North Carolina FFA Association

CTE Grants for Agriculture

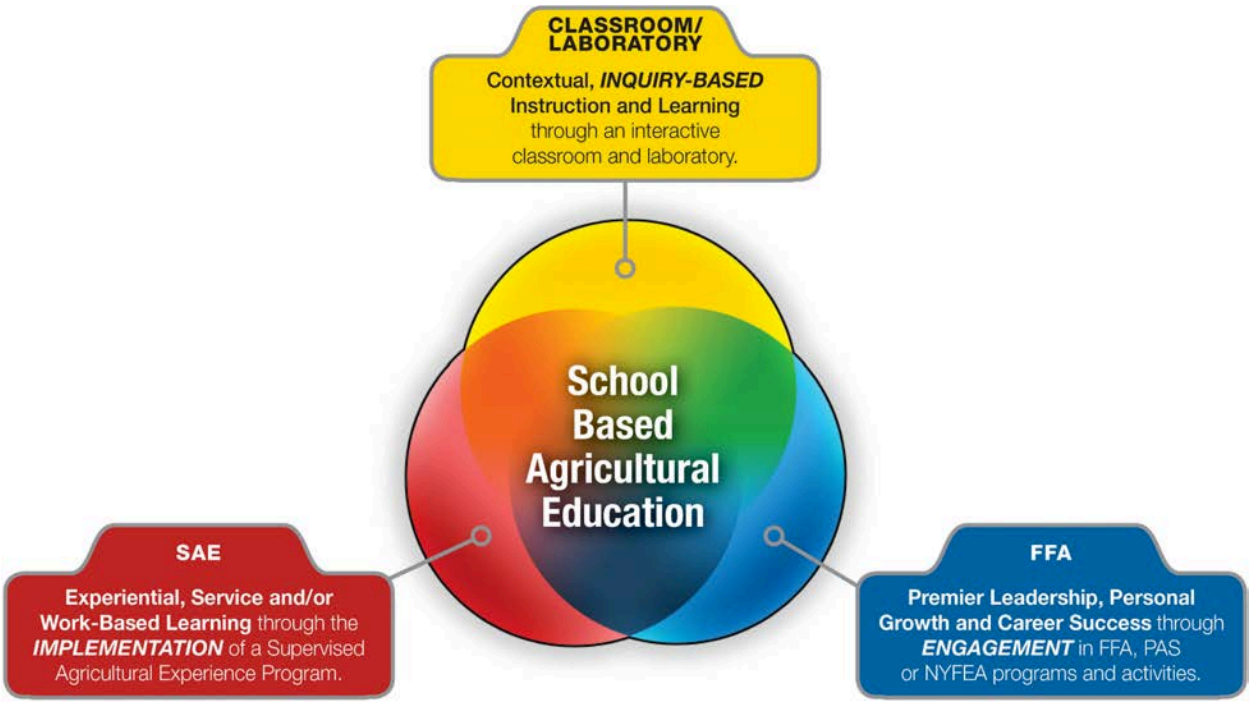
2024-2025 Grant Program

December 2025 Progress Report

North Carolina Agricultural Education

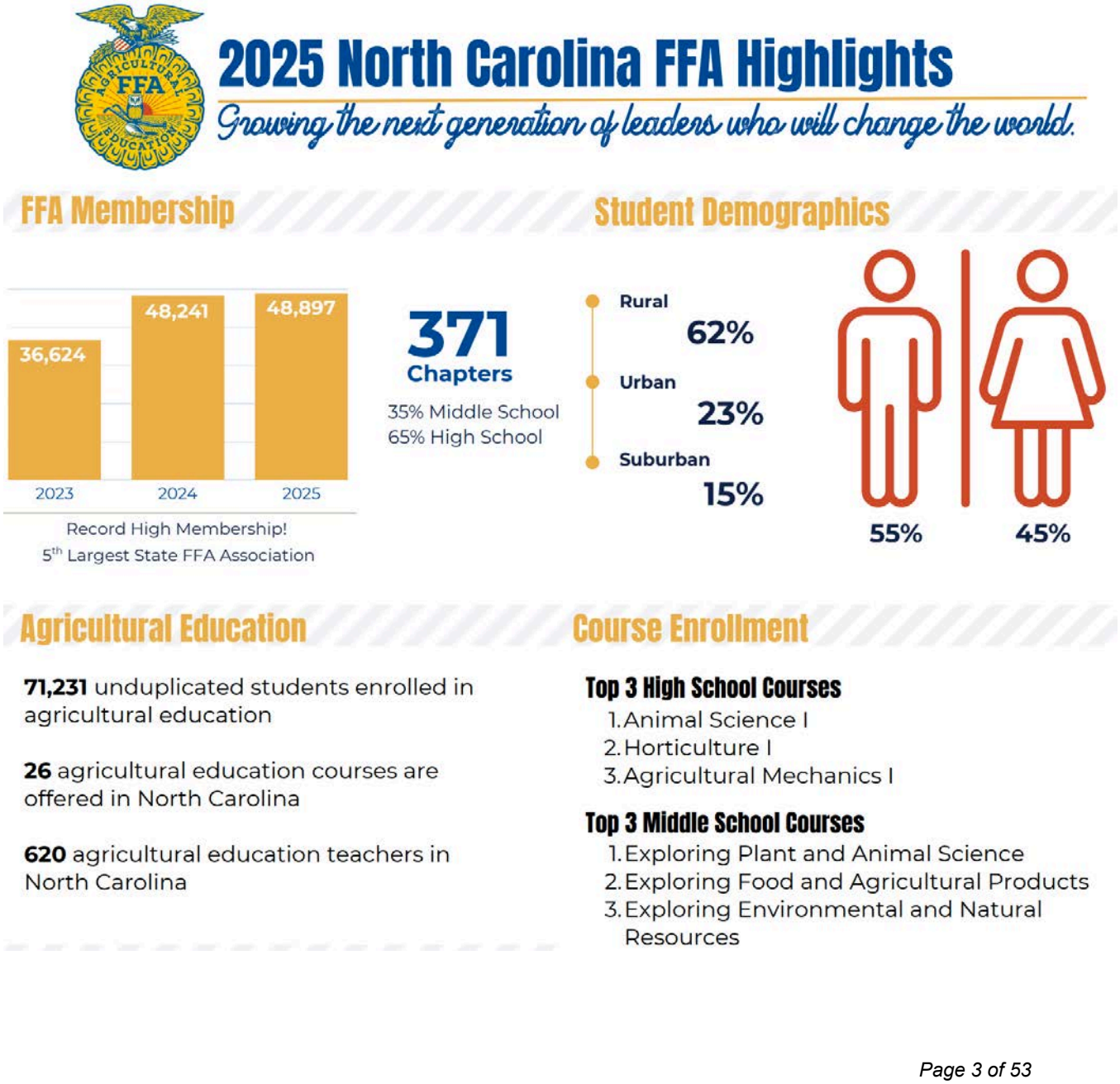
Agricultural education is a systematic program of instruction available to students desiring to learn about the science, business, and technology of plant and animal production and about the environmental and natural resources systems. Agricultural education first became a part of the public education system in 1917 when the U.S. Congress passed the Smith-Hughes Act. Today, over 81,000 students participate in formal agricultural education instructional programs offered in grades six through twelve in 98 counties across North Carolina. Agricultural education instruction is delivered through three major components.

- Classroom/Laboratory instruction
- Supervised Agricultural Experience programs
- Student leadership organizations



North Carolina FFA Association

FFA is a dynamic youth organization that changes lives and prepares members for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. FFA develops members' potential and helps them discover their talent through hands-on experiences, which give members the tools to achieve real-world success. Members are future chemists, veterinarians, government officials, entrepreneurs, bankers, international business leaders, teachers and premier professionals in many career fields. FFA is an intracurricular student organization for those interested in agriculture and leadership. It is one of the three components of agricultural education.



Report Summary

House Bill 259, Section 8.9 allocated $2,000,000 in grant funding to support agricultural education programs within career and technical education in middle and high school public school units across North Carolina. The funds were designated for purchasing essential equipment and expanding facilities for agricultural education programs.

The North Carolina FFA Association released the 2024-2025 CTE Grants for Agriculture application on November 26, 2024, and included information and resources online at: https://ncffa.org/agricultural-education/cte-grant-for-agriculture/

Grant applications were due on February 3, 2025, and the program received 48 submissions requesting a total of $3,107,651.89 in funding. All recipients were reviewed to ensure they met the legislative criteria, which prioritized public school units located partially or entirely in counties where at least one local school administrative unit received low-wealth supplemental funding in the previous fiscal year. Additionally, priority was given to schools with a high population of at-risk students or students with disabilities. After validating eligibility, the applications were evaluated.

To ensure impartiality, scoring was conducted by an independent party unaffiliated with North Carolina Agricultural Education or the North Carolina FFA Association. On March 6, 2025, grants were awarded to 33 applicants, totaling $2,024,000.00. Funds were distributed to grant recipients in April 2025, and project work commenced shortly thereafter. Grant recipients submitted individual progress reports by December 1, 2025. The information provided by teachers and school administrators was compiled to produce this report.

The 33 grant recipients were spread across a wide area, from Madison County in the west to Martin County in the east. The recipients represent 29 counties in total, with 17 classified as urban and 12 as rural. The grant awards ranged from $7955.43 to a maximum of $100,000. The legislation allowed up to $50,000 to be allocated for grant administration. However, the North Carolina FFA Association used significantly less, spending only $6,753.56 for this purpose.

Grant recipients used the funding to acquire a wide range of equipment and expand facilities across all agricultural education curriculum pathways. In the area of sustainable agriculture, land lab equipment, planters, seed drills, and irrigation systems were purchased. Modern livestock facilities were constructed or expanded, and livestock equipment was acquired to enhance instruction in animal science. For plant science, grants supported the construction of raised beds and gardens, fruit and vegetable production, greenhouse construction, and hydroponic systems installation. Instruction in natural resources was bolstered with purchases focusing on environmental education. Additionally, grant funds provided CNC routers, welders,

plasma tables, trailers, lawnmowers, tractors, trucks, utility vehicles, and skid steers, all aimed at increasing hands-on learning opportunities for students in agricultural mechanics and engineering.

As of this report, some grant recipients have successfully finished their projects. Other recipients have encountered project implementation delays stemming from various factors, such as supply chain disruptions, labor shortages, and fluctuating material costs. Despite these challenges, all recipients have made progress and remain confident in meeting project deadlines.

The reminder of this report includes an impact summary and a financial summary to provide an overview of the grant program and its recipients. Additionally, individual progress reports from grant recipients are included to showcase the details of each project.

Impact Summary

Program	Students Impacted by Project	Community Members Benefited by Project	Total People Impacted by Project
Alexander Central	178	3	181
Avery County	41	8	49
Bandys	125	4	129
Bear Grass	60	100	160
Chase	600	150	750
Crest	26	4	30
D.H. Conley	0	0	0
East Duplin	160	320	480
East Wilkes	52	11	63
Enka	52	5	57
Freedom and East Burke	413	79	492
Gray’s Creek	225	50	275
Holly Shelter and Roland Grise	0	0	0
James Kenan	193	450	643
Jones Senior	0	0	0
Lake Norman	0	0	0
Ledford	0	0	0
Madison	65	23	88
Martin County	0	0	0
Monroe	25	0	25
Mount Pleasant	150	100	250

Program	Students Impacted by Project	Community Members Benefited by Project	Total People Impacted by Project
North Henderson	20	0	20
Norwayne	552	20	572
Orange	72	0	72
Pioneer Springs	158	10	168
Rockingham County	75	2	77
South Caldwell	60	5	65
South Johnston	135	25	160
South Rowan	39	4	43
Weddington	101	114	215
West Brunswick	155	0	155
West Rowan	400	10	410
Western Alamance	54	4	58
Totals	**4,186**	**1,501**	**5,687**

Financial Summary

Description	Amount ($)
Starting Balance (carryover from 23-24 funds)	14,999.77
2024-2025 Grant Funding	2,000,000.00
Interest Earned	23,621.67
TOTAL INCOME	**2,038,621.44**
Schools Awarded Grants	
Alexander Central	56,175.00
Avery County	60,800.39
Bandys	60,365.77
Bear Grass	100,000.00
Chase	28,656.00
Crest	66,365.17
D.H. Conley	53,638.02
East Duplin	60,378.05
East Wilkes	55,696.97
Enka	39,964.48
Freedom and East Burke	100,000.00
Gray’s Creek	26,904.98
Holly Shelter and Roland Grise	100,000.00
James Kenan	60,378.05
Jones Senior	16,438.22
Lake Norman	58,301.23
Ledford	35,971.27
Madison	97,667.89

Description	Amount ($)
Martin County	19,033.93
Monroe	8,500.00
Mount Pleasant	85,237.90
North Henderson	98,900.93
Norwayne	7,955.43
Orange	97,329.97
Pioneer Springs	90,347.77
Rockingham County	83,602.00
South Caldwell	100,000.00
South Johnston	53,421.21
South Rowan	22,706.16
Weddington	44,124.05
West Brunswick	100,000.00
West Rowan	81,315.91
Western Alamance	53,823.25
Grant Scoring and Evaluation	4,500.00
Grant Administration Assistance	2,000.00
Grant Administration Expense - Postage	178.56
Grant Administration Expense - Bank Fees	75.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	**2,030,753.56**
Remaining Balance	**7,867.88**

Detailed Grant Recipient Reports

Program Name
Alexander Central High School

Project Title
Building Skills, Driving AG Forward

Status of Project
Completed

Activities completed to achieve stated goals

- Purchased a new Bobcat Skid Steer to use in all our agricultural education classes.
- Students completed safety training.
- Purchased a grapple and bucket to use with the skid steer on various projects, including our sawmill, school grounds, and horticulture program on campus.

Student outcomes

- Provided hands-on learning to develop skills in equipment operation, safety, and maintenance.
- Exposes students to industry-standard practices and machinery used in agricultural careers.
- Ensure versatility for various agricultural tasks, such as safe and efficient material handling such as soil, gravel, logs, and metal.
- Standard 3.03/4 - Understand basic horticultural and agronomic principles and practices and tools, and safe practices
- Standard 6.02/3 - Understand basic agricultural engineering principles and practices, tools, and safety in agricultural mechanics
- Standards 3.0 and 5.0 in agricultural mechanics - shop safety principles to work in the agricultural mechanics shop, apply principles of welding in the agricultural mechanics shop, and material handling

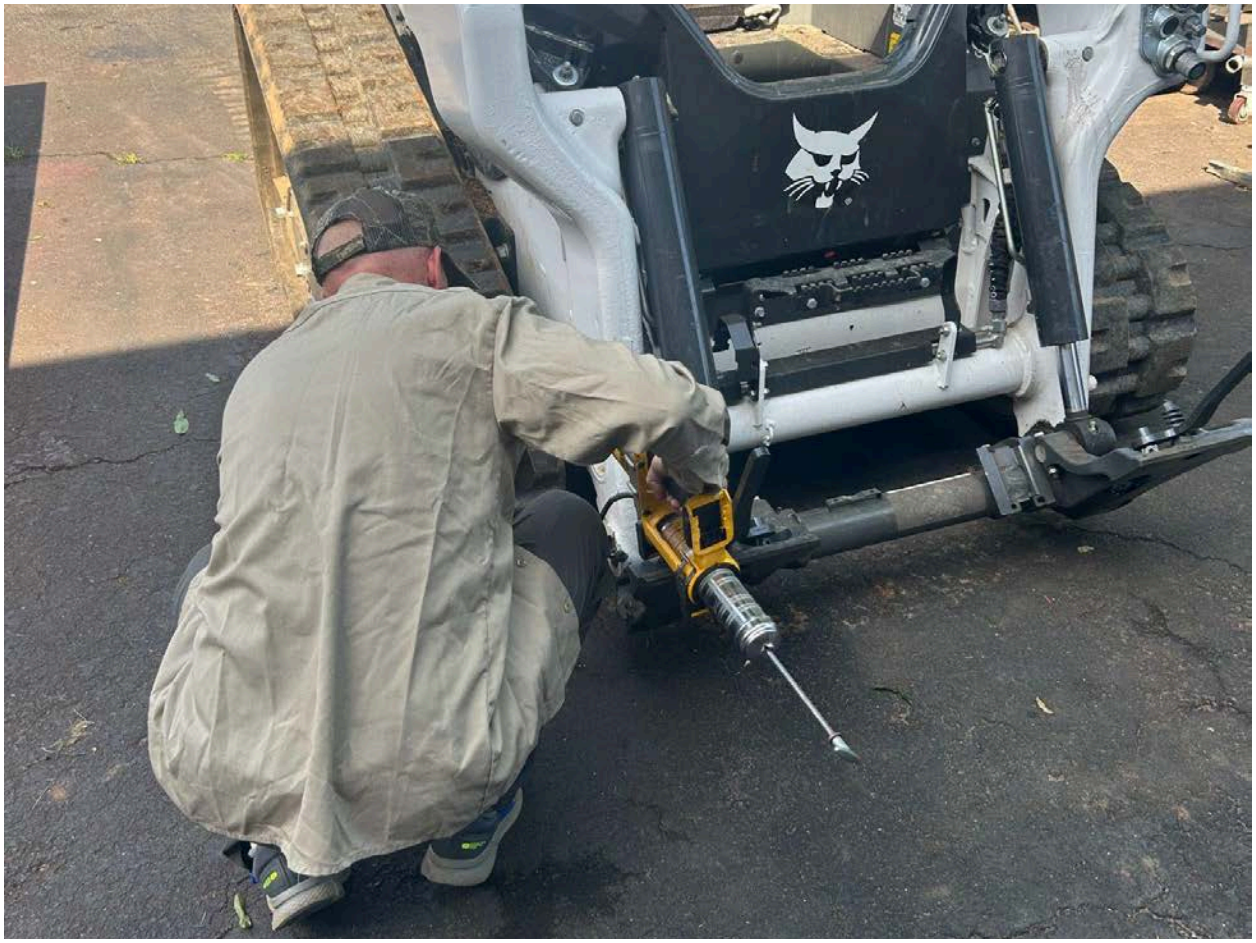
Impacts of grant program

- Students were directly involved in school beautification in cleaning up school grounds and installing a paver project from the previous year's CTE Grant Funds for Agriculture, using the new skid steer to help grade for the paver project and move materials such as soil, pavers, and gravel.
- Use of safe and up-to-date equipment utilizing the most up-to-date safety standards, such as the skid steer. The use of the equipment helped minimize hazards associated with manual lifting of materials while giving students technical skills in starting, running, and changing out implements on the skid steer.
- Students were able to learn and utilize a piece of equipment using the new joystick steering and operating systems that are common with newer equipment, such as excavators. These skills will allow students to become more marketable in a competitive workforce.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
56,175.00

Amount spent to date (in $)
56,175.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
9.87



Program Name
Avery County High School

Project Title
Driving Avery Agriculture Forward

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
Since receiving funds to purchase the truck, we have been able to utilize the truck to easily haul equipment for our turfgrass program, pick up purchased materials for various agriculture classes, complete SAE visits with students, and transport students to and from competitive and educational events.

Student outcomes
- Students in Agricultural Mechanics II have successfully learned how to properly hitch a trailer to the truck and then secure equipment on the trailer with ratchet straps. This has allowed students to gain skills that can be used in their personal lives.
- In animal science, the truck has been used to pick up feed for our chickens in our newly added coop. This has maintained a hands-on learning project for the students in animal science.
- In the future months to come, the truck will be used to haul Christmas tree bailers to the school for the Christmas tree production class to learn the proper and safe use of that equipment for the industry, as well as obtain a Mobile Poultry Processing unit from a bordering county for the animal science class to use to learn the humane way to process poultry.

Impacts of grant program
- This grant program has impacted our FFA members, as it has provided a reliable way for students to be transported to FFA events.
- This grant program has impacted our Avery County Schools, as it has provided an additional vehicle for the agriculture program to use rather than having to purchase one out of our capital budget from the county.
- The grant program has also impacted the agriculture teachers by providing another means of transportation, rather than our personal vehicles, to pick up materials for our program and conduct SAE visits.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
60,800.39

Amount spent to date (in $)
58,891.10

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Bandys High School

Project Title
Growing Tomorrows Leaders & Consumers

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals

- Farm Facility Upgrades & Diversification
    - Completed: Barns have been re-roofed, and a new fence has been installed.
    - In Progress Projects: Gates have been purchased and need to be hung; a new goat shelter has been purchased, but has not been delivered.
    - Upcoming Projects: New waterers to be ordered and installed, purchase livestock.
- Poultry Production Facilities & Mobile Processing Supplies
    - Completed: New laying coop has been purchased and put together, commitment with the area broiler producer to provide hatching eggs up to three times per year. Tables, shackles, portable hot water, and a sink were purchased for the mobile processing lab.
    - In Progress Projects: Setting up an automatic waterer for laying coop, working with Featherman to purchase processing equipment (we have been playing "tag" with POs), we have talked with NCDA to begin the process to have our non-inspection inspection for on-campus harvest.
    - Upcoming Projects: Purchase a trailer to house materials.
- Horticulture & Apiary Upgrades
    - Completed: Purchase of a new Ferris lawn mower, as well as two trimmers and a blower.
    - In Progress Projects: Local beekeeper has offered to donate hives and bee supplies. We have partnered with a teacher who is a beekeeper to establish hives on campus.
    - Upcoming Projects: Raised bed gardens, storage shed, and dump bed.
- Farm Stand
    - Completed: None
    - In Progress Projects: None
    - Upcoming Projects: Purchase a shed to sell out of and establish protocols.

Student outcomes

- Farm Facility Upgrades
    - [AA21- AA21 - 3.01, 3.03, 4.00, 6.00, & 7.00 and AA22 - 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, & 8.00]
        - Students have learned how to stretch fence, install electric fence brackets, and how to read plans to put together the chicken coops.
- Poultry Production Facilities & Supplies
    - [AA21- AA21 - 3.01, 3.03, 4.00, 6.00, & 7.00 and AA22 - 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, & 8.00]
        - Students have begun exploring modern poultry production by learning best management practices, including humane harvesting techniques and safe meat handling protocols.
- Horticulture & Apiary Upgrades
    - [AP41- 4.01, 4.02, 4.04, 7.01 & 7.02, AP41- 5.01, 5.02, 5.03 and AP44 6.02, 7.01, 7.02]
        - New maintenance for the equipment, including a lawn mower, weed eaters, and a dump trailer, will support our growing program.

Impacts of grant program

- Farm Facility Upgrades
    - Money became available from our county to purchase a new tractor for our school farm.
- Poultry Production Facilities & Supplies
    - We have established a partnership within our community to provide for the longevity of this project with a source for broiler eggs to hatch each semester. We are also in the process of creating a plan to work with stakeholders for our processing unit.
- Horticulture & Apiary Upgrades
    - We were able to support a locally owned business to purchase our new equipment, which was recently established by a school alumnus to build stronger connections within our community.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
60,365.77

Amount spent to date (in $)
24,888.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Bear Grass Charter School

Project Title
Bear Grass Agricultural Complex

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
To date, significant progress has been made toward improving the agricultural education program. The greenhouse has been purchased, and the concrete pads for both the greenhouse and the barn expansion have been poured. Water lines have been installed to provide a reliable water source to the greenhouse, and electrical installation for the structure has been scheduled. These foundational improvements mark major steps forward in enhancing hands-on learning opportunities and expanding the overall capacity of the agricultural education facilities.

Student outcomes
- Although the greenhouse and barn expansion are not yet fully operational, several meaningful student learning outcomes have already resulted from the planning and construction phases of the project. These outcomes are directly tied to the North Carolina Agricultural Education course standards:
    - Demonstrate understanding of the planning and development of agricultural facilities
        - Linked Standard: Agriscience Applications Objective 6.01 — Explain factors to consider when planning agricultural facilities and structures.
        - Impact: Students have participated in class discussions and site visits related to greenhouse and barn construction. They have learned about budgeting, design considerations, and resource management, giving them a deeper understanding of how agricultural facilities are developed and maintained.
    - Apply safety and environmental practices related to agricultural construction
        - Linked Standard: Agriscience Applications Objective 5.02 — Demonstrate safe practices in agricultural and environmental systems.
        - Impact: During observation of the construction process, students learned about job site safety, the use of personal protective equipment, and environmental considerations when working around active construction and utility installation sites.
    - Plan for future greenhouse production and plant management
        - Linked Standard: Horticulture I Objective 3.01 — Identify and describe greenhouse structures, components, and environmental control systems.
        - Impact: Students have begun preparing crop plans for poinsettias and spring bedding plants to be grown once the greenhouse is complete. This planning experience connects classroom concepts in plant science, greenhouse management, and marketing to real-world applications in agricultural business operations.

Impacts of grant program
- Overall Impacts of the Grant Program to Date
    - Strengthened Agricultural Education Infrastructure

        - The purchase of the new greenhouse, completion of concrete pads, and barn expansion represent major facility upgrades that will significantly enhance hands-on learning for students. These improvements have laid the foundation for expanding course offerings in horticulture, animal science, and agribusiness at Bear Grass Charter School.
    - Increased Student Engagement and Anticipation for Experiential Learning
        - Even before the facilities are fully operational, students have shown increased interest and involvement in agriculture classes through discussions about greenhouse management, construction planning, and plant production scheduling. This has built excitement and ownership in the program's future growth.
    - Enhanced School and Community Visibility
        - The ongoing construction has generated positive attention from staff, families, and community members who see visible progress in the school's agricultural facilities. The upcoming greenhouse will serve as a community hub for plant sales and agricultural outreach, strengthening relationships between the school and local residents.
    - Sustainable Growth of the Agriculture Program
        - By establishing essential infrastructure now, the program is building capacity for long-term sustainability. The greenhouse and barn expansion will support future projects like student-run plant sales, livestock management, and supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs), ensuring continued program relevance and community impact.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
100,000.00

Amount spent to date (in $)
87,055.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Chase High School

Project Title
Livestock Trailer and CNC Plasma Table

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
Our program purchased the livestock trailer, and we picked up the CNC Plasma Table on Oct. 7th as it was completely built.

Student outcomes
- Students have learned how to load and transport livestock in a safe and timely manner.
- Students will learn how to design projects using a CAD system.
- Students will learn how to cut parts, signs, and design using the CNC Plasma Table.
- These outcomes will be linked to the following standards:
    - 5.01. Understand principles for using arc welding equipment and materials for SMAW, GMAW, and GTAW.
    - 5.02 Apply welding skills to construct agricultural mechanics projects.
    - 6.02 Understand basic agricultural engineering principles and practices.

Impacts of grant program
- The livestock project will impact our school and community in a positive way. Students will be able to load and transport livestock safely and efficiently. Also, farmers in the community will be able to use and transport livestock to the market.
- The CNC Plasma Table will impact my students by giving them the ability to put their creative minds to work to design various agricultural projects, from parts for equipment to graphic signs.
- The Livestock Trailer and the CNC Plasma will also impact our community and alumni groups. We have already helped an alumni member cut a seat bracket for a bobcat. We will also offer some training and classes to the community.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
28,656.00

Amount spent to date (in $)
28,656.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
2,215.00

Program Name
Crest High School

Project Title
Student Transportation Enhancement Project

Status of Project
Completed

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
Purchase of an SUV for the agriculture department.

Student outcomes
- Travel to Leadership Training events (Leadership and Employability Skills 1.00)
- Travel with the school livestock trailer to the Cleveland County Fair to show student livestock (Work-Based Learning 2.00)
- Travel with the school livestock trailer to the North Carolina State Fair to show student livestock (Work-Based Learning 2.00)

Impacts of grant program
- Travel to Leadership Training events (Leadership and Employability Skills 1.00) - Eight students participating in the fall semester of 2025.
- Travel with the school livestock trailer to the Cleveland County Fair to show student livestock (Work Based Learning 2.00) - Ten Students participating in the fall semester of 2025, with school livestock being transported to and from the event. (Twelve head)
- Travel with the school livestock trailer to the North Carolina State Fair to show student livestock (Work Based Learning 2.00) - Eight Students participating during the fall of 2025 (Ten head)

Grant amount awarded (in $)
66,365.17

Amount spent to date (in $)
66,365.17

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
29.66

Program Name
D.H. Conley High School

Project Title
Planting Ourselves in Horticulture

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
The greenhouse land has been cleared, and the structure has gone up. The agricultural education teacher has not been given official access or training on the equipment yet. There was a major delay in the start of the project.

Student outcomes
Due to a multiple-month delay in the start of the project, no student outcomes have been achieved yet.

Impacts of grant program
- The greenhouse structure has garnered interest in the agriculture education program
- Requests for a spring plant sale have come in

Grant amount awarded (in $)
53,638.02

Amount spent to date (in $)
46,429.29

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
12,803.00

Program Name
East Duplin High School

Project Title
East Duplin Greenhouse

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
We have contracted with Whitley Contracting for site preparation and concrete installation, which was completed in mid-August. Next, we contracted with Carolina Greenhouses to install the greenhouse, completed in mid-September. The project is complete except for controllers, which are on backorder, and connecting the final power supply.

Student outcomes
- Overall Student Learning Outcomes (to date)
    - Demonstrated understanding of environmental factors influencing plant growth (Horticulture I 4.01)
        - Impact: Students will successfully monitor and adjust variables such as light, temperature, and soil moisture in greenhouse or garden settings, deepening their understanding of how environmental conditions affect plant health and yield.
    - Applied knowledge of greenhouse and nursery production practices (Horticulture I 7.01)
        - Impact: Through hands-on activities, students will compare greenhouse systems to outdoor gardens, identifying efficiencies in pest control, irrigation, and propagation methods. This application will strengthen their ability to evaluate sustainable production practices.
    - Explored and analyzed diverse careers within the horticulture industry (Horticulture I 2.01)
        - Impact: Students have engaged in career exploration through guest speakers, field visits, or research, leading to increased awareness of horticulture pathways and postsecondary opportunities aligned with their interests and skills.

Impacts of grant program
- The fully functioning and safe greenhouse allows students to engage in authentic, hands-on learning experiences directly aligned with horticulture curriculum objectives, enhancing mastery of plant science and production standards.
- Students are now able to grow and maintain plants that contribute to school and community beautification efforts, fostering pride, ownership, and civic responsibility among participants.
- The greenhouse strengthens the agricultural education program by providing sustainable learning opportunities that connect classroom instruction to real-world applications, while also allowing students to raise funds for FFA participation and extended learning opportunities in horticulture.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
60,378.05

Amount spent to date (in $)
50,710.31

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
2,695.75

Program Name
East Wilkes High School

Project Title
East Wilkes Ag Program Improvement

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
Purchased Quad-AER aerator, STIHL Backpack blower, Echo Weedeater, and Fertilizer Spreader

Student outcomes
- Horticulture II Land Conservation - 6.02 Implement proper turfgrass management practices.
    - Students learned how to aerate part of our campus, a campus neighbor's property, and lawns within our community.
- Horticulture II Land Conservation - 2.03 Implement a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE).
    - Students are using their time aerating as their SAE project.
- Horticulture II Land Conservation - 1.01 Implement leadership skills necessary for employment in the landscape industry.
    - Students are learning how to speak to members of our community about our aerating equipment and as they create a google form, contact community members who requested aerating on our google form, establish a route to aerate properties as efficiently as possible without doing a lot of backtracking, and as they perform the aerating service for them (they ask homeowners about any buried lines and get acknowledgement as an industry professional by being proactive and not trying to damage their project).

Impacts of grant program
- The agricultural program has been able to use the aerator and blower for projects for our students. Students have aerated parts of our campus, and the whole class got to go to a neighboring property owner to participate in lawn aeration and overseeding.
- The school has gained recognition and praise from this grant (for instance, with local farm bureau board members) because we're the only high school in the county that has received one.
- We've been out to aerate over ten yards for people in our community and given our students valuable, real-world learning experience. Along with reaching out to local businesses for equipment quotes, their suggestions, and matching requests.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
55,696.97

Amount spent to date (in $)
15,399.03

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Enka High School

Project Title
Project Runway

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals

- The first activity that we completed was to have all materials ordered. Quotes were secured from each company and then submitted to the CTE administrative assistant to get purchase orders completed. Once the purchase orders were returned, we then placed the orders. Once the supplies were received, students in the animal science class assembled them.
- The second activity that we have completed is using the supplies purchased, we have halter broke, groomed, and shown our show team's sheep. Students used the handling system to catch sheep and place them on the halters. We used the handling system for several weeks to help catch the sheep. As students continued to work with the sheep, they used the trimming stand to teach the sheep how to brace and to help them get used to moving their feet. The blowers and clippers were used to help groom the animals. Students also used the livestock scale to keep track of the weights of each animal to be able to adjust their amount of feed given to each animal.
- The third activity we completed was using the new panels to set up different pens so that animals could be separated by age, sex, and feed intake needed. During this, students learned how to work together to ensure the panels were set up correctly.
- The fourth activity that was completed was that students used the cow head from Realityworks to learn how to give injections.

Student outcomes

- How to read animal behavior
    - This is related to the Animal Science I Curriculum Objective 7.01: Understand animal behavior. Students were able to see how flight zones worked and what behaviors looked like when sheep were calm, nervous, and mad.
- How to properly handle animals
    - This is related to the Animal Science I Curriculum Objective 7.02: Understand animal handling systems. Students were able to see in person how a handling system works and the benefits of it.
- How to groom animals
    - This is related to the Animal Science II Companion Animal Curriculum Objective 7.02: Execute grooming procedures to maintain healthy skin, coat, nails, eyes, and ears. Students were able to wash, groom, and trim the nails of our school sheep using the trimming stand and turntable.
- How to give subcutaneous and intramuscular shots
    - This is related to the Animal Science II Food Animal Curriculum Objective 6.02: Apply the process to identify major diseases and health issues along with prevention and treatment. Students used the Reality Works cow head to practice giving shots.
- How to feed livestock the correct ration
    - This is related to the Animal Science I Curriculum Objective 6.02: Understand nutritional components of animal feeds. Students learned how different feeds are formulated and

could analyze the correct feed based on whether the animals needed to gain weight, stay the same, or lose weight.

Impacts of grant program

- Students have hands-on opportunities to use equipment that they would use to work in the animal industry.
- Students have been able to attend livestock shows and learn about what judges look for in livestock.
- Students have been able to see the work it takes to raise livestock.
- Community members have learned about sheep while students are showing.
- Teachers and students have learned about what it takes to prepare a sheep for a show as students exercise sheep around campus.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
39,964.48

Amount spent to date (in $)
37,322.62

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Freedom High School & East Burke High School

Project Title
Driving Agricultural Education Forward

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
We've brought in cattle, as well as a bull to breed our heifers. The truck and trailer have been used extensively to help a variety of projects, including local fairs, community service projects, and assisting in travels to CDEs and Rec Camp. In addition, the truck has been heavily utilized with material handling and picking up parts, feed, and machinery for the program, and has been used for multiple countywide ag fundraisers.

Student outcomes
- AA21 7.00: Students have benefited from having a larger variety of livestock on campus, which can easily be ascertained due to the availability of this truck and trailer.
- AA 22 7.02, AA21 YQCA Credential: Students practice biosecurity by ensuring that after every use, the truck and trailer get thoroughly cleaned to limit the potential spread of disease or pests.

Impacts of grant program
- Financial income for the programs: Freedom and East Burke utilized the trucks to haul cookers to locations for fundraising and have raised over $2,000 for this year's National Convention trip
- Drexel Community Fair: Both programs were able to set up display booths as well as show both the programs and students' livestock, resulting in an increase in awareness for the programs.
- On-Campus improvements: These trucks and trailers have been used to directly increase the efficiency of our agriculture programs, having the ability to secure feed, materials, and equipment on demand without having to wait on borrowing from anyone else or paying additional fees for delivery.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
100,000.00

Amount spent to date (in $)
100,000.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
9,700.00

Program Name
Gray's Creek High School

Project Title
Agriculture Facility Equipment Investment

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
As of now, the largest part of our project has been completed, which includes purchasing a tractor and front-end loader for our facility maintenance. We also purchased the mowing deck to allow for pasture forage control, cutting grass around the agriculture barn, cut flower garden, and greenhouse area. The front-end loader has also allowed us to better manage animal waste in our stalls and the compost pit at the greenhouse.

Student outcomes
- Students have effectively learned how to manage biosecurity with parasite/sickness outbreaks in our barn. We use the front-end loader to move and dispose of contaminated stall bedding.
- Students have learned how to be safe around equipment (tractor) and check fluids, etc.
- Students have learned the importance of keeping pasture grasses mowed to a certain point to improve palatability for livestock.
- Students have practiced compost techniques for turning matter to achieve decomposition.

Impacts of grant program
- Facility maintenance has been improved, allowing agriculture education teachers to mow grass around the greenhouse, barn, and cut flower area.
- Pasture productivity has been improved, allowing optimal grass length to be managed.
- Sanitation and biosecurity of our animal science facility have improved as we are now able to transport contaminated waste from animal sickness/infection to an off-site location behind the school grounds to prevent further spread.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
26,904.98

Amount spent to date (in $)
22,544.11

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Holly Shelter Middle School & Roland-Grise Middle School

Project Title
Cultivating Minds with Greenhouses

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals

- Equipment Specification and Ordering: The 16x36 Scholar Greenhouse is fully detailed, including specifications for the frame, glazing, heating (60,000 BTU gas heater), ventilation (exhaust fans and evaporative cooling systems), benches, irrigation systems (mist and drippers), and the automated control system (Bartlett Instrument Company Climate Boss Controller). The greenhouse is being manufactured.
- Engineering and Architectural Preparation: Technical documentation required for construction was completed, including sealed engineering drawings for the structural design and foundation design, the foundation plan, the floor plan and equipment layout, and the plumbing and irrigation plan.
- Contracting General Contractor: A contract was established with AG Construction for the perimeter footings, concrete, and site work at both Roland-Grise Middle School and Holly Shelter Middle School.
- Foundation Work Commenced: Although the project has experienced delays and is behind the initial schedule, the general contractor has begun the foundation work.

Student outcomes
We will provide student outcomes at a later date.

Impacts of grant program
We will provide the impacts of the grant at a later date.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
100,000.00

Amount spent to date (in $)
98,500.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
27,201.00

Program Name
James Kenan High School

Project Title
James Kenan Greenhouse

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
We have contracted with Whitley Contracting for site preparation and concrete installation, which was completed in mid-August. Next, we contracted with Carolina Greenhouses to install the greenhouse, which was completed in mid-September. The project is now complete except for the controllers, which are on backorder, and connecting the final power supply.

Student outcomes
- Overall Student Learning Outcomes (to date)
    - Demonstrated understanding of environmental factors influencing plant growth (Horticulture I 4.01)
        - Impact: Students will successfully monitor and adjust variables such as light, temperature, and soil moisture in greenhouse or garden settings, deepening their understanding of how environmental conditions affect plant health and yield.
    - Applied knowledge of greenhouse and nursery production practices (Horticulture I 7.01)
        - Impact: Through hands-on activities, students will compare greenhouse systems to outdoor gardens, identifying efficiencies in pest control, irrigation, and propagation methods. This application will strengthen their ability to evaluate sustainable production practices.
    - Explored and analyzed diverse careers within the horticulture industry (Horticulture I 2.01)
        - Impact: Students have engaged in career exploration through guest speakers, field visits, or research, leading to increased awareness of horticulture pathways and postsecondary opportunities aligned with their interests and skills.

Impacts of grant program
- The fully functioning and safe greenhouse allows students to engage in authentic, hands-on learning experiences directly aligned with Horticulture curriculum objectives, enhancing mastery of plant science and production standards.
- Students are now able to grow and maintain plants that contribute to school and community beautification efforts, fostering pride, ownership, and civic responsibility among participants.
- The greenhouse strengthens the agricultural education program by providing sustainable learning opportunities that connect classroom instruction to real-world applications, while also allowing students to raise funds for FFA participation and extended learning opportunities in horticulture.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
60,378.05

Amount spent to date (in $)
54,151.47

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
2,695.75

Program Name
Jones Senior High School

Project Title
Welding the Future

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
To date, I have reached out to ARC3 Gases, Inc. and requested a quote for what Mr. Taylor had in his grant application: two multimatic 255 Miller TIG packages, two Spoolmatic 15A Miller Spool gun, and three AC 255 230V Lincoln Stick Machines. The quote came back for more than the grant was valued. So, we are figuring out how to shrink it down to get what we need within the budget.

Student outcomes
This is an equipment grant, so there have been no student outcomes thus far.

Impacts of grant program
Since it is not in place yet, there have been no impacts yet.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
16,438.22

Amount spent to date (in $)
0.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Lake Norman High School

Project Title
LNHS 21ST Century Agriculture Improvements

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals

- So far to date we have ordered the laser and the Tekton tool. These items are due to arrive in the next few weeks. We have had trouble with our finance department thus far as getting these companies set up as approved vendors has been a challenge. We have gotten the Boss Laser and the Tekton tool set up as vendors, but I am still working on the Grizzly Tool Company.
- So far, we have started removing all of the old items from the shop, cleaning, and getting the space ready for the new equipment.

Student outcomes
None at this time.

Impacts of grant program

- We have begun to improve the facilities here.
- Presenting the grant items to the classes has improved interest in our classes.
- Much-needed cleaning and old machine removal have begun.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
58,301.23

Amount spent to date (in $)
0.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Ledford High School

Project Title
Transforming Agriculture Education Spaces

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
Activities are currently in progress and have not been completed at this time.

Student outcomes
Outcomes are currently in progress and have not been completed at this time.

Impacts of grant program
The grant is in progress and has not been completed at this time.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
35,971.27

Amount spent to date (in $)
0.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Madison County High School

Project Title
Madison Agricultural Department Revitalization

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
So far, our program has been working with numerous organizations to obtain quotes on items needed for the greenhouse, such as a new cooling wall, new fans, and drip irrigation systems. Additionally, we have purchased and secured our 16-foot livestock trailer that was included in our budget, we have purchased and received our mobile chicken coops, we have purchased and received our germination chamber, purchased and received our show rails, stands, and scale, and finally, we have purchased four chapter goats to use for show purposes. We are continuing to work with dealerships and local companies to secure our other items.

Student outcomes
- Utilizing our new livestock trailer, students have been able to haul tack, equipment, and animals to livestock shows across Western North Carolina more easily and have helped our students to perform more effectively in the show ring.
- The new livestock scale has been utilized many times to help ensure our chapter animals are maintaining the body condition required for them to compete in various shows across the region. Our scale has also been used to help our local extension office conduct a show to check weight classes.
- Our germination chamber is being set up so we can start seed trays, not only for our plant sales, but for students in Horticulture I to be able to have plant growth to document for their performance-based measurements.

Impacts of grant program
- So far, we have increased our chapter's outreach to the community, lending usage of our equipment to organizations like our extension office. This is helping to get the word out about our program, which will hopefully increase enrollment for our program.
- Our show team has been able to travel and show much more easily in various shows across the western half of North Carolina, utilizing our new livestock trailer, show stands, scales, etc. We have been able to have numerous opportunities to be in the grand champion drives, and have had several class winners in our goat shows.
- We have been able to work with community members to secure plants that can be propagated and over-wintered in our greenhouse. While we are still trying to secure some items needed for year-round operation of our greenhouse, we are already seeing more community involvement and improved plant growth.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
97,667.89

Amount spent to date (in $)
38,975.99

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
5,310.00

Program Name
Martin County High School

Project Title
Student Engagement Improvement Project

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
We are still obtaining pricing to achieve our goals.

Student outcomes
There have been no student outcomes accomplished at this point.

Impacts of grant program
There have been no impacts currently.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
19,033.93

Amount spent to date (in $)
0.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Monroe High School

Project Title
Growing to Give

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
- All items have been ordered, and most have arrived.
- The facilities department has cleared the area and provided a basic water access point, with plans for additional ones in the future.
- The weed barrier and edging have been laid, and the construction of the beds has begun. It is time-consuming, and we have eighteen of them to build, but the project is moving forward.
- The potting benches have been constructed to allow workspace outside.

Student outcomes
- Students will understand work-based and experiential learning in agriculture.
    - Many students have jumped in to be a part of the construction, as they are excited to use the space as part of their school-based SAE project.
- Students will understand leadership and employability skills
    - Students have had the opportunity to lead small groups in small construction projects, developing effective communication skills.
- Students will apply shop safety principles to work in an agricultural mechanics shop. Students will apply construction principles in agricultural mechanics.
    - These garden beds and potting benches have provided opportunities for learning and putting these skills into practice.

Impacts of grant program
- Students have been engaged and excited about their SAE projects
- It has already improved the appearance of an otherwise empty space.
- Teachers, students, and staff are excited to see what will become, and the culinary program is thinking about what things our mutual students might grow for their SAE and then use in those courses.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
8,500.00

Amount spent to date (in $)
4,709.71

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Mount Pleasant High School

Project Title
Growing Green, Hauling Dreams

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals

- [Hydroponics System] Flex Farm Fully Contained Hydroponic System was ordered and received. Students used the instructions and problem-solving skills to build the complete system. Students started seeds (lettuce and herbs) in flats to move into the hydroponic unit once sprouted. These plants have been growing in the hydroponic system for about two weeks while the students problem solve the best location in the tower for each type of plant as they observe the growth patterns.
- [Livestock Hauling Equipment] Our county office staff withheld grant funds until this new fiscal year, so we do not have our trailer on campus yet. We completed our normal livestock show season with ten shows total, increasing student numbers this year, and increasing our reach to a state-level fair.

Student outcomes

- [AP41 3.00 & 4.00] Students explored plant parts, processes, and functions, including photosynthesis, respiration, and transpiration.
- [AP41 3.00 & 4.00] Students gained an understanding of nutrient management and liquid fertilizer scheduling supporting plant growth and development.
- [AA21 2.02 & AA22 2.02] Students on the Mount Pleasant High School Livestock Show Team completed an animal management and care SAE project throughout the summer and early fall.

Impacts of grant program

- Students on the Mount Pleasant High School Livestock Show Team completed an animal management and care SAE project throughout the summer and early fall.
- Horticulture students offered their lettuce to partner with our Foods & Nutrition classes.
- Students educated the public about their sheep and goats at the Carolina Classic Fair.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
85,237.90

Amount spent to date (in $)
5,524.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
North Henderson High School

Project Title
Agriculture Mechanics Facility

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
- Grading of the area
- Monolithic concrete slab poured and finished
- Metal Building constructed

Student outcomes
- AS31 3.00 Apply shop safety principles to work in an agricultural mechanics shop.
    - Students who will be taking Agricultural Mechanics I in the spring were involved in the facility layout to determine the best locations for welding stalls.
- AS32 3.01 Understand OSHA safety rules, color coding, and equipment safety in an agricultural mechanics shop.
    - Students who will be taking Agricultural Mechanics II in the spring were involved in the facility layout to determine the best locations for welding stalls.
- AS32 7.02 Apply concrete and masonry principles to calculate materials needed and cost for a masonry project.
    - Students have been able to calculate the amount of concrete needed to complete a monolithic slab.
- Student outcomes will continue to increase. At this point, we are waiting for Duke Energy, the electrical contractor, and the ventilation company to complete the project.

Impacts of grant program
- The construction of the new facility has several positive impacts, including:
    - Generating student enthusiasm.
    - Industry support in the form of guest speakers.
    - Positive feedback and excitement from staff members.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
98,900.93

Amount spent to date (in $)
31,959.34

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
369.90

Program Name
Norwayne Middle School

Project Title
Norwayne Middle School Greenhouse Sustainability & Plant Science Enhancement Project

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
We have installed the HVAC mini-split system and fully outfitted the greenhouse with the raised beds, workbenches, soil, tools, and storage equipment purchased through the grant. The greenhouse workspace has been organized and prepared for student labs aligned to AY21 and AY22 objectives. Student pre-surveys were also created and administered to establish baseline knowledge of plant physiology and agricultural processes.

Student outcomes
1. Students have begun engaging in long-term plant cultivation activities, increasing their hands-on experience with plant science.
2. Students have demonstrated a stronger understanding of plant physiology and environmental factors through early lessons such as geotropism and soil comparison activities.
3. Student interest in agriculture, FFA involvement, and enrollment in future agriculture courses has increased based on early survey responses and classroom observations.

Impacts of grant program
1. The greenhouse is now fully functional and equipped, significantly enhancing the Agriculture Education program's ability to deliver high-quality, hands-on instruction.
2. The improvements support the 552 students enrolled in Agriculture at NMS and expand opportunities for meaningful learning and continued interest in high school agriculture pathways.
3. The project has increased excitement and visibility for Agriculture Education within the school and community, reinforcing the importance of CTE and agriculture in our rural area.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
7,955.43

Amount spent to date (in $)
8,000.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
750.00

Program Name
Orange High School

Project Title
Greenhouse Demolition and Replacement

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals

- With the change in staff who applied for this grant, the district team had to review and refocus with the new staff and team
- The project was put out for a General Contractor Bid in August 2025
- Bids have closed
- The lowest and aligned bid will be on the Board Agenda for approval on October 20
- Bids were much higher than the grant application detailed, so Board Approval will also ask for funds to complete the entire scope of the project (demolition, replacement with new concrete footers, electric, plumbing, and gas lines, and all required permits).
- We will know on October 21 how we move forward.

Student outcomes

- Even without the new greenhouse for the fall semester, students are still applying work-based and experiential learning in horticulture (AP42, 2.00 and AP41, 2.00)
- Students have been able to understand plant biology and growth factors by growing their own plants in our existing greenhouse in this fall term (AP41, 3.00)
- Students can apply edible crop production practices through germinating crops within the existing greenhouse and in outside raised beds in the fall term (AP42, 6.00)

Impacts of grant program

- Since the existing greenhouse is still in place, students have been able to continue with its use for curricular needs
- The fall plant sale was hosted as normal on September 20, where students, school staff, and the community were able to purchase mums
- The entire process of demolition and replacing a greenhouse has given all the agriculture education teachers, CTE director, and school administration the opportunity to learn all the required components of such work!

Grant amount awarded (in $)
97,329.97

Amount spent to date (in $)
0.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Pioneer Springs Community School

Project Title
21st Century Leaders in Agriculture

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals

- As of October 1, the Pioneer Springs Community School greenhouse had its plastic covering completed. Electricity was installed, allowing for the exhaust fans to be operational. The greenhouse benches, heated seed mats, and other greenhouse equipment have been purchased.
- Animal science and horticulture models have been purchased and are currently being utilized in the classroom.

Student outcomes

- Horticulture 1
    - 4.01: Apply the process to identify environmental conditions needed for plant growth.
    - 4.02: Apply the process to identify optimum soil and media for plant growth.
    - 4.03: Apply the process to identify essential nutrients needed for plant growth.
        - With the completion of the greenhouse portion of the GTE grant, students have been able to learn through hands-on experience. Students have begun starting seeds, caring for herbs and succulents, determining fertilizer, water, and temperature needs. Students have also begun the process of planting blackberries and strawberries utilizing plasticulture.

Impacts of grant program

1. To date, the grant has increased the ability for students to learn through hands-on experiences not available before the grant was awarded.
2. Students are currently completing the construction of the hydroponics system, which will allow them to not only learn about hydroponics, but will also provide fresh greens and herbs for the school's Foods and Nutrition classes to utilize. Students are also working towards creating a produce stand to provide fresh produce to the school community.
3. The greenhouse portion of the grant has enabled the agriculture education teacher to market the agricultural program to middle school students by allowing them to explore opportunities within the agriculture CTE program, increasing excitement.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
90,347.77

Amount spent to date (in $)
15,000.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Rockingham County High School

Project Title
Clean Air Everywhere

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
The Clean Air weld stations were purchased in August. Rockingham County School has worked to get them installed with the required electrical work and air hookups. A few additional electrical drops, one additional air drop, and two retractable hose reels were added to the metal working end of the shop to use the remaining funds allocated for electrical and air needs.

Student outcomes
- Students have worked to help set the equipment up for the new booths as we have learned about shop safety and tools. (Obj. 3.00 Apply shop safety skills in the shop) (3.01 Understand OSHA rules, color coding, and equipment safety)
- The Agricultural Mechanics I classes will begin welding on November 4 in the new booths. (5.00 Understand principles for using arc welding equipment and materials for SMAW, GMAW, and GTAW)
- Students are very excited to use the new equipment, and many are interested in careers in the welding field, as we discussed those in our career unit. (1.03 Understand skills needed for employment and careers in the agricultural mechanics industry.)

Impacts of grant program
- A clean and efficient work environment is provided for students learning to weld in agricultural mechanics classes.
- Students ask daily when they get to weld in the new booths. Many students are interested in welding career paths after high school.
- The booths provide a larger working space for students using the welding booths. Usually, students are paired up to work in booths, and now the larger booths with lights allow for that to happen with ease.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
83,602.00

Amount spent to date (in $)
81,807.09

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
South Caldwell High School

Project Title
Rebuilding Greenhouse for Future Horticulturists

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
- Demolition of the original Greenhouse was completed on August 19, 2025
- Secured three bids and selected Atlas Greenhouse on September 8, 2025
- Primary drawings received and sent to the engineering team on September 17, 2025

Student outcomes
- Students will demonstrate the ability to adapt horticultural practices and learning strategies when environmental conditions or resources change.
- Students will research alternative plant production methods to compensate for the lack of a greenhouse.
- Students will collaborate to plan, design, and execute a temporary or long-term solution for continuing horticultural instruction and production after greenhouse demolition.

Impacts of grant program
- Students gain firsthand experience in sustainability, construction planning, and environmental design as they observe and potentially participate in the rebuilding process. Students see how facilities evolve, learn patience and resilience, and connect classroom theory (horticulture, environmental science, engineering) to a real-world project.
- The greenhouse project can become a symbol of renewal and progress within the school. Seeing the school invest in modern, sustainable facilities reinforces student and staff pride, while also signaling a commitment to hands-on, career-ready education programs.
- The rebuilding process often involves local businesses, alumni, and community partners — strengthening relationships between the school and the broader community. Community members feel invested in student success, and the new greenhouse can serve as a shared space for education, service projects, and local food or plant initiatives.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
100,000.00

Amount spent to date (in $)
9,500.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
South Johnston High School

Project Title
New Tractor for Agriculture Dept

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
To date, our agricultural education program has completed several key activities to support ongoing improvements. With the grant we earned, we successfully purchased a tractor and trailer that have already become essential tools for both instruction and community engagement. Students have used the equipment to complete hands-on projects around campus, allowing them to apply agricultural mechanics skills in real-world situations while improving our school grounds. In addition, the tractor and trailer have been featured in local parades and community events, helping us advocate for our program, showcase student achievements, and strengthen public awareness of agricultural education at South Johnston High School. These activities have significantly enhanced the quality, visibility, and impact of our program.

Student outcomes
- Students in horticulture and agricultural mechanics have learned the importance of tractor safety by learning how to properly operate the tractor.
- Students in agricultural mechanics have been able to utilize the tractor as a teaching mechanism by learning about various checkpoints and maintenance areas
- Students in horticulture have learned how to properly hook and secure the trailer to a truck and to a tractor.

Impacts of grant program
- Enhanced Agricultural Education Program: The tractor and trailer have expanded hands-on learning opportunities, allowing students to gain real experience in equipment operation, safety, and project management.
- Improved School Facilities and Projects: Students have used the equipment to complete on-campus improvement projects, supporting a cleaner, more functional learning environment while building pride in their work.
- Strengthened Community Engagement: Participation in local parades and events has increased visibility for the agriculture program, fostering stronger community support and showcasing the value of Career and Technical Education.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
53,421.21

Amount spent to date (in $)
53,417.03

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00


Trojans

Program Name
South Rowan High School

Project Title
Bobcat UTV

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
So far, students have worked on repairing and maintaining fencing in our far pastures to keep our facilities safe and functional. This hands-on work has allowed them to build real skills in pasture and fence management while seeing firsthand what goes into maintaining an operational agriculture program. Moving forward, students will also gain experience using the UTV to support these projects. They'll learn how to apply pasture and fence management techniques using real equipment, understanding how the UTV plays a vital role in agricultural operations. It will make transporting soil, tools, plants, and other materials around our land lab much more efficient, especially as students help establish and maintain over an acre of gardens and livestock areas.

Student outcomes
- Students demonstrated practical skills in pasture and fence management (AA22: 7.00)
    - Impact: Students gained immediate hands-on experience with equipment operation, maintenance, and safety while repairing and maintaining fencing in the far pastures. These activities helped students understand the importance of maintaining safe and functional facilities for livestock and agricultural operations.
- Students applied real-world problem-solving skills in agricultural facility maintenance (AP42: 6.01)
    - Impact: Students learned to assess facility needs, plan efficient repairs, and execute tasks using teamwork and proper safety procedures. This strengthened their technical and employability skills, directly tied to agricultural and horticultural career pathways.
- Students developed proficiency in utilizing agricultural technology and equipment (AA22: 7.00 and AP42: 6.01)
    - Impact: Through the use of the UTV, students learned about the practical applications of equipment in agricultural operations efficiently. This experience supported career readiness by fostering responsible equipment use, safety awareness, and operational efficiency.

Impacts of grant program
- The addition of the UTV has improved day-to-day operations within the agricultural education program by streamlining the transportation of materials across the land lab. This has created safer, more efficient work environments for students and agriculture education teachers while expanding opportunities for hands-on instruction aligned with course standards. Students now gain immediate, real-world experience in equipment operation, maintenance, and safety, reinforcing technical and employability skills.
- The UTV has supported multiple classes, including animal science, horticulture, and agricultural mechanics, by providing consistent access to equipment for land lab upkeep and facility management. Students can participate more actively in pasture and fence repair, garden maintenance, and livestock care, linking classroom instruction directly to field applications. This has strengthened student engagement and career readiness across all agricultural pathways.

- The UTV has also played a vital role in hosting summer professional development for agriculture teachers, where it was used for efficient land management practices. This collaboration not only supported educator growth but also highlighted South Rowan's agriculture program as a model for experiential learning and community connection.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
22,706.16

Amount spent to date (in $)
22,706.16

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00

Program Name
Weddington High School

Project Title
Purchase Compact Tractor and Equipment

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
We have purchased all of our equipment and are planning the safety training for October 21 after school.

Student outcomes
- Students participated in researching and applying for the grant.
- Students celebrated the fruits of their labors when we received the grant.
- Students presented the check to the bookkeeper and principal (which was forwarded to Central Office).
- The tractor ironically arrived on the "Open House" night during open house!!! (Great P.R.)
- Students are excited about taking the safety training to get their "tractor license".
- Students are excited about practicing and competing in the Federation Truck and Tractor CDE.

Impacts of grant program
- Students and staff at our school are in disbelief that we have a tractor and equipment.
- Several Alumni have expressed their excitement for our good fortune.
- Several staff want to take the "tractor safety training" as a professional development opportunity (to learn trailer backing).
- Our new principal and Assistant Principal are very supportive and excited about work on campus (SAEs).
- Our parents and community are fascinated by suburban students on tractors.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
44,124.05

Amount spent to date (in $)
40,937.00

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)

0.00

Program Name
West Brunswick High School

Project Title
West Brunswick New Greenhouse

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
Approval of the Jaderloon Greenhouse Company proposal by the superintendent was completed, the company was contacted, and half of the cost for the greenhouse was paid. A contractor was hired, permits were applied for and issued, demolition of the property has begun, and the greenhouse is being shipped.

Student outcomes
The only student outcome that we have to date is the discussion of the purchase process, which would meet standards in the Horticulture II - Plant Production course, but I am currently not teaching that course this semester.

Impacts of grant program
No impacts have been established at this time. Construction has just begun due to the demolition process.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
100,000.00

Amount spent to date (in $)
40,976.08

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
100.00

Program Name
West Rowan High School

Project Title
Project Horsepower

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
After conversations with all parties involved, it was decided to go with the F350 dually truck with a gas motor. Calls were made to numerous dealerships and vendors, and it was decided to go with an out-of-state vendor. The salesman was contacted, and a truck was designed directly from Ford to meet the specifications that were desired by our program. It was ordered and delivered to the dealership in the middle of June. Payment was issued, and the truck was delivered to Rowan County in July.

Student outcomes

- The West Rowan FFA purchased a large truck, similar to a 3500 or F350, to assist in the hands-on learning activities.
- Objective Alignments
    - All Curricula:
        - 1.00, 1.01
        - 2.00, 2.02
            - All agricultural curricula incorporate leadership, practical skills, and the implementation of a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). The addition of a chapter vehicle has significantly enhanced support for FFA activities by facilitating the transportation of students to and from events, as well as providing assistance with SAE projects as necessary. Given that many students lack personal access to vehicles, this resource has been invaluable for moving livestock, transporting soil, and acquiring materials for various shop projects.
    - Animal Science AA22:
        - 4.01, 4.02
        - 5.01, 5.02.
        - 6.01, 6.02
            - In the animal science curriculum, a chapter truck is essential. With 35 breeding ewes, 12 does, and 6 Jersey cattle, transportation is crucial for attending livestock shows, acquiring feed and supplies, and fulfilling other logistical needs. A truck capable of towing large trailers is vital for enhancing our animal science production agriculture program. It has been used for all of these activities for the short life of the truck thus far.
    - Agricultural Mechanics AS32:
        - 5.01, 5.02, 5.03
        - 7.01, 7.02, 7.03
            - The agriculture mechanics program presently engages in the restoration of tractors and the repair of various equipment. Frequently, instances arise where equipment is transported to different locations or brought in for service. The truck has not yet been used for this activity, but a new trailer has been purchased to work in assistance with these goals.

Impacts of grant program

- It has allowed our program the ability to be more self-sufficient and not rely upon our advisors or community to meet our needs. It allows our program to not rely upon vehicles owned by others to satisfy our program needs.
- Transportation has always been an issue and will continue to be as the future comes. This vehicle has allowed our chapter the ability to come and go with students more freely.
- It has opened the door to enhanced SAE, CDE/LDE, and classroom options that were previously not there. This truck has the power and ability that will last for many years.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
81,315.91

Amount spent to date (in $)
81,315.91

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
765.87

Program Name
Western Alamance High School

Project Title
Fume Extraction

Status of Project
In Progress

Activities completed to achieve stated goals
Units have been purchased, filters and blowers have been installed, and the portable unit has been placed in use. Electricians from the school system are currently installing power to the units, and they should be wired in the next 7-10 days. Once they are wired, wall panels will be installed, and the grant will be complete.

Student outcomes
- Students have used power tool skills to install the back panels, so wiring may be completed. (31.3.03 / 32.3)
- Students have used plasma cutting skills to cut out resets for welding breakers on two panels (32.4)
- Blueprint/hand tool/precision measuring for install of panels (32.3, 32.4, 31.3, 31.4.02)

Impacts of grant program
- Local businesses have received revenue through the purchase of equipment and supplies
- Students have been able to use skills to accurately measure, cut, drill, and fasten grant equipment/supplies
- Reduced welding fumes in the school environment (limited at this time until installation is complete). Will completely eliminate welding fumes once the installation is complete.

Grant amount awarded (in $)
53,823.25

Amount spent to date (in $)
47,023.25

Amount spent from other sources to date (in $)
0.00