

COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 94 – AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP – ESSER III)

Under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III ARP Fund (ESSER III), the U.S. Department of Education has awarded grants to the states for the purpose of providing local school districts, also known as educational agencies (LEAs), emergency relief funds to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and will continue to have, on elementary and secondary schools across the nation.

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has described the overview of the use of ESSER III funds as the following: “These Federal emergency resources are available for a wide range of activities to address diverse needs arising from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, or to emerge stronger post-pandemic, including responding to students’ social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs and continuing to provide educational services as States, LEAs, and schools respond to and recover from the pandemic. Some uses of these funds may be directly focused on health and safety—such as improving ventilation and implementing prevention strategies that are, to the extent practicable, consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance. Other allowable uses may be focused on meeting the social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs of students. That could be through preventing teacher layoffs; providing accelerated learning opportunities; implementing rigorous curricula; funding additional school counselors, school nurses, and school psychologists; increasing the number of full service community schools; conducting any activities allowed under a number of Federal education programs...and implementing many other allowable uses as illustrated in this document.”

Through multiple meetings conducted at various times throughout the last two years, teachers, support staff and administrators were asked for input regarding the use of the ESSER III Funds noted below.

Additionally, multiple public meetings were conducted at various times throughout the last two years; board members, students, families, as well as English learners, were asked to publicly provide input on the use of the ESSER III Funds. Public meetings included the Board, Committee of the Whole and BPAC meetings.

Below is an overview of District 94’s plan for the use of ESSER III funds. This plan has been approved by ISBE and is subject to changes and amendments as the needs of students change. Expenses incurred by the district for ESSER III activities are submitted to the state on a reimbursement basis.

Description of How ARP - ESSER III Funding Will be Used	Expense
Student Support Initiative - Program designed to provide increased academic and social emotional support through the addition of teacher directed support periods for all students. This programming addresses academic learning loss and social emotional well being for all students. First, the program builds in a period for every student 4 days per week. Two of those days students can receive targeted academic support in four graduation areas (Math, Science, English, Social Studies). For the other two days students are exposed to an age appropriate curriculum in the areas of SEL, executive function and school connectedness. This locally developed program and curriculum are intentionally designed to address academic learning loss and social, emotional and mental health of all students in a consistent and ongoing manner.	\$ 800,240.00

Enhanced Summer School Programming through increased offerings – includes costs for staffing and materials for all students. The investment in our summer school offerings and programming give students who may have experienced academic learning loss the opportunity to remediate that loss through accessing course offerings during the summer months.	\$ 110,866.00
Expanded after school academic support and tutoring services for Math, Language Arts, Science and Social Studies which includes transportation and security. All students are able to access tutoring after school in four graduation required areas. These offerings allow students to get one on one help to counteract any learning loss that may be impeding their academic success in their current course work.	\$ 110,866.00
Mitigation of learning loss, including 4 Core Lab Teachers, 2 social workers, 2 counselors, Gradpoint, TeamBuildr, Edgenuity, reading supplies, social work interns, professional development, and SAT prep. The Core lab teachers are able to provide an intensive tier 2 offering for students who are struggling in two or more core academic areas. Students in this program are able to get one on one or small group support every day in a targeted period from certified teachers. They also receive support in social work and executive function learning.	\$1,194,741.00
Capital Equipment purchases to improve and replace current ventilation systems. Systems will be updated to increase ventilation and the circulation of air to help mitigate and prevent COVID-19, as recommended by the CDC.	\$ 1,000,000.00
PPE Supplies which include masks, Cavicide spray, gloves, sanitizer. As per recommended by the CDC, these supplies will help to mitigate and prevent the spread of COVID-19.	\$ 33,887.00
Free meals for all students to offset the financial struggles from COVID-19	\$ 212,454.00
Parent Engagement - Low-income children/students and English Learners parent and family program support	\$ 34,320.00
	\$ 3,497,374.00