



Central Electric
Membership Corporation

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Supporting local teachers and students

Central Electric is continually looking for ways to support the communities we serve. One way is by annually awarding Bright Ideas grants to local educators. The program helps support engaging and innovative classroom projects.

This year, the co-op awarded over \$15,000 to 14 educators, who were selected by an independent panel of judges. Almost 4,000 students in our communities will be positively impacted as a result. Since 1994, North Carolina's electric cooperatives have awarded more than \$14 million to educators across the state. Congratulations to the following 2023 Bright Ideas grant recipients:

- ▶ Jennifer Ames, Grace Christian School
- ▶ Aubrey Arnoczy, New Century Middle
- ▶ Deanna Deaton, Greenwood Elementary
- ▶ Zachary Francis, Lee County High
- ▶ Jena Johnson, J.S. Waters School
- ▶ Jo Ann Lawler, Deep River Elementary
- ▶ Cassie Lynch, Floyd L. Knight Child Center
- ▶ Darlene McDowell, Central Carolina Academy
- ▶ Matthew Miller, J.R. Ingram Elementary



Jennifer Ames from Grace Christian School in Sanford accepts a Bright Ideas check, which will be used to introduce middle and high school students to robotics courses to grow student exposure in STEM literacy.

- ▶ Lisa Moore, Carthage Elementary
- ▶ Spencer Reece, Floyd L. Knight Child Center
- ▶ Emma Smith, Broadway Elementary
- ▶ Melanie Spell, Perry W. Harrison School
- ▶ Shannon Stanley, Carthage Elementary

The application process for grants will reopen in April 2024. [CLICK HERE](#) to see more pictures of our winners or to learn more about the Bright Ideas program.