



Jackson County Missouri

Request for Legislative Action

Jackson County Courthouse
415 E. 12th Street, 2nd floor
Kansas City, Missouri
64106
(816)881-3242

File #: 26-026, **Version:** 0

REQUESTED MEETING DATE: 1/26/2026

Resolution No.: 22156

Sponsor: Donna Peyton

Date: February 2, 2026

SPONSORS:

Donna Peyton

Choose Sponsor #2.

Choose Sponsor #3.

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Choose Sponsor #5.

Choose Sponsor #6.

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Choose Sponsor #8.

Choose Sponsor #9.

To be confirmed by County Counselor's Office:

STAFF CONTACT: Donna Peyton

PHONE: Enter Phone Number 816-881-3464

EMAIL: dpeyton@jacksongov.org

DEPARTMENT: Legislature

TITLE: Recognizing MINDDRIVE for its Contributions During National Mentoring Month

SUMMARY: See below

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

NO

Amount	Fund	Department	Line-Item Detail

YES

ACTION NEEDED: COURTESY (NO LEGAL IMPACT)

ATTACHMENTS:

Courtesy Resolution

Recognizing MINDDRIVE for its Contributions During National Mentoring Month

WHEREAS, MINDDRIVE was established in 2010, originating as a creativity class led by Steve Rees at DeLaSalle Education Center, and soon evolved into an independent not-for-profit organization co-founded by Steve Rees and Linda Buchner, with early support from Bridgestone America; and

WHEREAS, from its humble beginnings with 8 students, MINDDRIVE has steadily expanded to serve approximately 250 students annually across two locations, with more than 370 youth completing multi-year pathways and earning industry credentials or completing major client-connected engineering projects; and

WHEREAS, MINDDRIVE partners with Jackson County school districts to provide students with school-day credit and Market Value Assets through hands-on engineering and design work, while also offering after-school programming at the Ignition Lab in partnership with Operation Breakthrough; and

WHEREAS, MINDDRIVE provides evening opportunities in Welding, Drone Racing, Automotive Design, and eSports, and is launching an Auto Repair program that equips students with foundational skills in diagnostics, maintenance, and repair-directly benefiting low-income families by improving transportation access and household stability; and

WHEREAS, students have completed nationally recognized projects, including the award-winning electric vehicle conversion of a 1969 Chevelle SS promoted by Travis Kelce, and are currently working on Jason Kelce's 1986 Chevy K10 diesel hybrid repower, projects that have garnered national attention and provided unparalleled real-world learning experiences; and

WHEREAS, MINDDRIVE's long-standing Electrathon racing program engages students in designing and building lightweight electric race cars for regional competitions, with girls participating across welding, fabrication, engineering, racing, and leadership roles, strengthening the culture of inclusion and innovation; and

WHEREAS, MINDDRIVE advances youth mentorship and workforce readiness through a near-peer model in which approximately 88 percent of its staff are program alumni, and by offering paid internships and experiential learning opportunities to dozens of high school and college students annually, equipping participants with problem solving, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication skills essential for future success; and

WHEREAS, the generous support of corporations, foundations, and individuals in the Kansas City community has enabled MINDDRIVE to grow into a nationally recognized model of experiential, project-based learning that expands students' vision of what is possible for their future;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this body hereby recognizes and commends MINDDRIVE for its outstanding contributions to youth mentoring, experiential learning, and community impact during

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National Mentoring Month in January, and expresses gratitude for its continued dedication to empowering students across the Kansas City Metro.