

Bosch Community Fund Awards Grants to Empower Over 20,000 Students and Educators in the New Bern Area

The Bosch Community Fund has awarded a series of impactful grants to advance science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education, workforce readiness, and environmental stewardship across the New Bern area. Ten dedicated organizations will drive STEM initiatives through these strategic investments, equipping students with essential skills, supporting educators, and strengthening the community's commitment to sustainability.

North Carolina Coastal Federation

This grant has been given to ensure the continuation of the North Carolina Coastal Federation's oyster shell recycling initiative while launching an enhanced marketing plan to increase shell collections. The success of this program hinges on raising awareness and encouraging community participation, helping individuals understand the significance of recycling oyster shells, and providing clear guidance on how and where to do so.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Coastal Plain

To help area youth gain exposure to STEM, this grant supports the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Coastal Plain, which provide after-school and summer STEM programs at the New Bern Club, New Bern Teen Center, and Havelock Club. These programs offer underserved students access to technology and activities that build critical STEM skills within the community.

Craven Community College

This grant continues to support Craven Community College's credentialing program for Career and Technical Education (CTE) students, to enhance their employability. This funding helps make credentialing opportunities accessible to students facing financial challenges and gain skills-based training.

Pamlico County Schools

The Fund has awarded a grant to support the integration of virtual reality and augmented reality technology in Career and Technical Education classrooms at Pamlico County High School, focusing on health science and emergency medical technology. Students gain hands-on training through immersive experiences, earn industry-specific credentials, and prepare for future employment.

Jones County Schools

This grant helps fund the Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs at Jones County Schools in various fields, including automotive, agriculture, health science, family and consumer

science, construction, and computer science. The program's goal is to prepare students for relevant and rewarding careers.

Eastern Carolina Young Men's Christian Association

To help develop interest and positive attitudes of youth toward STEM, the Bosch Community Fund has invested in the organization's new e-sports program, which engages youth who may not participate in traditional sports. The program provides opportunities to develop coding and foundational skills for today's workforce.

Craven County Schools

The Fund has awarded two grants to enhance the digital and blended learning department at Craven County Schools. This investment will help promote hands-on learning and ensure equitable access to emerging technologies for students and staff. Additionally, the grant will fund the continuation of Craven STEMersion, a one-week, hands-on workshop opportunity for middle and high school teachers and school counselors to fund professional development for teachers. This initiative aims to foster a more interactive and technology-rich educational environment, ultimately enhancing student learning experiences.

Sound Rivers

To ensure the ongoing success of Sound Rivers' Craven County Schools: Restoration and Education program, a grant has been provided by the Bosch Community Fund. This initiative has significantly reduced stormwater pollution entering the Neuse River watershed. The program benefits the environment by constructing six stormwater control measures (SCMs) at local schools and transforming these sites into valuable educational resources. Students will engage with hands-on lesson plans that align with their curriculum, exploring crucial topics like water movement, non-point source pollution, and current water quality issues in North Carolina.

Craven Start Smart

A grant has been awarded to help the organization's STEAM learning program designed for preschool-aged children in the New Bern community. By emphasizing the essential roles of parents and caregivers in fostering integrated, hands-on learning experiences, the program introduces STEAM concepts that contribute to kindergarten readiness. The funding will enhance resources for teachers and parents, ensuring access to program materials and STEAM tools that facilitate engaging lessons and activities. This initiative promotes early childhood education and strengthens the partnership between families and educators, creating a solid foundation for young learners' future success.

