



**White River Valley Electric Cooperative
News Release**

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CAPTION: White River Valley Electric Trust Board awards a total of \$85,489.61 to 2020-2021 Power Up recipients.

Over \$85,000 in Power Up Grants awarded to local teachers

Branson, Missouri – The White River Valley Electric Trust Board proudly awarded over \$85,000 to be dispersed throughout local schools to enhance the education of area students. Teachers located at

schools within White River Valley Electric Cooperative's five-county service were eligible to apply for monies through Power Up -- the organization's annual educational grant program.

"Projects that utilize funding from Power Up have a positive impact on classrooms in our communities," said Nathan Stearns, WRVEC Community Programs Coordinator. "We are proud to offer a grant program that aids teachers in providing a well-rounded education to area students."

To be considered, proposals need to promote higher learning and meet school standards. Teachers are required to submit their plan, itemized list of supplies (not to exceed \$750), and a letter of project approval from the school district's administrative office. Out of 184 applications, 135 were approved.

"This was our most competitive year to date," said Stearns. "We would like to congratulate the winners and hope that increased competition will drive innovation and student influence."

Power Up educational grants are funded through Operation Round Up – the Trust's primary funding source for community-centric aid. Funds come from cooperative members who allow their bills to be rounded-up to the next dollar. Since ORU began 28 years ago, more than \$4 million has been returned to the community.

View the full list of Power Up educational grant recipients at <https://www.whiteriver.org/community/operation-round-up/power-up/>

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[White River Valley Electric Cooperative](#) is a [Touchstone Energy Cooperative](#) dedicated to ensuring our members receive safe and reliable service in their homes and businesses across five southwest Missouri counties including Ozark, Taney, Stone, Christian and Douglas.