholar-



Joey Henderson

ships. Joey also singled out three of his E. C. Glass teachers for a special thank you: Ms. Gibson-McDonald for the art classes allowing him to explore his creative side, Mr. Bowling for teaching him how to write college-level essays, and Ms. Vennable for her welcoming classroom environment. Joey's favorite experience in LCS was Mr. Matthews' AP Government class and the Model General Assembly Club.

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Questions regarding your gift? Contact Jodi Gillette, Executive Director, 434-515-5081 or gillettejk@lcsedu.net Fed Tax ID# 54-1385200