

For immediate release

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## Cumberland receives grant to target at risk primary students

The Harlan County School District has been awarded a grant from The Steele-Reese Foundation for Cumberland Elementary School to provide intervention/remediation services for kindergarten-third grade students identified at risk with reading skills.

Harlan County Schools Superintendent Timothy Saylor said, "Reading is critically important to a child's learning. We appreciate the generosity of the foundation to assist our students at Cumberland Elementary through this grant project."

"We are so excited about the great news of receiving The Steele Reese Foundation grant," said Principal Shelia Hall.

The grant will fund two part-time instructional aides to perform intervention activities. The grant will also pay for scientifically researched-based reading instruction/intervention materials and researched-based assessment materials for screening and progress monitoring. The school has identified the Fountas and Pinnell Leveled Literacy Program for this project.

Funds will also be used to provide rewards and incentives for student successes and effort.

"We will be "In-STEEL-ing Proficiency by Add-REESE-ing deficiencies," said Hall, noting the play on words with the grant name. "It is our goal to identify at-risk students early and help them through reading intervention to overcome their literacy barriers. This grant will help us do this.

According to Foundation officials, the school will receive \$126,000 payable over three years to be used solely in support of the literacy assessment program. The assessment program will be administered every three weeks to all K-3 students. The results of the assessment will then be used for literacy intervention as called for in the strategies to be employed by the instructional assistants and teachers.