

Plymouth Joint School District ESSER III Stakeholder Input Session

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District Administrator



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
Public Instruction
Jill K. Underly, PhD, State Superintendent

Why We're Reaching Out

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, the third federal COVID-19 relief law, passed in March 2021, provides one-time funds for our district through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III grant program.

During this session we will share information about the grant and invite you to:

- Tell us about the needs of local students and families who were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic
- Help identify community assets (individuals, organizations, businesses, programs, etc.) and potential partners
- Share your ideas and priorities for using the funds



Our Planning Committee

The committee drafting and finalizing our plans related to ESSER III includes the following people:

District Administrative Team - With input from parents, students, & community members.



ESSER III Grant Basics

- PJSD is expected to receive roughly \$1.5 million in ESSER III funding.
- Funds may be used to support our response to the COVID-19 pandemic taking place from March 13, 2020 through Sept. 30, 2024.
- Funds are intended to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students.

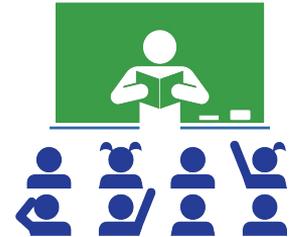


What is This Money For?

LEAs (*school districts & charter schools*) must use a *minimum of 20%* to implement evidence-based interventions to address learning loss, for example:

- summer learning or summer enrichment
- extended day
- comprehensive after school programs
- extended school year programs

LEAs must ensure that interventions respond to students' social, emotional, and academic needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups.



Disproportionately Impacted Student Groups

Underrepresented subgroups specifically mentioned in USDE guidance as likely to have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19:

- Each major racial and ethnic group
- Children from low-income families
- Children with disabilities
- English learners
- Migrant students
- Students experiencing homelessness
- Children and youth in foster care



What Else Can These Funds Can be Used For?

ESSER funds are used to prevent, prepare for, or respond to COVID-19.

Examples include:

Preparedness and Response

- PPE; hand sanitizer; infrastructures to promote physical distancing; improving indoor air quality; establishing a team to develop guidelines for infection control practices; social distancing needs and materials; etc.

Addressing Longterm School Closure

- Additional staff to support virtual instruction; targeted interventions; providing/delivering school meals; etc.
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What Else Can These Funds Can be Used For?

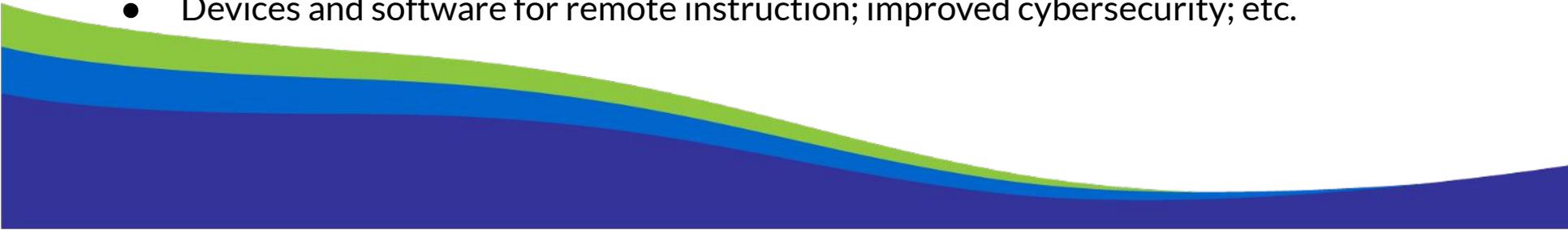
Outreach and Services for Special Populations

- Professional development for staff to serve English Learners remotely; paying staff to teach parents of students

Mental Health Services and Supports

- Additional school based mental health staff (school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, etc.); Peer to Peer suicide prevention and mental health literacy such as Sources of Strength and Hope Squad, etc.

Education Technology

- Devices and software for remote instruction; improved cybersecurity; etc.
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Snapshot of LEA Needs

Who is being disproportionately affected by COVID-19 in our district:

- English Language Learners
- Students with Special Needs
- Early Childhood Education (Birth to Age 5)

What we are seeing:

- All students have lost learning opportunities
- Support will be provided for any student in need of academic intervention

Addressing Needs: Proposed Priorities for Addressing Learning Loss

Percent of funding we propose to use to address learning loss: 50%

How much is that in dollars? \$750,000 or More

What we propose to focus those funds on:

- **Support for Students**
 - **Staff Professional Development**
 - **Additional learning periods both within the regular school schedule and beyond it**
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Addressing Needs: Proposed Priorities for Addressing Other Needs

**Amount of funding we propose to use to address other needs:
\$750,000**

What we propose to focus those funds on:

- **Technology for Students and Classrooms**
- **Programming/curricular resources and materials**



Your Thoughts on the ESSER III Plan

- What other needs or COVID-19 impacts have you seen that we have not mentioned?
- Are the priorities we have identified those that will have the most impact on the students with the greatest needs? If not, what would?
- What community assets (individuals, programs, businesses, etc.) might we engage to make our plan more effective? How can families be involved?
- What other ideas do you have about using this funding?



Our Plan for Safe Return

Alongside our ESSER III plan, we must submit a plan for safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. It must describe:

- How we will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff, and the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies (including a description of any such policies) regarding safety recommendations established by the CDC
- How we will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address:
 - student academic needs
 - student and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services



Your Thoughts on the Safe Return Plan

- **What stood out to you as valuable in the plan?
What's most likely to have a positive impact?**
- **What questions do you have about it?**
- **Are there important needs the plan does not address yet?**
- **What other ideas or feedback do you have to improve it?**



Where We Go From Here

- **Recap of major themes we heard today**
- **Next steps:**
 - **Present at Advisory Meeting and Building Level Meetings**
 - **Further input can be provided Through Google Form**
 - **We will submit our final ESSER III plan to DPI in February 2022**
 - **Our Safe Return plan will be posted on the district website by 02 - 2022**



For More Information

Visit the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's website for ESSER III funds:

dpi.wi.gov/arp/esser-iii



