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19

IMPACT
REPORT



Enriching Teaching
Inspiring Learning
Innovating Classrooms

MISSION

The WJCC Schools Foundation partners with the community to fund grants that enrich teaching, inspire learning and maximize innovative opportunities for all students of the Williamsburg-James City County school district.

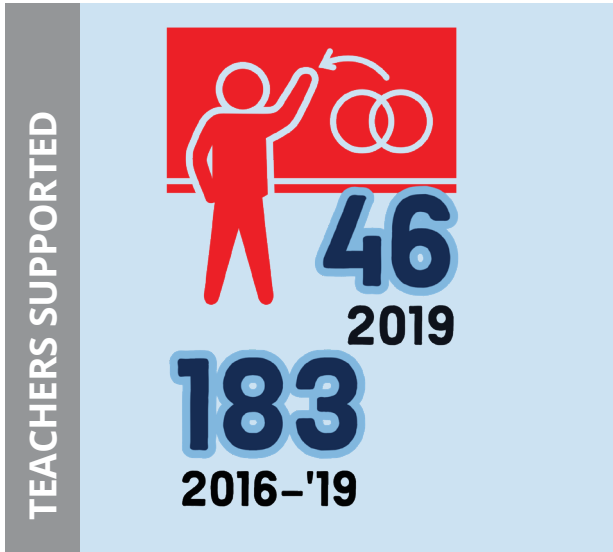
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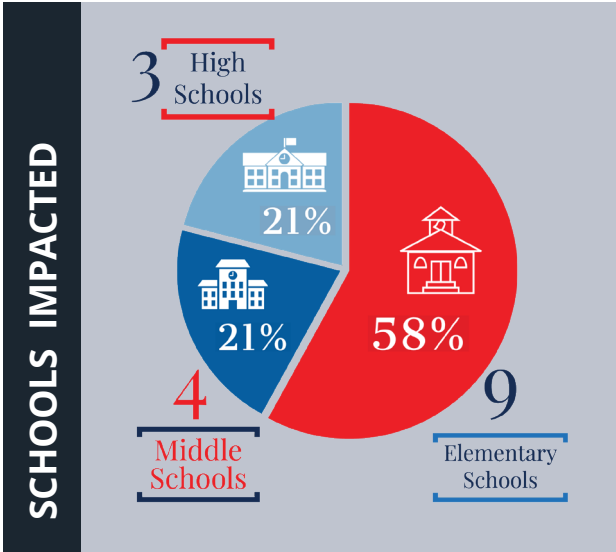
Total annual grant awards have increased by 27% since 2016.



All 24 grants awarded in 2019 are summarized in this Impact Report.



Teacher collaboration in grant applications has grown each year as they strive to expand the impact of their work.



All WJCC Schools and all grade levels have received grants for creative projects.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

The WJCC Schools Foundation began in 2015 as a grassroots community effort established to enrich the classroom for public school students of Williamsburg and James City County primarily through the funding of teacher grants.

The Foundation has awarded over \$150,000 in teacher grants, funding dozens of requests each year for unique experimental or incubator ideas aimed to enhance classroom learning. Within this report you will see classroom projects involving mini drones, microscopes, escape rooms and more – all designed to strengthen students' reading, math and technology skills or to engage students in science and history by cleverly reinforcing what they find in their textbooks. Teachers use their own creativity to enrich the classroom through experiential learning, and most importantly, inspire a lifelong love of learning.

As the third President of the Foundation, I am honored to follow in the footsteps of founding President Clarence Wilson and Dr. Kathleen Mullins. We owe a tremendous debt to both past Presidents. Clarence set high standards of operation so we could emerge as a force for good, and he continues to serve as an enormous asset on the Board. A leadership grant was funded in his honor to support a mentoring program to provide students with purpose, direction and motivation while navigating middle school. We grieve the passing of Kathleen, who lost her battle with ovarian cancer in October 2019. She was an inspiration and she is deeply missed. In the Foundation, her vision and her memory are kept alive and bright.

It cannot be overstated how much public school education matters to a community, a country or a culture. Williamsburg and James City County are dependent on outstanding public schools in order to support, attract and retain good businesses and professionals, and to live up to the high expectations we have for the birthplace of our nation.

Please take a moment to look through this Impact Report and share in our enthusiasm about the possibilities of what our teachers can achieve with their creative approaches to education.

Sincerely,



Penny Pulley



OUR 2019 LEARNING GRANTS

“

“I didn’t think that playing Math Guess Who would be as fun as playing regular Guess Who but I was wrong.”

“Playing Jenga while answering math problems makes doing the math more fun.”

“Can we play games in math again tomorrow? That was fun!”

*Berkeley Middle School
Math Students*

“Board” and Engaged: Using Board Games in Math Class– Berkeley Middle School, Dr. Mary H. Glisan

Middle school math can be difficult for many students. This grant aims to encourage greater success by using board games to engage small groups of students in math instruction. The goal is to keep students engaged while learning the concepts of math.

Mission: STEM-Possible!–Berkeley Middle School, Rhea Villanueva & Tonia Eriksen

Technology is everywhere in the world around us. This grant brings technology to life using BBC Micro:bits–handheld, programmable micro-computers that can be used for all sorts of

cool creations, from robots to musical instruments. Student modules can be used independently or interact with each other. The goal is to help students get creative with coding.

C-Pen and Beyond–Berkeley Middle School, Julie Hudson & Laura Treese

Reading comprehension is a necessary skill for success in school. This grant provides for C-Pens which can scan text and convert it to speech, as well as give pronunciation and definitions for individual words. The goal is to help English Language Learners and students with disabilities gain more independence in all subjects, as they will no longer need to wait on someone else to help them understand an assignment.

Read & Relax (R&R) Massage Chair Program–Berkeley Middle School, Jenny Farley

Middle school can be a very stressful and anxiety-ridden time for students, especially those who are struggling or reluctant to read. This grant aims to increase reading literacy by creating an engaging and relaxing area for students to listen to books and practice reading. The goal of this grant is to encourage reading in a structured environment that will increase fluency by decreasing anxiety.



No Opportunity Wasted (N.O.W.) Program–James Blair Middle School, William Capers, Jr. & Eric Stone (The Clarence Wilson Leadership Grant)

This mentoring program provides students with purpose, direction and motivation while navigating middle school. The concepts of learning require action, practice and collaboration. The goal is to create opportunities for personal and academic growth, and to give participants the skills needed to be successful in both work and life. *This grant was made possible by monies provided by a donor wishing to honor our first Foundation president, Clarence Wilson.*

From Seed to Seed Laboratory Investigation–James Blair Middle School, Jaclyn Miller

While virtual labs are commonplace in schools today, hands-on labs can substantially enrich the study of science. This grant uses the Wisconsin Fast Plants program to give students an opportunity to grow plants from seed to mature plant in just one month. The project offers an immersive science laboratory experience to help build students' STEM skills by giving them opportunities to witness growth, record data and create graphs to explain the results of the experiment.



Fostering First Language Literacy in the ESL Classroom–James Blair Middle School, Ashley Miller

Research shows that language literacy in a second language can be improved by strengthening literacy in a first language. A classroom library that contains books in multiple languages will help

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Our grants have facilitated expanded learning opportunities for all WJCC Students by encouraging teachers' creativity to design projects that are both innovative and practical.

*Steve Vignolo
VP, Marketing & Events
WJCC Schools Foundation Board*

ESL students gain the literacy they need to be successful in learning and understanding English. The goal of this grant is to give students the ability to read books in their own language to improve their literacy skills much in the same way other students read books in English to do the same.

Hygge Center–James Blair Middle School, Laura Kuthy/Leigh Pottle/Lindsey Kravitz

The primary goal of a Hygge center (pronounced “hoo-ga”) is to create a community atmosphere. A recent student survey confirmed that middle school students need and want help gaining self-confidence and boosting their self-image. Changes to the counseling center are designed to address these needs. The goal of this grant is to create a welcoming and calm environment where students will feel comfortable discussing vulnerable situations, decompressing while waiting to see their counselor, and working together on common activities to build community.

Digital Recorder Support for Reading and Writing–J. Blaine Blayton Elementary School, Geri Farrell

Not all students have someone at home who is able to support them with their homework. This grant enables students to hear sight words recorded by their teacher and linked to numbered flashcards. Students can also record their voices so their teacher can hear them pronouncing the words on the



flashcard. The goal is to give students, with minimal support at home, an opportunity to be successful with reading.

I Can Read Now!–Clara Byrd Baker Elementary School, Ellen Frackelton

Students who are just beginning to read need lots of opportunities to decode words using already-known letter sounds and patterns. This grant provides books designed to have lots of opportunities at problem solving using those patterns. The goal is for students

to experience success at problem solving and to decode words using sounds and patterns they know.

Sensory Library–D.J. Montague Elementary School, Abby Reynolds

Students who feel overwhelmed, overstimulated and overloaded often exhibit disruptive behaviors. This grant provides a sensory library to help increase student engagement and decrease anxious feelings and behaviors. The goal of this grant is to make students feel more comfortable at school so they can become academically successful.



“

Our students have been awed by the technology of the drones and often comment, “I can’t believe I can do this!” and “Look at what I did!”

*Ann Vogt
Engagement Takes Flight*

**Engagement Takes Flight–D.J. Montague Elementary School, Ann Vogt/Glenn Roettinger/
Nicole Showah**

Twenty-first century learning includes new and evolving technology. This grant provides mini drones to strengthen students' reading, math and technology skills in a unique and engaging way. The goal of this grant is to prepare students for an unforeseeable future by instilling in them tools to communicate collaboratively and teach themselves new technologies in an ever-changing environment.

Settlers to WJCC–Lois S. Hornsby Middle School, Jack Winthrop & Evan Pfeiffer

Economics is usually a challenging and new topic to 8th graders. This grant provides the board game Catan to help the students learn and apply the economic concepts taught in this course. The goal is to enable students to master complex economic concepts in a fun and engaging way.

La Cultura Hispana: Understanding Hispanic Culture Through Theater–Jamestown High School & Matoaka Elementary School, Alisa Smith/Harvey Stone/Tama Ferrara/Lynda Heath/Michaela Garrison/Abigail Neeley

Combining fine arts and world language is a great way to help students better understand foreign cultures and languages. This grant brings together high school and elementary students, giving them the opportunity gain better awareness of aspects of the Hispanic world in an interactive and artistic way. The goal at the end of the six weeks is to perform a community-based, multicultural theater production.

“
Our daughter learned so much Spanish and the production was top notch. What a wonderful experience for the kids that they will never forget.
Parent of La Cultura Hispana student

Digital Storytelling–Lafayette High School, Amy Wallisch & Monica Schaffler

Today’s students consume media in almost every aspect of their daily lives. This grant provides equipment for use in digital storytelling that can be used in a variety of different subjects. The goal of this program is not only to provide students the ability to create podcasts for classes, but also to develop critical and creative thinking skills through the art of storytelling.

Strength in Diversity: A Mirror and a Window in Every Classroom Library–Laurel Lane Elementary School, Shayna Walker

Many classroom libraries lack books that show diversity, which can discourage some students from reading. This grant provides books for the classroom libraries to offer students “mirror and window” opportunities where they can choose reading-level appropriate books with characters and situations more like themselves. The goal is to motivate students to read more, thereby closing the literacy gap in student achievement.



Brain Building Through Music–Laurel Lane Elementary School, Cynthia Campbell

Research indicates that music improves cognitive function, increasing language development and overall functionality of the brain. This grant provides Orff instruments that can be used with songs,

movement activities, rhythmic and metric exercises, as well as for reading and writing music. The goals are to help students build independence, improve social interaction, and refine listening skills and ear training to improve overall creative thinking.

STEAM Rolling: Advanced Engineering for Elementary Students–Matthew Whaley Elementary School, Diana Linkenaugher/Kris VanDeusen/Deborah Besnier

STEAM learning helps increase problem solving skills and creative thinking. This grant provides a mobile STEAM classroom to be used by all grade levels with different learning plans. The goal is to give students more opportunities to actively engage in hands-on projects with robots, vehicles, wind and solar energy, and boats and buoyancy, to name a few.



It always amazes me when students get to develop their own creative solutions to problems. They take it seriously and the most difficult part of the lesson is getting them to stop building and to clean up. –Kris Van Deusen



Again, many thanks for giving my students the opportunity to see things in their world from a much closer perspective!

*Patti Westmorland
I Can See Clearly Now*

I Can See Clearly Now: Microscopes in the Elementary Science Class–Matthew Whaley Elementary School, Patricia Westmoreland

Students have a natural curiosity for the world around them, especially with microscopic organisms they cannot see. This grant provides microscopes so our students can gain a close-up view of organisms and everyday objects not easily visible to the naked eye. The goal of this grant is to engage students in scientific learning and to help them better connect with what they learn in textbooks.

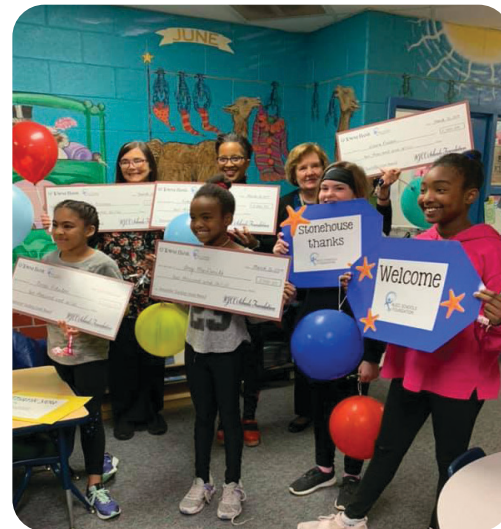
Taking Care of the Whole Learner–Norge Elementary School, Maryann Balint & Julie Bonadonna

Research has shown that when students move while learning they make more connections with the concept being taught. This grant provides tools to help teachers support students who have trouble focusing in a classroom. One such tool is a Nature Hop Decal Set, which includes numbers, counting pebbles, movement logs and arrows to be used in math. Supporting the entire school, the goal of this project is to enhance learning by providing stimulating movement breaks that help engage the brain and also support the school health initiative.



Building Blocks for Future Engineers–Stonehouse Elementary School, Kimberley Hundley/Dawn Padden/Michelle Bonner/ Amy MacDonald/Ronda Vickerton

Play is used to engage Kindergarten students on the playground and in the classroom. This grant provides life-size building blocks that students can use to build, which also creates opportunities for cooperation, creativity and innovation. The goal is for the students to enjoy recess while establishing a structured environment that limits recess chaos. The teachers hope that at the end of recess students will want to continue playing with the “big blue blocks.”



Leveled National Geographic Readers–Toano Middle School, Stacey Fields



This grant provides National Geographic Ladders and Global Issues publications at multiple reading levels so students can read at a level matching their abilities. The goal of this grant is to increase comprehension while also energizing students about what they read.

Thinking Outside...No “Box” Required!–Toano Middle School, Kathryn Chall

The benefits of outdoor education are well documented. This grant will provide an outdoor learning space for small groups while retaining the garden already in place. This grant is in conjunction with a number of community partners. The goal is to increase access to the outdoors while providing a unique environment for learning.

Pedal Your Way to Graduation–WJCC Learning Lab, David Andre & Julie Bartolotta

Online coursework is an integrated part of modern learning, and offers some advantages for expanded subject matter and customized curricula. It can, however, present its own set of challenges for a high-school student sitting in one place for a long period of time. This grant provides funding for several desk bikes so the students can move while still getting necessary work done. The goal is to help students in this environment get physical activity which is tied to academic success and mental wellness.

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THE SOCIAL BUZZ



@wjccsf

Lois Hornsby Middle @LoisHornsbyMS · Mar 26, 2019
 Thank you so much WJCC Foundation and School Board Members! We appreciate everything you do!

WJCC Superintendent @WJCCSupt · Mar 26, 2019
 It's one of the most exciting days of the year! WJCC teachers are being surprised with WJCC Schools Foundation grants! Congrats LHS and the Learning Lab.

Toano Middle School @TMStiger1
 Students are classifying animals in the new outdoor classroom.

JBMS School Counseling @CounselingJBMS · Aug 27, 2019
 Our 6 foot bubble tube was installed today. We can't wait for our students to see it! 🥳 Thank you, @wjccsf!

Amy Mabe @DJM_ComputerLab · May 21, 2019
 DJ Montague fourth and fifth graders got the opportunity to use drones to review for upcoming Science and VA Studies SOL tests. Thank you, @wjccsf for the wonderful grant that made this possible. The excitement was tangible!
 @djmes_wjcc @WJCCSchools

SOL REVIEW WITH DRONES

Thank you WJCC Schools Foundation

JBMS School Counseling @CounselingJBMS · Aug 12, 2019
 Oh, happy day! Our @wjccsf grant order has started to arrive. The hygge center should be ready for the beginning of school. 🕯️

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The WJCC Schools Foundation has provided outstanding resources that have touched students at all of our schools in the district. Supporting innovative ideas from our outstanding faculty is having a significant impact on our students and we are proud to contribute to this important effort.

Pamela and Monty Mason

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OUR PARTNERS

We are grateful to our partners, sponsors and all the community organizations who have supported our mission.



We believe in supporting the Foundation because it has a positive long-term impact on the children attending our public schools in Williamsburg-James City County. Teachers have the ability through grants to develop unique and creative ways to help educate their students. In most cases these ideas would not have been implemented because of budget constraints.

We love to think about this as seed money for our great teachers.

*Chip Devine
Sr. Vice President – eBusiness and Omni-Channel
Ferguson Enterprises, LLC*



Kiwaniis
COLONIAL CAPITAL
WILLIAMSBURG



Williamsburg Occasions
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Helen's Place
PHOTOGRAPHY



1st Advantage
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We believe in supporting the Foundation because of the support they give to our teachers to enhance the classroom experience.

Our teachers are critical to our community's success through the great work they do in teaching our youngest citizens.

*Paul Muse
President & CEO
1st Advantage Federal Credit Union*



TOWNE BANK



"Serving others, enriching lives. " That is our mission at TowneBank and it is consistent with the mission of the WJCC Schools Foundation to enrich teaching, inspire learning and maximize innovative opportunities for all students.

Giving to WJCC Schools Foundation is an investment that yields tremendous value to our community.

Keep up the good work !

*Bert Bateman
President
TowneBank Williamsburg*

OUR BOARD AND VOLUNTEERS

Over 5,000 hours have been donated annually by board members and volunteers in support of the Foundation's mission.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Penny Pulley - President

Kathleen Mullins - Past President

Aaron DeGroft, Ph.D.

Roy Femenella

Gregory Granger

Alissa Harrison

Olwen Herron, Ed.D.

Julie Hummel, M. Ed

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Ginny Snead

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William Turner

Amanda Ulishney

Ginny Van Wicklin

Steve Vignolo

Barbara Watson

Clarence Wilson

Alfred Woods



I'm proud to serve on the board of the WJCC Foundation. In just a few years, the Foundation's grants have proven to enrich the teaching and learning experiences for our community by supporting our extraordinary teachers with grant money for their innovative ideas. These programs and projects lead to learning that is fun and effective. Implemented projects are often replicated across multiple schools for an even greater impact across the entire WJCC division.

*Julie Y. Hummel
WJCC School Board,
City of Williamsburg*



The WJCC Schools Foundation, through teacher grants, has provided additional resources for innovative teachers to enhance the engaging classroom experience for students.

*Dr. Olwen Herron
Superintendent,
WJCC Public Schools*

VOLUNTEERS

Al Boone

Alison Broaddus

Gail Cash

Amy Dassler

Brenda Beebe Duncan

Tori Ford

Denise Kellogg

Debbie Muse

Eliza Parrish

Larkin Schmidt

Sherry Volk

Michelle Williams

Mychael Willon

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Maria Hernandez





“

Seeing the reaction of the teachers and students when the grants are awarded is incredible. Very inspirational.

*Roy Femenella-VP, Development
WJCC Schools Foundation Board*

The WJCC Schools Foundation invites you to join us in supporting our vision to enhance learning in our community.

Donations may be made by check payable to:

WJCC Schools Foundation
P.O. Box 6318
Williamsburg, VA 23188

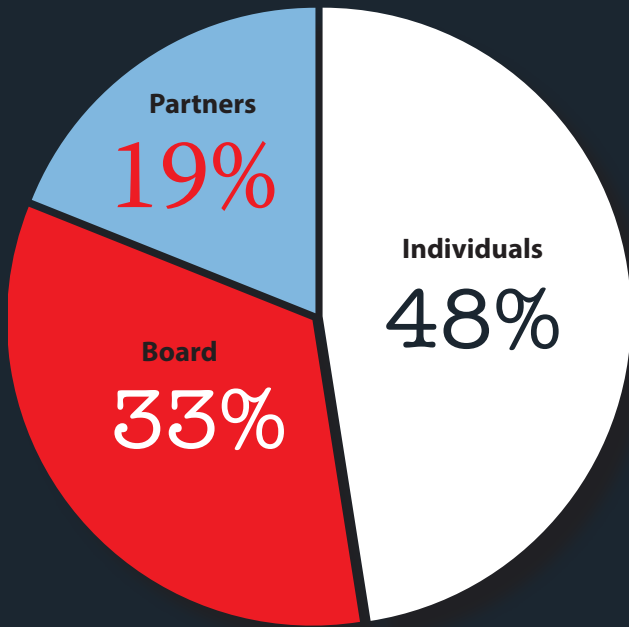
Donations may also be made by visiting our website at:

www.wjccschoolsfoundation.org



FINANCIALS

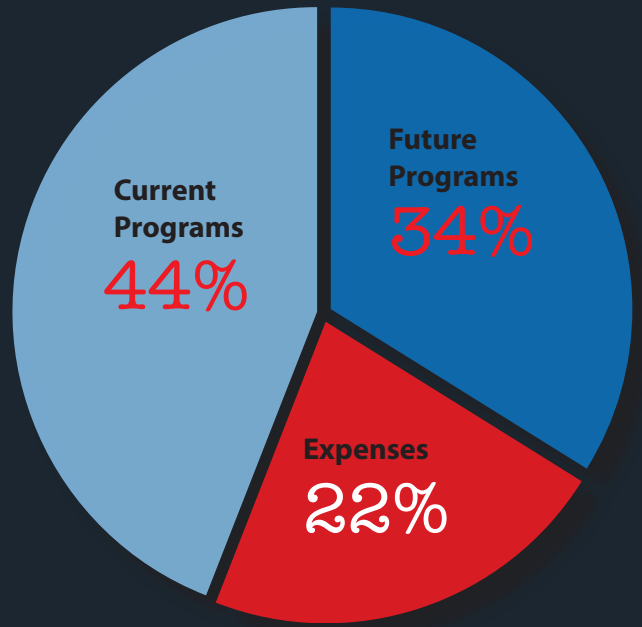
SOURCES OF FUNDS



In 2019, we raised **\$78,476** from **165 donors** comprised of Individuals, Partners (businesses/foundations) and board members.

- 71% of donors gave the previous year
- 12% of funds came from new donors

USES OF FUNDS

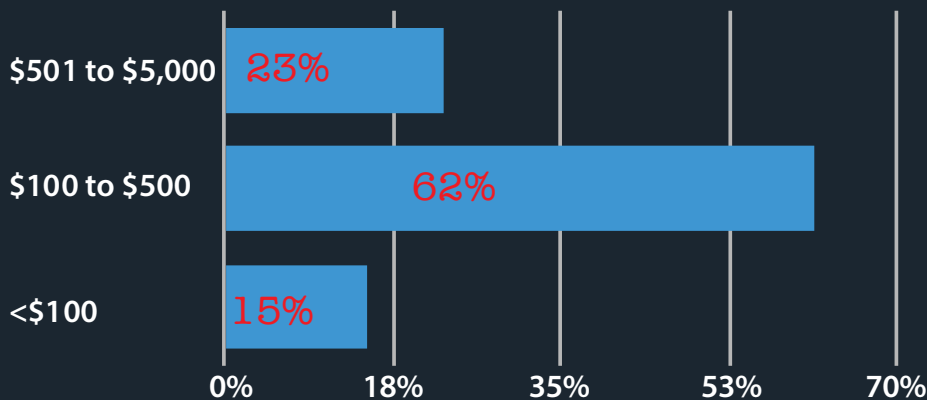


In 2019 **Current Programs and Expenses** totaled **\$51,897**

Board donations covered expenses enabling 100% of donations to directly support funding of grants.

Unused 2019 revenues have been designated for future programs, when **maximum individual grants will be increased from \$2,000 to \$4,000** each in 2020.

DONATIONS BY GIVING LEVEL





**WILLIAMSBURG
JAMES CITY COUNTY
SCHOOLS FOUNDATION**

P.O. Box 6318
Williamsburg, VA 23188

Email

wjccfoundation@wjccschools.org

Website

wjccschoolsfoundation.org