(Frankfort, Ky) The Kentucky Association of School Administrators (KASA) congratulates the 2018 Student Impact Grant award winners.

This year’s award winners are from Taylorsville Elementary (Spencer County), Central Elementary (Lewis County), Duff-Allen Central Elementary (Floyd County), and Heritage Park High (Daviess County).

“Project-based learning remains at the forefront of education to bring real-world relevance to student learning,” said KASA Deputy Director Dr. Rhonda Caldwell. “This program allows students to identify a need, either locally or globally, and follow-up with a solution and implementation. The grant program develops leadership among students while addressing real community problems.”

Schools receive up to $2,500 to fund their project initiatives. Applicants for this grant may be individual students or classes from any grade level in Kentucky. The awards are divided into four categories (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12) with one recipient from each category. Teachers may give guidance to students, but the intent is for them to respond to the grant questions and create a video about their project. Grant recipients are selected by a statewide judging panel comprised of school administrators.

School teams received their grant funds at a special recognition ceremony during KASA’s Annual Leadership Institute, July 26 and 27 at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville. A video of their service project was also shown.

Taylorsville Elementary, Spencer County Schools (Grades K-2)

Isabel Vargas, a second-grade student, and her teacher, Ms. Amber Waller designed Caps for Bottoms. This project will provide five eight-foot benches, two trash receptacles, and an eight-foot picnic table for their playground. Students will collect plastic lids (5000 pounds) and use grant money ($1,675) to convert them into the furniture. Vargas’ video submission can be viewed at https://youtu.be/93uLENlPqs4.

Central Elementary, Lewis County Schools (Grades 3-5)

Teacher Ms. Laura Stone and her students designed Lights, Camera, ACTION! to provide family friendly entertainment for the Vanceburg community. They plan to use their talents to perform plays throughout the year. Grant money ($1,780) will be used to purchase supplies for costumes, backdrops, and a sound system. View their video submission at https://youtu.be/-dAOGiSU-AQ.
Duff-Allen Central Elementary, Floyd County Schools (Grades 6-8)

Todd Prater, a sixth-grade student, and his teacher, Ms. Cecilia Prater created Essentials for Santa after learning about the number of under-privileged children in their area. They decided to give back to their community by collecting items for these children. To do this, they need to raise awareness to get more people involved. Grant money ($1,500) will be used to purchase audio/video equipment, a digital camera, and supplies to create posters. View Prater’s video submission at https://youtu.be/rjjfSfintV4.

Heritage Park High, Daviess County Schools

Teacher Ms. Kristina Sprowl and her students created Empty Bowls to help homeless people in their community. Students will create ceramic bowls and hold an annual lunch where guests purchase a bowl of soup served in one of the student-made ceramic bowls. Guests will get to keep the bowl. Grant money ($2,350) will be used to purchase a kiln, tools, and supplies to make the bowls. View their video submission at https://youtu.be/GV6ldPWFBu8.

KASA’s Student Impact Grant program is provided in partnership with HP and California Casualty.

The Kentucky Association of School Administrators is the largest school administrators’ group in Kentucky, representing more than 3,100 education leaders from across the commonwealth. Formed in 1969, KASA connects education leaders to policymakers, legislators, and other interest groups and provides numerous benefits and services to Kentucky’s school administrators.

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