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Credit union awards grants to local teachers

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Teachers Candace Hammond from Rome High School, Heather Willis from Cave Spring Elementary and Emily Mowery from Armuchee High School have been awarded \$250 from Northwest Georgia Credit Union to be used in their classes.

Teachers entered the contest by outlining how they would creatively and effectively spend the \$250 grant and applications were judged by a panel of staff members from Northwest Georgia Credit Union. The 55 grant applications were submitted by teachers from Rome City, Floyd County and area private schools and were judged based on creativity and ability to improve the educational experience.

Candace Hammond teaches literature and composition at Rome High School. Hammond has been a floating teacher, but will soon have her own classroom. She will use the money to create an organized, positive, inspiring and fun learning environment for her students. Her ideas include games, books, posters and inspiring quotes for the walls.

Heather Willis teaches in the science lab at Cave Spring Elementary. Willis will use the grant to get the school's greenhouse up and running. She believes that students getting hands-on experience with plants while they study lifecycles is an important part of the learning process.

Emily Mowery teaches journalism at Armuchee High School. She plans to use the money to buy a digital camera for her classes to use for their student-written and student-designed school newspaper. She believes that using images "requires vivid description" and helps students develop writing skills.

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