Coweta-Fayette Natural Gas	Y 2025
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## 20 Years of Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders

For the past two decades, CFEMC has awarded over half a million dollars to local classrooms through our Bright Ideas Grant (BIG) program. Made possible by funding through Operation Round Up (ORU), this powerful program serves as one of our many efforts to help dedicated educators brighten the futures of our area students.

From immersing students in the humble beginnings of Jimmy Carter to robotic kits, outdoor classrooms, drones, job skills and so much more, there has been no limit to what teachers have been able to provide their classrooms with BIG funding.

"Our teachers are a vital part of what makes our communities thrive," said CFEMC President and CEO Chris Stephens. "We are proud to partner with them to fund these innovative projects that will impact today's students for an even brighter tomorrow."

In this milestone year of "thinking" BIG, we are excited to open the application period for educators in CFEMC's service area. Designed to assist teachers with innovative projects that may not be covered by traditional school funding, the grant program is open to Pre-K through 12th grade teachers in all subject areas.

If you are an educator with a "Bright Idea" to engage your students, apply today! The process is easy and straighforward. And eve if you're not an educator, share this information with your child's teacher or school to make an investment in their education.



Watch Bright Ideas in Action! Scan here to watch projects like Hug A Mug (pictured right)!



For 20 years, we've awarded

\$545,000

to 493 projects. Make this **YOUR** year for a Bright Idea!





**IMPORTANT BIG APPLICATION INFORMATION** 

- Application period: May 5 August 12, 2025
- Grants can be funded up to \$1,500 or partially funded



• Teachers in CFEMC service area, PreK - 12, in all subject areas

## Safety & Bright Ideas: Two Things We're Proud to Celebrate This May



**Chris Stephens** CEO

May is a big month here at Coweta-Fayette EMC. It's a time when we shine a light on two things close to our hearts: safety and supporting education.

First, let's talk safety. May is National Electrical Safety Month. Safety isn't just something we recognize once a year; it's a daily commitment. Whether it's linemen working high above the ground or team

members restoring power during a storm, every employee at Coweta-Fayette EMC is trained and focused on making sure each job gets done safely.

But safety doesn't stop at our doors. It's something we want every member to prioritize at home, too. This month is a great time to walk through your home and doublecheck outlets, extension cords, smoke detectors, and appliances. And don't forget the kids; teach them to steer clear of power lines, never stick anything into an outlet, and let an adult know if something doesn't seem right. A few small safety checks today can prevent big problems tomorrow.

While we're focused on protecting families today, we also look ahead to the future. That's where our Bright Ideas Teacher Grants come in.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Bright Ideas

program. That's 20 years of fueling local educators' and students' creativity and passion. Since 2005, thanks to the generosity of members who participate in Operation Round Up, we've awarded more than **\$545,000** in grants to help bring "bright ideas" to life in classrooms throughout our service area.

These grants, up to \$1,500 each, help fund innovative projects that often fall outside of school budgets. From STEM experiments and hands-on learning stations to creative writing labs and classroom gardens, our teachers dream big for their students, and we're proud to support those dreams.

Applications open this month and close in August, with winners announced in November. A panel of community judges selects the grant recipients based on creativity, student involvement, learning objectives, and the project's overall impact. It's one more way your cooperative is committed to the community.

When we invest in safety and education, we all grow stronger together.

Thanks for being part of Coweta-Fayette EMC, where your membership powers more than just electricity; it powers possibility.



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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