



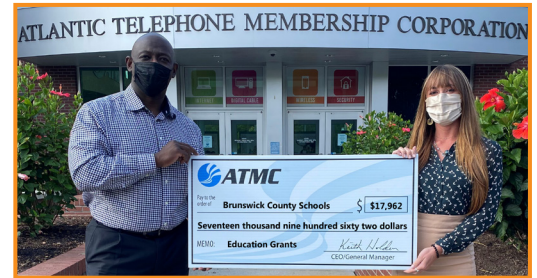
Connecting You

OCTOBER 2021 | VOL 19 ISSUE 10

ATMC Awards \$35,000 In Education Grants to Local Schools

Nineteen local educators in Brunswick and Columbus counties were recently awarded education grants from ATMC. This year, \$35,000 in grant funds were awarded to programs that will expand educational opportunities for students in the area. ATMC understands the value and impact that educators have in the community and is proud to help contribute to the future leaders of this area.

ATMC will begin accepting applications for community and education grants in January. For more information on ATMC's involvement in the community, visit atmc.com/givingback.



Brunswick County Schools

2021 ATMC GRANT RECIPIENTS

- Bolivia Elementary • Chadbourn Elementary • Old Dock Elementary
- Tabor City Elementary • Union Elementary • Whiteville Primary • Cedar Grove Middle School
- Nakina Middle School • South Brunswick Middle School • Williams Township School
- Brunswick County Early College High School • East Columbus High School
- North Brunswick High School • South Brunswick High School
- South Columbus High School • The COAST • West Brunswick High School



The Emergency Broadband Benefit Program Check To See If You Qualify

If the COVID-19 pandemic has made it difficult for you to pay your internet bill, then check to see if you qualify for the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program. This federal program provides a temporary discount of up to \$50 on internet bills for households that meet certain income eligibility requirements. To learn more, visit atmc.com/ebbp.

EBBP is a federal program not operated by ATMC and is available for a limited time. Program eligibility required. Discount good towards ATMC broadband only. Standard broadband rates apply when program ends. Other restrictions apply.

Mandatory Ten Digit Dialing Starts October 24th

ATMC telephone customers should now dial 10-digits when making local calls. Calls made dialing just seven digits will still go through until October 24th. After that time, calls made dialing just seven digits will not be completed. For more information, visit atmc.com/10digitdialing.

October is National Co-op Month



Join us as we celebrate National Co-op Month! For over 66 years, ATMC has been serving residents and businesses in Brunswick County. Not only is ATMC the largest communications cooperative in North Carolina, it is one of the largest in the country.

A cooperative is a business that is run by its members and keeps the members' interests at the heart of decision making.

Our cooperative was built by local people who wanted to better serve our community by providing access to telephone service in rural Brunswick County. Today, ATMC is still focused on connecting our communities and we continue to remain dedicated to the same cooperative principles on which we were founded.

For more information about ATMC and the benefits of doing business with a cooperative, visit us online at atmc.com.



Tips for Protecting Your Online Accounts

In the digital age, it is more important than ever to protect your online accounts against hackers and scammers. Follow these simple tips to help keep your online accounts safe:

- Be cautious of suspicious links and emails.
- Set up a Two-Factor Verification.
- Use different passwords.
- Change your passwords regularly.
- Consider using a VPN on public Wi-Fi.
- Be wary of what you share online.

Addresses, birthdays, and other personal details can give people access to all they need to impersonate you.

ATMC will never ask for personal information over email or social media. Be sure to follow us on Facebook to stay up to date with any scams that use ATMC's name.

Scholarship Applications Are Now Open

ATMC is now accepting scholarship applications from high school seniors in our service area. Ten scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$2,000 each early next year, with the deadline to apply December 10th, 2021.

Applicants and/or their legal guardians must be customers of ATMC or one of its subsidiaries for Internet, Telephone, Cable TV or Security. Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of academics, school-sponsored activities, community involvement and interviewing skills.

Over the course of the program, ATMC has awarded \$113,000 in local scholarships to 71 different students. For more information about the ATMC Scholarship Program, contact the guidance counselor at your local high school or visit atmc.com/scholarships.

Grant Provides Bookbags, School Supplies to Children

A Community Connections grant by ATMC was recently awarded to WAVES 4 K.I.D.S to help purchase bookbags and school supplies for Brunswick County children. WAVES 4 K.I.D.S. was created to ensure that children in difficult situations, especially those under the care of the Department of Social Services, are provided resources to help meet their needs. Using grant funds, the organization was able to provide 158 filled bookbags to the Department of Social Services in Brunswick County. "The grant from ATMC helped make this possible," said Noel Nadol, Vice President at WAVES 4 K.I.D.S.

ATMC has awarded upwards of \$845,000 over the years to hundreds of unique programs. For more information on ATMC's involvement in the community, visit atmc.com/communitygrants.



WAVES 4 K.I.D.S.