

MCPS receives \$30,000 from Crusade for Children

BY DENIS HOUSE
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Thanks to a generous grant from WHAS Crusade for Children, the Marion County Public School system will be able to purchase four sensory dens for students with sensory processing disorder.

“This is a cube similar to the library cubes,” said Carol Cravens, the Exceptional Child Education Director for Marion County Public Schools. “The den contains sensory items such as string lights, an unbreakable mirror, fidgets, and tensile.”

The WHAS Crusade for Children is an annual event that was established in 1954 by WHAS-TV. This year’s event raised \$5,890,189.77, the ninth highest total in Crusade history. Since 1954, the Crusade has raised more than \$222 million, and 100% of the donations have been returned to Kentucky and southern Indiana communities. Nearly 60% of donations are collected by fire departments in Kentucky and southern Indiana. This year, Lebanon Fire Department raised

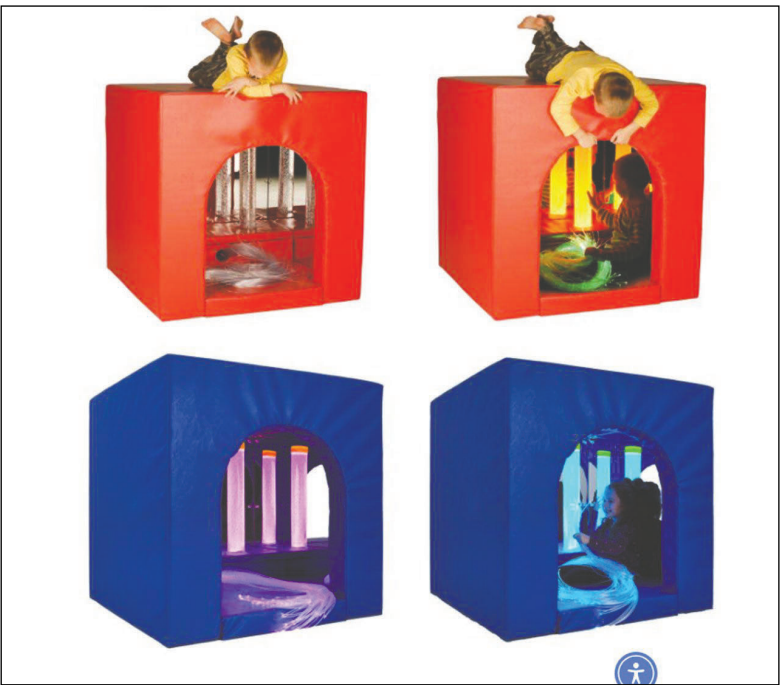


Photo Submitted

Thanks to a \$30,000 grant from WHAS Crusade for Children, the Marion County Public School system is purchasing four sensory dens.

\$43,525.00, Loretto Volunteer Fire Department, \$4,748.17, Gravel Switch Fire Department, \$6,770.84, Bradfordsville Fire Department, \$4,544.17, and Raywick Volunteer Fire Department, \$14,100.19.

According to Cravens, the mission for WHAS is “Makes life better for children with identified health care, educational, and emotional wellness needs by inspiring generosity with our community partners.” She said typically, WHAS funds are focused on supporting students with special needs, and before the announcement of the grant application, a meeting is held with the district occupational therapist, physical therapist, and speech therapist for needs assessment.

“The team saw the need for the sensory dens that could be moved throughout a school building in each of our four elementaries (Lebanon Elementary, West Marion Elementary, Glasscock Elementary, and Calvary Elementary),” Cravens said, adding that in previous years, the school system has purchased special transportation buses and all-inclusive playground equipment with WHAS support. This year’s grant was for \$30,000.

“Grants are for direct services only,” Cravens said. “No grants are made to individuals or families. Grants are made for specific programs or equipment that provide direct benefit to children with identified health care, educational, and emotional wellness needs and are not general operating grants.” She added that agencies serving special needs children from Kentucky and southern Indiana are eligible to receive grants, and that the Crusade must have financial support from a county before grants can be made to a school, hospital, or agency located in that county. Consideration is given to facilities that serve children from any county.

“WHAS is generous enough to allow the district to choose what fulfills a need for the students,” Cravens said. “The sensory dens will allow students with sensory processing disorder an area to regulate themselves where they can focus within the classrooms.”

Cravens said all this wouldn’t be possible without the generosity of the community that donated at the WHAS roadblocks manned by local fire departments, WHAS, church donations, school staff donations, and civic group donations.

ALLEN

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or cruel punishment to a person 12 years of age or less (count 1); that Allen was the caretaker of an adult person that is 18 years of age or older who, because of mental or physical dysfunctioning, is unable to manage his or her own resources (count 2), and Allen under circumstances manifested extreme indifference to human life (counts 3 and 4). He was arrested on May 8 and is lodged in the Marion County Detention Center.

The bond was set at \$25,000 cash.

- Joshua Ferguson, 41, 3555 Wimsatt Road, Loretto, was indicted for receiving stolen property under

\$10,000 (a Class D felony) and first-degree persistent felony offender. The grand jury charged that these events happened on or about Sept. 27, 2023.

The bond was set at \$1,000 USB.

- Jonathan Murphy, 40, of 533 Old Lebanon Road, was indicted for first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance-more than 4 grams of cocaine (a Class C felony), first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance-more than 2 grams of meth (a Class C felony), trafficking in a controlled substance-fentanyl-first offense (a Class C felony), first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance-greater or equal to 10 dosage units drug unspecified-hydrocodone, oxycodone (a Class D felony), second-degree trafficking in a controlled

substance-less than 20 dosage units-drug unspecified-schedule 3 suboxone (a Class D felony), first degree promoting contraband (a Class D felony), buy/possession drug paraphernalia (a Class A misdemeanor), possession of marijuana (a Class B misdemeanor), failure of owner to maintain the required insurance/security, first offense (a Class B misdemeanor), and first-degree persistent felony offender.

The grand jury charged that these events happened on or about April 22, 2025. The bond was set at \$25,000 full cash.

- Andrew Mull, 34, of 108 Ford St., Campbellsville, was indicted for first-degree possession of a controlled substance, second offense-meth (a Class D felony),

operating on a suspended/revoked operator’s license (a Class B misdemeanor), careless driving (violation), rear license not illuminated (violation), and failure to produce an insurance card (violation).

The grand jury charged that these events happened on or about April 13, 2025. The bond was set at \$1,000 USB.

- Michael Crews, 59, of 254 N. Proctor Knott Avenue, was indicted for second-degree burglary (a Class C felony), theft of a legend drug (a Class D felony), and fourth-degree assault domestic violence-minor injury (a Class A misdemeanor). The grand jury charged that these events happened on or about May 27, 2025. The bond was set at \$2,500 full cash.
- Kern Kost, 27, of 207

South 1st Street, Greensburg, was indicted for trafficking in marijuana-less than 8 ounces-second offense (a Class D felony), first-degree fleeing or evading-motor vehicle (a Class D felony), driving on a DUI suspended license, third offense (a Class D felony), buy/possession of drug paraphernalia (a Class A misdemeanor), speeding 26 mph over the limit or greater (violation), reckless driving (violation), failure to wear seats belts (violation) and first-degree persistent felony offender.

The grand jury charged that these events happened on or about April 14, 2025. The bond was set at \$5,000 cash.

- Haley Brooke Carlton, 25, of 211 Cleaver Court, was indicted for first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, greater or equal

to 2 grams of meth (a Class C felony), third-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, first offense-greater or equal to 20 but less or equal to 120 clonazepam (a Class A misdemeanor), possession of marijuana (a Class B misdemeanor), operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, first offense (a Class B misdemeanor), and operating on a suspended/revoked operator’s license (violation).

The grand jury charged that these events happened on or about April 16, 2025. The bond was set at \$20,000 full cash.

Editor’s Note: The indictment of a person by a grand jury is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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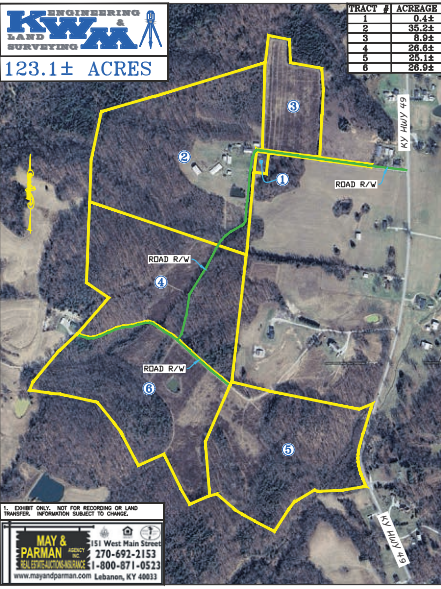
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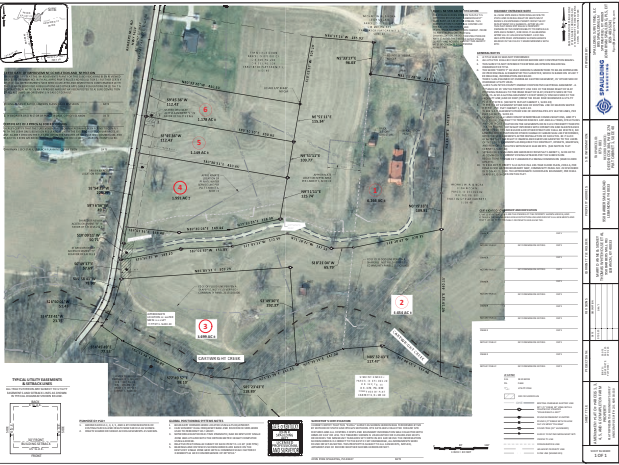


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