

Stafford County Public Schools

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund III

Stakeholder Input for Funds Received

7/14/2021



Agenda

- ESSER III Funds Purpose
- SCPS Allocation
- Allowed Activities and Uses
- Currently Identified Use of Funds
- Discussion and Input



Purpose

- The purpose of the *American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act* Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III Fund is to help **safely reopen** and sustain the safe operation of schools and to **address the impacts** of COVID-19 **on students**.
- This will be accomplished by holistically addressing students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs.



ESSER III Funding

- The amount allocated to SCPS totals **\$14,228,832** and is available to reimburse approved expenditures through September 30, 2024
- The ARP Act requires **at least** 20 percent of the funds (approximately \$2.8M) be expended to address learning loss.
- Other uses of the funds include continued support of students' academic, social, emotional and mental health needs, as well as activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.



Allowable Activities and Uses of Funds

- At least **20 percent of funds to address learning loss** through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs, ensuring that such interventions respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on major racial and ethnic groups, economically disadvantaged students, children with disabilities, English learners, migratory students, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care;



Allowable Activities and Uses of Funds (cont)

- Purchasing **supplies to sanitize and clean** LEA facilities;
- Planning for and coordinating during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students, technology for online learning, guidance on IDEA requirements, and ensuring other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all applicable requirements;
- Purchasing **educational technology** (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students served by the LEA that aids in regular and substantive educational interactions between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and students with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment;
- Providing **mental health services and supports**, including through implementation of evidence-based full-service community schools;



Allowable Activities and Uses of Funds (cont)

- Planning and implementing activities related to **summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs**, including providing classroom instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care;
- Addressing **learning loss among students**, including low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care, by:
 - Administering and using high-quality assessments that are valid and reliable, to accurately assess students' academic progress and assist educators in meeting students' academic needs, including through differentiating instruction;
 - Implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students;
 - Providing information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment; and
 - Tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education;



Allowable Activities and Uses of Funds (cont)

- **School facility repairs and improvements** to enable operations of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs;
- Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to **improve the indoor air quality in school facilities**, including mechanical and non-mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification, and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door repair and replacement;
- Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services and continuing to employ existing staff.



Currently Identified Uses of Funds

Description	Amount
Air Filters	\$ 60,000
Technology Equipment	600,000
Learning support software programs	862,000
Social emotional support software program	130,000
Curriculum development and TOR support	400,000
Student Fee Support	500,000
Student Services Materials & Supplies	71,000
Social Workers	689,000
Network Repair Technician	145,000
Community Engagement Bus	100,000



Discussion

- **Mitigation of Student Learning Loss:** What specific strategies/resources do you recommend to help mitigate student learning loss? For example, provide specialized staffing.
- **Maintenance, Operations, & Technology:** What specific strategies/resources do you recommend to maintain safe & healthy school facilities to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, and improve technology resources to support online learning? For example, cover the operational and instructional costs associated with a virtual school or reimburse Chromebook purchases.
- **Health, Safety, and Student Services:** What specific strategies/resources do you recommend to the district to maintain or add in order to meet CDC guidelines and the social and emotional needs of students, families, and staff? For example, provide additional staff for mental health, attendance, and student engagement.



Additional Input

- Additional input on uses of funds or other questions
- Email scpsesser@staffordschools.net

