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# Story Release

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## LCMS awarded \$5,000 grant to help Greenpower teams race forward

LaGrange, Ga., November 19, 2021 – Long Cane Middle School Greenpower teams visited the Walmart Distribution Center this week to show off their three racing cars and to personally thank the distribution center for a generous donation.

The program was awarded a Walmart Community Grant in the amount of \$5,000. 44 students consisting of teams from sixth, seventh and eighth grades were present for the presentation on Tuesday.

Aniyah Smith, eighth grade student and Team 999 member shared that it was important to show Walmart their race cars and to thank them in person for their support. She stated, "The money provided to our teams will go towards car parts, tools and help with travel expenses. Most of our races are within an hour drive of Long Cane Middle School, however, we do have to go further sometimes."

Matthew Graham, Greenpower STEM teacher at LCMS shared with Mr. Fernando Roswell of Walmart how these students build their race cars and correct and modify as needed to perform effectively during the races. The students design, build and race their own electric cars. "We are teaching these students the understanding of STEM topics through an experience that allows them to work together as a team. I believe the Greenpower program is making a significant impact on our students and I really appreciate the opportunity to teach this class and run this program at Long Cane," said Graham. "I'm super excited about seeing the opportunity growing in Troup County as new teams are being added. Just this year alone we have brand new teams starting at Troup High School, THINC Academy, Ethel Kight Elementary and Franklin Forest Elementary."

Graham noted they were also awarded \$1,500 from the Walmart on New Franklin Road (Store 714). A formal presentation will be held at a later date.

#### **About Troup County School System**

Troup County School System is an accredited educational system with over 12,100 students in grades K-12. TCSS does offer a free Pre-K program at each elementary school. The system is comprised of eleven elementary schools, three middle schools, three high schools, one college and career academy, and one alternative learning center. Students within the school system are taught a rigorous and relevant curriculum that helps them make college and career choices beyond graduation and succeed in life. The system 2021 graduation rate is 85.9 percent. To learn more about Troup County School System, visit troup.org and the Troup County School System Facebook page.

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