

White River Valley Electric Cooperative News Release

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For immediate release:

Local teachers awarded \$75,000 in grants from electric cooperative trust program

Branson, Missouri – The White River Valley Electric Trust Board proudly awards \$75,033 to throughout 20 local schools. Grants will 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.

Applicants submitted proposals to promote higher learning and meet school standards. Teachers submitted a plan with an itemized list of supplies and a letter of project approval from their respective school district's administrative office. 126 out of 186 applications were approved.



Pictured: Previous Grant Recipient from Branson School District

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. More than \$4.5 million has been contributed to the community since ORU's inception in 1992.

"Teachers are going above and beyond to invest in our future leaders," said the program's facilitator Nathan Stearns. "We are so grateful that our members' donations help teachers in developing area youth."

The following schools employ the 2021-22 grant recipients:

Ava, Bradleyville, Branson, Chadwick, Forsyth, Gainesville, Galena, Hollister, Kirbyville, Legacy Christian Academy, Lutie, Mark Twain, Ozark, Plainview, Reeds Spring, Skyline, Sparta, Spokane, Thornfield, and Tri-Lakes Cooperative.

For more information about the grant program and a full list of awarded teachers, visit <u>https://www.whiteriver.org/community/operation-round-up/power-up/</u>.

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<u>White River Valley Electric Cooperative</u> is a <u>Touchstone Energy Cooperative</u> 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.