

Nueces Canyon CISD

ESSER III Use of Funds Plan

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act

Introduction

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act statute requires that LEAs develop and make publicly available their plans for the use of funds after having engaged in meaningful consultation with stakeholders. This plan must be reviewed and revised every six months. A summary of Nueces Canyon CISD's plans for ESSER III funding, aligned to four required components, is below.

Public Comment & Stakeholder Input

This plan was developed in consultation with stakeholders after soliciting public comment via electronic survey, public board meeting, focus groups, and small group meetings.

Effective Date & Publication of Plan

The plan was written in July of 2021 and posted to the LEA website on July 16, 2021. Should revisions to the plan become necessary, the plan will be updated and a revised version posted on the website.

Required Components of Use of Funds Plan

Statute requires that LEAs describe its use of funds according to four components:

1. Prevention and mitigation strategies consistent to the latest CDC guidance on reopening schools in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning. (LEAs are not required to use ESSER III funds for this activity.)
2. How LEA will use funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year
3. How LEA will spend its remaining funds to meet the intent and purpose of ESSER III
4. How LEA will ensure the interventions address the academic impact of lost instructional time, will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by COVID19, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students.

Plan for Funding to Address Impact on Learning

Statute requires a minimum of 20% of ESSER III funding to be directed toward activities that address learning loss. This requirement is separated among two components:

- **Component #2:** Evidence-based interventions; and
- **Component #4:** Interventions that ensure the social, emotional, mental health needs of students are met

Initial 2/3 Entitlement: \$705,683	20% of Entitlement: \$141,137 <i>(minimum allowed)</i>
Amount Directed Toward Learning Loss: \$143,000	

Component #2: Evidence-based Interventions

Nueces Canyon CISD will address learning loss through the following activities:

- Extended day tutoring which includes comprehensive after school programs
- Saturday enrichment programs;
- Summer school;
- Instructional resources to support student learning in ELAR and Math;
- Professional development to equip staff with skills needed to address learning loss

The LEA has budgeted to implement these activities during the following years:

- 2021-2022 school year
 - 2022-2023 school year
 - 2023-2024 school year (as carryover)
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Component #4: Interventions Addressing Academic, Social, Emotional Needs of Students

Nueces Canyon CISD will provide interventions responding to academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, in particular underserved groups*, through the following activities:

- Purchase social-emotional learning and/or Character Education materials to support students' non-academic needs
- Provide team-building activities for students throughout the year;
- Students will mentor one another and be involved in peer tutoring;
- Fun days and field days will be scheduled throughout the year;
- Interest inventories and career development activities will be provided;
- Celebration days will be hosted throughout the year to promote unity and meet the social and emotional needs of students;

- Field trips may be incorporated into the school year;
- Speakers will be invited to the district to promote the importance of literacy and STEM careers;
- Class competitions will be hosted throughout the year;
- Seasonal events will be hosted throughout the year for the students and community to enjoy;
- Family and parent nights will be hosted;
- Celebration ceremonies will be held throughout the year to honor students, families, and community members

**Underserved groups: low-income students; students of color; English learners; students with disabilities; students experiencing homelessness; children in foster care; migratory students*

The LEA has budgeted to implement these activities during the following years:

- 2021-2022 school year
- 2022-2023 school year
- 2023-2024 school year (as carryover)

Plan for Other Needs

Statute requires that the remaining funds ($\leq 80\%$ of ESSER III entitlement) be spent on other needs aligned with the intent and purpose of ESSER III. This requirement is separated among two components:

- **Component #1:** Prevention and Mitigation Strategies (optional use of ESSER III); and
- **Component #3:** Remaining use of ESSER funds aligned to safely reopening and sustaining the safe operation of schools and addressing the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students

Initial 2/3 Entitlement: \$705,683	80% of Entitlement: \$564,546 <i>(maximum allowed)</i>
Amount Directed Toward Other Needs: \$562,683	

Component #1: Prevention and Mitigation Strategies

Nueces Canyon CISD will provide prevention and mitigation strategies consistent with CDC guidance (to the greatest extent possible) on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning.

- NCCISD will purchase PPE and supplies to sanitize schools,
- NCCISD will purchase indoor and outdoor furniture that will allow for better social distancing practices;
- Custodial supplies will be purchased that allow custodians to effectively clean and sanitize buildings;
- Supplies will be purchased to build welding stations in Ag classes to allow for more social distancing;

- Additional band instruments will be purchased so that students do not have to share instruments;
- Athletic equipment will be purchased to allow for better social distancing in gyms, weight rooms, and locker rooms;
- Vehicles to allow for more social distancing during school trips

The LEA has budgeted to implement these activities during the following years:

- 2021-2022 school year
- 2022-2023 school year
- 2023-2024 school year (as carryover)

Component #3: Remaining Use of Funds

Nueces Canyon CISD will use the remaining funds to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students. The following activities are planned:

- Educational technology to help students and teachers interact with one another
- Purchase additional vehicles for the district that will allow for social distancing – buses and / or SUVs; This will allow more room and students will be able to practice social distancing
- Fund substitutes who are covering for staff absent due to the pandemic
- Staff retention stipends to encourage staff to remain in the field of education despite significant challenges brought on by the pandemic
- HVAC improvements to improve air quality and ventilation to reduce the spread of infectious diseases
- Generators for multiple areas to allow social distancing in the event of power outages
- Update theater equipment in an effort to maintain the operation and continuity of services in the district

The LEA has budgeted to implement these activities during the following years:

- 2021-2022 school year
- 2022-2023 school year
- 2023-2024 school year (as carryover)