

# DLI Grant Recommendations

State Board of Education  
2024-2025

# Trends and Topics

## 2023-2024:

AI: 1

Technology Tools: 10

Media Space Makeovers: 3

Curriculum & Best Practice: 5

Professional Learning: All

eSports: 4

## 2024-2025:

AI: 5

Technology Tools: 4

Curriculum & Best Practice: 7

Professional Learning: All

# Digital-Age Learning Initiative Emerging Technology Mini-Grant Overview:

- One-year grant to help PSUs facilitate the utilizing emerging technology and developing innovative practices within their PSU
- Support Public School Units developing new digital teaching and learning initiatives
- 21 Applications for 2024-2025 DLI Emerging Technology Grants
  - 4 Emerging Technology Grants Recommended
    - Funding for one year for up to \$50,000 per PSU

# Recommended Emerging Technology Grants

PSU:	Funding:	Grant Overview:
Nash County Public Schools: North Central	\$49,050	The "Echoes of Education" project aims to create 10 mobile podcasting studios and produce and publish a minimum of 40 teacher-facilitated student-created podcast episodes. This project includes equipment procurement, staff and student training, and ongoing support, featuring students from grades 4-13 across all curriculum areas, STEM Competitions, Battle of the Books, and school sports. These podcasts will cultivate digital citizenship, knowledge construction, and creative communication skills among students and digital platform consumers.
Guilford County Schools: Piedmont-Triad	\$50,000	Increase educator and community proficiency around Artificial Intelligence (AI) by developing a robust professional learning plan for educators, families, and community partners that meets the following primary objectives: 1) Build expertise among district school library media coordinators (SLMCs) who function as the first line of support for school-based technology initiatives. 2) Create engaging online coursework for educators to access on demand in the effective use of AI, capabilities and limitations of generative AI, ethical considerations, and classroom applications. 3) Deliver family and community learning events to allay misperceptions about AI and develop understanding of AI's potential and impact on the classroom and workplace.
Perquiman County Schools: Northeast	\$50,000	PCS aims to enhance students' critical thinking/problem-solving skills and knowledge retention by leveraging the emerging technology of VR/AR headsets, Thinglink, and Minecraft. Our objective is to enhance students' understanding of curriculum-aligned content, fostering increased prior knowledge and experiences that contribute to the development of higher-order thinking skills.
Granville County Public Schools: North Central	\$50,000	Artificial Intelligence (AI) Task Force composed of trained staff members to provide Professional Development (PD), develop resources, and deliver PD sessions on AI at the school-level. Additionally, GCPS will host an AI student camp for rising 8th-12th graders in Summer 2025 in conjunction with our SparkNC program. Success will be measured by pre/post-participation survey data, PD training evaluations, data usage reports from our paid AI subscriptions, and anecdotal notes/informal and formal observations of student, staff, and community members.

# Digital-Age Learning Initiative Impact Grant Overview:

- Three-year grant to help PSUs facilitate the development of Innovative Practices and needs within their PSU
- Support Public School Units developing new digital teaching and learning initiatives
- 27 Applications for 2024-2025 DLI Impact Grants
  - 7 Planning Grants Recommended
    - Funding for three years for up to \$95,000 per PSU, per year
    - Plus the continuation of the three Impact Grants that will continue through 2025
      - Caldwell County Schools, Davie County Schools, Mt. Airy City Schools, Asheboro City Schools, Iredell-Statesville Schools and Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School

# Overview of Impact Grants

PSU:	Funding:	Grant Overview:
Edenton-Chowan Public Schools: Northeast	\$275,360	DF Walker and White Oak Elementary Schools' proposal for the NCDPI Impact Grant aims to enhance STEM opportunities within our school community and ultimately earn recognition as a STEM School of Distinction. The grant will support the establishment and expansion of various STEM programs, including: Creation of a LEGO Robotics Club: to provide students with hands-on experience in designing, building, and programming robots using LEGO kits.LEGO League Robotics Competition Participation: opportunities to engage in robotics competitions at regional and state levels. Summer STEM Camps: immersive learning experiences that will provide students with access to summer STEM activities. Creation of 2 School STEM Labs: to support STEM learning experiences for all K-5 students
Catawba County Schools: Northwest	\$285,000	Catawba County Schools (CCS) will launch a transformative three-year initiative to embed Artificial Intelligence (AI) into K-12 education to elevate AI literacy and equip our community for an AI-driven future. This initiative will focus on professional development for educators, curriculum development and innovation for students, and the development of bespoke AI instructional and planning tools. With strategic partnerships, CCS aspires to create a pioneering model for seamless AI integration, preparing students and staff for the evolving workforce demands and setting a benchmark for national educational systems.
Lake Norman Charter: Southwest	\$90,000	With the 3-year grant funding, LNC aims to develop AI Literacy by integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) training for teachers, students and parents. This initiative focuses on enhancing educators' proficiency in AI technologies, empowering them to effectively incorporate AI tools into teaching methodologies. Simultaneously, students will receive hands-on AI education, fostering a deeper understanding of this transformative technology. The grant will facilitate workshops, provide resources, and establish a collaborative learning environment. Ultimately, this investment will equip our educational community with the skills and knowledge needed to navigate and leverage AI, preparing students for the evolving landscape of the future.

# Overview of Impact Grants

PSU:	Funding:	Grant Overview:
Guilford County Schools: Piedmont-Triad	\$285,000	Guilford County Schools will transform grade 8 science growth at six middle schools by engaging students in Virtual Reality (VR) experiences and explorations. GCS will offer science teachers at six middle schools professional learning opportunities to explore and implement innovative classroom practices using VR technology. The district will create a four-unit VR science lesson repository, comprising at least 16 lessons, to enhance instructional practices for classroom implementation. Unit plans will prioritize high impact areas determined by EOG Goal Summary Reports for the six schools. The unit plans will empower learners to develop strategies to achieve academic success and become knowledge constructors
Wake County Public Schools: North Central	\$285,000	Develop a Collaborative between Digital Learning and Libraries, Special Education, and Curriculum departments will collaborate to implement a shared vision for digital learning that by developing a toolkit for durable skills and digital literacy (Student Digital Learning Standards), reduces barriers and supports learner variability (Universal Design for Learning) and Strategically integrates blended learning.

# Overview of Impact Grants

PSU:	Funding:	Grant Overview:
Alamance Burlington School System: Piedmont-Triad	\$149,300	Empower school leaders to champion effective technology integration and blended learning in ABSS. School-level leaders would gain expertise through professional learning experiences, coaching, and collaboration, fostering student competencies like critical thinking and problem-solving aligned with the ABSS Portrait of a Graduate and Strategic Plan. This grant scales impact over three years, starting with a strong foundation, implementation with support, and culminating in wider dissemination and sustainability efforts. This initiative positions ABSS to leverage technology for student success, creating well-rounded graduates prepared for the future.
Chatham County Schools: North Central	\$265,804	Chatham County Schools plans to integrate generative AI in our educational system through a three-year program called "Innovation is in the Air." The program launches with the DISC conference in 2024, featuring AI-focused presentations and activities. The first year involves creating a district AI pedagogies document, co-hosting training with community partners, vendors, and facilitating a communications campaign. Year two involves increasing staff efficiency and student AI platform utilization. Year three aims to augment outcomes, refine communication strategies, and justify decisions via data analyses. The program's inputs and outputs will be shared at annual statewide educational conferences and ISTE.



# Questions

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