

FY2021 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

Organization Name:	Buncombe County Schools		
Project Name:	Increasing Access to High-Quality Early Care and Education at Emma Elementary		
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)		Quarter 1 (July 1, 2020 - September 30, 2020)	
		Quarter 2 (October 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020)	
		Quarter 3 (January 1, 2021 - March 31, 2021)	
	X	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021)	

Narrative summary of grant related activities

Overall project updates:	Buncombe County Schools (BCS) and Verner continue to make progress toward the construction of our new early learning center. Site preparations are complete, and paving will be finished in July 2021. Thanks to generous funding commitments from this committee and Dogwood Health Trust, our fundraising for the project is complete and construction of the modular building has begun. The current timeline projects that we will be able to take occupancy of the building on September 10, 2021. After that, we will move forward as quickly as possible with various licensing-required inspections and setting up classrooms. We anticipate having four of the ten classrooms open at the end of September or in early October of 2021.
COVID-19 impacts:	This quarter, BCS ended a very challenging school year and planned for summer school. Approximately 90% of Verner's staff and faculty are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, which is especially important since none of the young children we serve currently have a vaccine available to them. Both BCS and Verner are looking forward to starting the next school year with completely in-person education, and Verner plans to return to full enrollment in all of our classrooms.
Activities related to increasing equity, diversity and inclusion:	Verner and BCS share the values of developing equitable learning environments and improving student outcomes and resilience by using a continuum of social-emotional and behavioral health supports, including restorative practices that improve equity in school discipline and behavioral supports. Verner had several trainings with the Equity Literacy Institute in the first two quarters of this grant year, including one that included all staff and faculty. Verner also co-hosted, with Buncombe Partnership for Children, a session of the two-day Phase 1 Racial Equity Institute training specifically geared to early education professionals in our community in the third quarter. With the opening of this new early learning center, we are committed to doing our very best (within a sustainable operating budget) to be a model of inclusion in early childhood education and to improve and expand our anti-bias curriculum. We are building inclusive and equitable organizational structures in hiring, enrollment, and learning across all Verner centers and programming. To that end, we are working with a marketing firm to develop appropriate strategies and maximize the recruitment of diverse candidates for the 22 staff and educator positions that will be created when the new center opens. BCS was recently selected to participate in an 18-month North Carolina Social Emotional Learning and Equity Project. A district-level team is in place and is currently participating in the trainings.
Activities related to increasing operational excellence:	Verner continues to explore the best way to provide healthyRainbow In My Tummy meals and snacks for all Verner sites; initially, this will be out of our kitchen at Verner East. Verner is also actively working on marketing strategies to ensure that the center is fully enrolled as soon as each classroom opens during the 2021-2022 grant year and that we are able to hire as diverse a staff and faculty team as possible. As we continue to develop our balanced operating budget, we are pursuing additional sustainable funding sources that would allow us to achieve true and complete inclusion in each of the new center's 10 classrooms.

FY2021 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

Organization Name:	Buncombe County Schools		
Project Name:	Increasing Access to High-Quality Early Care and Education at Emma Elementary		
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)		Quarter 1 (July 1, 2020 - September 30, 2020)	
		Quarter 2 (October 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020)	
	X	Quarter 3 (January 1, 2021 - March 31, 2021)	
		Quarter 4 (April 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021)	

Progress toward annual goals

		Actual Results (Enter Data)				
		Please only include new data for the specific quarter				
Measure	Annual Goal	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Progress
Final Design- Mobile Modular	0					
All Permits Received for Construction	0					
Ground Breaking Event-August 3, 2020	0					
DOT Approved Access Road	0					
Site Preparation and Fencing	\$896,383.00	\$366,566.80	\$465,534.10	\$6,000.00	\$58,282.00	100.00%
Modular Building Installation	0					
Connection of Utilities for Modular Building	0					
Sitework Finishing	0					
Final Inspections/Closeout	0					
Target Date for Opening	?					

Comments:

The total budget allocated from Buncombe County is \$500,00.00 (19-20) + \$450,000.00 (20-21) = \$950,000.00. In 19-20, \$53,617.00 was spent on site preparation. In 20-21, \$950,000.00 has been expended for site prep/materials/supplies. All grant funds have been expended on site prep/materials/supplies as of 6/30/2021.

FY2021 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

Organization Name:	Buncombe County Schools		
Project Name:	Increasing Access to High-Quality Early Care and Education at Emma Elementary		
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)		Quarter 1 (July 1, 2020 - September 30, 2020)	
		Quarter 2 (October 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020)	
		Quarter 3 (January 1, 2021 - March 31, 2021)	
	X	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021)	

Use of funds to date and any budget considerations

Spending Category	Starting	Total Spending (Enter Data)				Amount
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Personnel						\$ -
Travel/Training						\$ -
Technology						\$ -
Curriculum/Assessments						\$ -
Licensing/Dues						\$ -
Nutrition						\$ -
Transportation						\$ -
Supplies/Materials/Site Prep	\$ 896,383	\$ 366,567	\$ 465,534	\$ 6,000	\$ 58,282	\$ 0
Building Maintenance/Repair						\$ -
Rent/Occupancy/Utilities						\$ -
Furniture						\$ -
Playground/Outdoor space						\$ -
Printing/Marketing/Website/Postage						\$ -
Admin Expenses (Legal, Accounting, Insurance,						\$ -
Other (please list)						\$ -
Total	\$ 896,383	\$ 366,567	\$ 465,534	\$ 6,000	\$ 58,282	\$ 0

Comments:

The total budget allocated from Buncombe County is \$500,00.00 (19-20) + \$450,000.00 (20-21) = \$950,000.00. In 19-20, \$53,617.00 was spent on site preparation. In 20-21, \$950,000.00 has been expended for site prep/materials/supplies. All grant funds have been expended on site prep/materials/supplies as of 6/30/2021.