

ARP ESSER III: Plan for Use of Funds

General Information (Pursuant to the Federal American Rescue Plan)

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) of 2021, Public Law. The ARP Act includes nearly \$122 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) Fund that allows state and local education agencies (LEAs) to take additional steps for continued safe in-person instruction and to address unfinished teaching and learning to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic. An LEA awarded ESSER III funds agrees to develop a plan to ensure transparency and accountability for use of the funds to address their students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs, in particular those students most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. An LEA receiving funds must engage in stakeholder consultation and public comment and the plan must be submitted to NDE within 90 days of receiving ESSER III funds.

Use of Funds Plan (LEA AEP ESSER III Plan)

- 1. How will the funds be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies, consistent with the most recent CDC guidance, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?**

Shickley Public School will be using a portion of the funds to reduce the risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards and support student health needs. This will be in the form of cleaning equipment to ensure the facility is sanitized and the risk of exposure is minimized.

- 2. How the LEA will use the funds it reserves to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive after school programs, or extended school year (consistent with the requirement of the ARP Act that each LEA reserve at least 20 percent of its ARP ESSER funds for that purpose)?**

The district will purchase high quality instructional materials in Math and Language Arts for its lower elementary grades and extending to upper elementary. Curriculums purchased will be used to address any forms of learning loss or the aftereffects of it. Additionally, the district will purchase a Social Emotional curriculum.

3. How will the LEA spend its remaining funds consistent with the ARP Act?

Remaining funds will be used to close the digital divide by purchasing new laptops to ensure the district's one-to-one initiative for all students in PK-12. It will ensure that if the district would need to implement remote learning, no student would be denied access due to the unavailability of adequate and equal learning opportunities.

4. How the LEA will ensure that the interventions that are implemented will address the academic impact of lost instruction time and will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, including student from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students?

Shickley Schools is implementing a PK-8 social and emotional curriculum to address social, emotional, and mental health needs of students as a result of COVID-19. The district plans to adopt high quality instructional materials in core subjects to ensure the means to address loss of learning is readily available. The district will be communicating regularly with students and families to ensure the wellness and safety of students is maintained and academic engagement is high.

5. Include data that illustrates the LEA's most pressing needs or descriptions of promising practices that LEA has implemented to accelerate learning?

Shickley Public School District spent the 2019-2020 school year reviewing Mathematics Curriculum for K-12 Programs. As Covid and Online Learning hit our school in March of 2020, the curriculum team realized that we were not just looking for an increase in rigor, but also a larger technological piece to incorporate if learning from home needed to continue.

Fortunately, Shickley Public School was able to return fully in person in the 2020-2021 school year, and did so after choosing enVision Mathematics for K-12. This moved better aligned Shickley with current State Standards, more real-life learning application, and a program able to be taught in an online format. The technology components have been incorporated into in-person classroom teaching as well. While 2020-2021 was not calculated, Shickley Public School saw a 24% increase in NSCAS Mathematics scores from 2021-2022 school year to the 2022-2023 school year under the new curriculum.