

Weldon Valley RE-20(J) School District

Federal Stimulus Funding for Weldon Valley RE-20(J)

How much funding was allocated to Weldon Valley RE-20(J)?	ESSER I Additional Information Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2022
CRF: \$244,274	<p>ESSER I funds provided vital resources to districts to address the social and economic disruption caused by the coronavirus outbreak that impacted all school districts starting in March 2020.</p> <p>The decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is inherently and intentionally local as school communities are best equipped to identify and address their most urgent local needs. The top uses of ESSER I funds for our district are provided in the explanation below.</p>
ESSER I (CARES Act): \$15,000 Addressing the immediate crisis Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2022	
ESSER II (CRRSA Act): \$110,718 Providing stability and managing the health crisis Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2023	
ESSER III (ARP Act): \$248,833 Recovery and acceleration Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2024 Use of Funds Plan	
GEER (Other): N/A	

Includes ESSER supplemental funds provided to districts. An [acronyms glossary](#) is available below.



How are students being supported through the use of federal stimulus dollars?

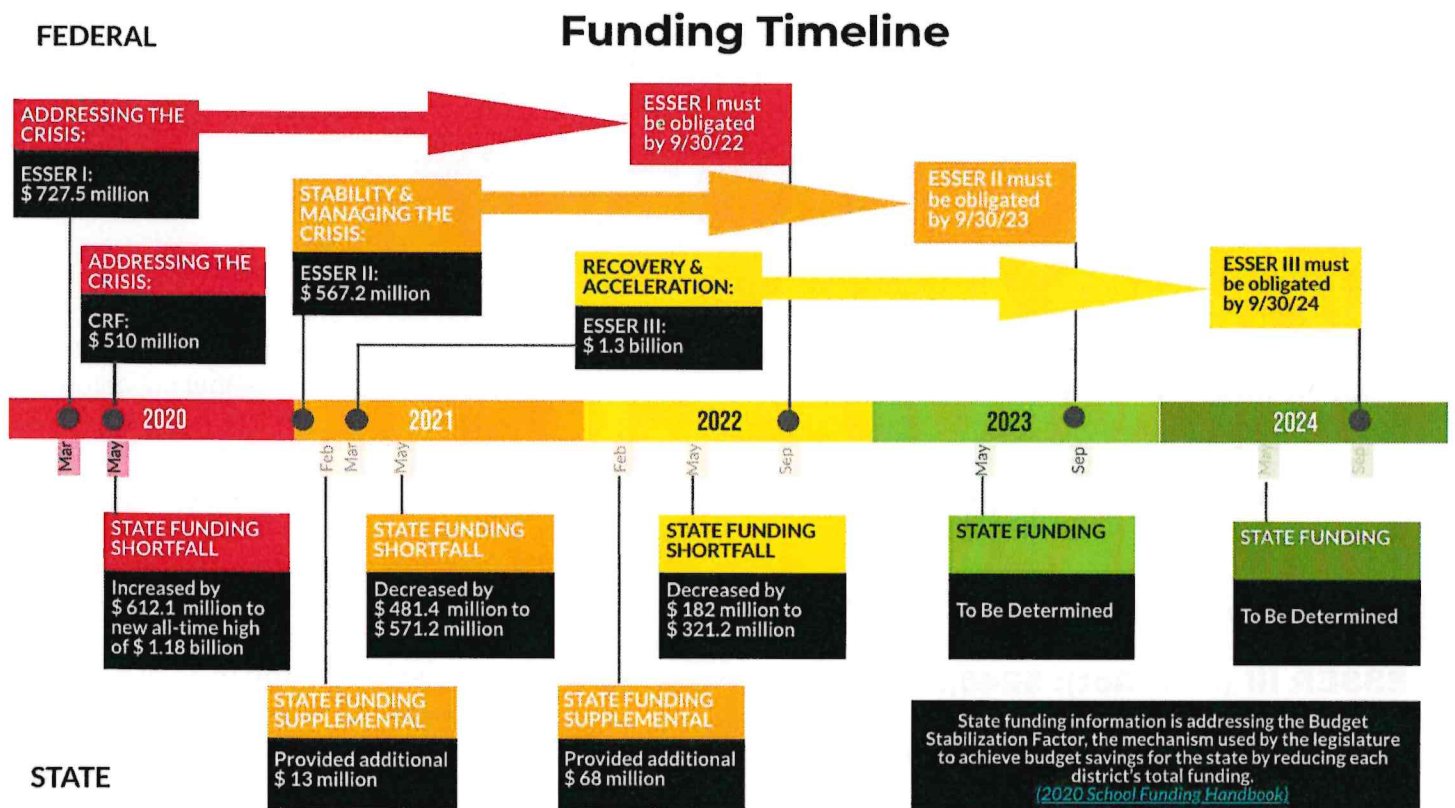
The federal stimulus dollars are a once-in-a-generation opportunity to support our students and to address the multi-year effects of the coronavirus pandemic. The decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is inherently and intentionally local as school communities are best equipped to

identify and address their most urgent local needs in order to:

- Create safe and healthy learning environments
- Address lost instructional time
- Meet mental health needs of students and staff
- Support educators and staff stability and well-being

In addition to mitigating the effects of the pandemic, the shortfall in state funding to Colorado schools during the 2020-21 school year doubled and the one-time federal stimulus funds helped to temporarily mitigate the significant loss in funding to school districts. As Colorado spends less on education per student than most other states, a teacher shortage existed before the pandemic making it difficult for school districts to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers. **While all the**

one-time federal stimulus dollars will expire by September 30, 2024, they have supported local students and communities weather the effects of the pandemic.



ESSER I — Addressing the immediate crisis

Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2022

In March 2020, the CARES Act established the Education Stabilization Fund, which initially provided funding for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) I Fund. **ESSER I Fund dollars were appropriated to states based on the 2019-20 Title I shares with 90% allocated to local education agencies (LEAs) that received a Title I allocation in the most recent fiscal year and the remaining 10% for a state reserve fund.** ESSER I funding for **Weldon Valley RE-20(J)** was based on its [Title I allocation](#) and an [ESSER I supplemental](#) made by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). View CDE's [Federal COVID Education Funding website](#) for additional details.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, CDE administered the district and charter needs inventory from late March to early April. Statewide, the top four education supports identified as the top priorities across all regions of the state were: student emotional support; technical support for delivering remote learning; online instructional support for teachers; and family engagement practices. While there was variability in the top community need identified across regions, **internet connectivity** and **food access** were the two community needs that commonly appeared as a top need in most regions across the state.¹ The following chart summarizes the percentages of districts selecting the following education supports as top needs during March and April 2020.

¹ Colorado School District Needs Inventory, April 17, 2020

Chromebooks will be pre-tagged with an internal number (following our system of inventory), securely stored, inventoried and tracked by our technology director with a checkout list update as Chromebooks are checked out and returned by students. This should help reduce chance of theft or loss.(\$6,000)

INVESTMENT PRIORITY 2: Meeting the social, emotional, and mental health needs of students

During the pandemic, many students were exposed to trauma, disruptions in learning, physical isolation, and disengagement from school and peers, which could negatively affect their mental health. Students learn, take academic risks, and achieve at higher levels in safe and supportive learning environments and in the care of responsive adults they can trust. According to the April 2020 Colorado District Needs Inventory, both family engagement practices and student social emotional support were named as top priorities by all regions of the state.

Our district prioritized the following as one of our top investments made with ESSER I funding: **SupportProgram (\$4,000)**. 5 Rural Schools have asked Bobby Jones a Youth Advocate, to speak to our students about critical mental health needs as a direct result of COVID-19. A primary focus will be on suicide, pushing through depression, and how to handle challenges. There has been several suicides in our area this last year. This motivational speaker for our students will help build morale and encourage healthy thoughts, actions, and motivation for school despite the turmoil around them. Bobby is planning on coming to the school every week for 5 weeks and holding sessions with small groups. (to allow for COVID safety precautions) The total cost is \$20,000 to be divided between the 5 schools, which makes it \$4,000 for our school.

INVESTMENT PRIORITY 3: Meeting basic needs: providing school meals regardless of educational setting

Healthy eating is important for child and adolescent growth, development, well-being, and academic performance. According to the April 2020 Colorado District Needs Inventory, while there was variability in the top community needs identified across regions, food access was rated as one of the highest rated community needs across the state.

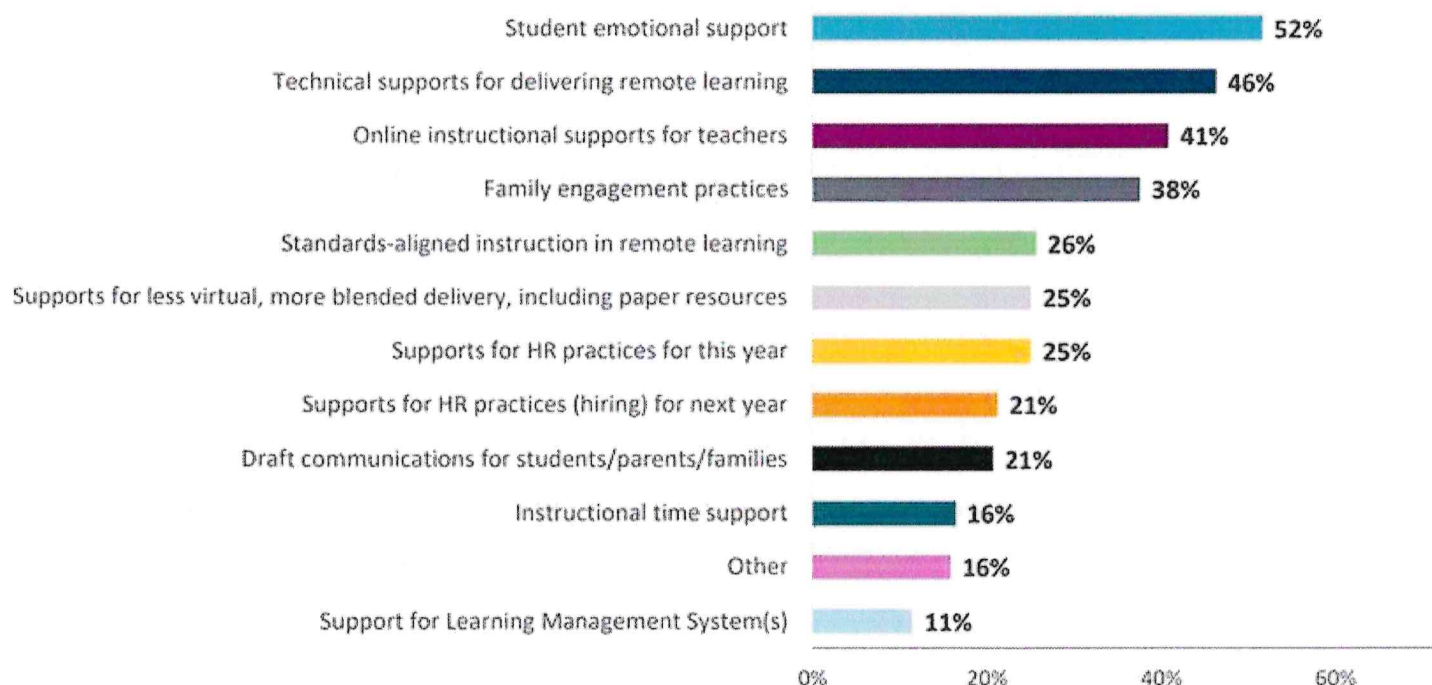
Our district prioritized the following as one of our top investments made with ESSER I funding: **Bus drivers (\$2,000)**. We would also include some of the hourly salary we are paying two of our employees to help drive buses due directly to COVID-19 and social distancing practices for the health and safety of our kids.(estimate 12 hours/16 a week x \$14.67/hr per driver)

Future fact sheets will be available to provide additional details on ESSER II and III funding. You can also find additional information and resources on the [Colorado School Finance Project ESSER website](#).



Weldon Valley RE-20(J) Student and District Characteristics
Students: 225

Percentage Selecting the Following Education Supports as Top Needs



Source: [Colorado School District Needs Inventory, April 17, 2020](#)

It is also important to recognize that the decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is inherently and intentionally local as school communities are best equipped to identify and address their most urgent local needs. The following information demonstrates the top ESSER I investment priorities for Weldon Valley RE-20(J) based on March 2022 CDE data and *is subject to change as local priorities evolve to meet student needs.*



INVESTMENT PRIORITY 1: Supporting equitable access and effective use of technology

According to the April 2020 Colorado District Needs Inventory, technical supports for delivering remote learning and online instructional supports for teachers were common needs across Colorado. Internet connectivity (e.g., broadband and Wi-Fi access) was the top community need identified by respondents, with 53 percent reporting that this was a key need.

Our district prioritized the following as one of our top investments made with ESSER I funding: **Chromebooks (\$6,000)**. Chromebooks for students to check out and use at home as needed for remote learning; plan on approximately 20 Chromebooks at \$300 each to support our elementary and secondary students without computers to be able to utilize remote learning resources and keep on track with academic programming. Chromebooks will follow Weldon Valley School policy in purchasing which includes that the board will approve the purchases of the Chromebook.

ACRONYMS GLOSSARY

ESSER State Reserve Funds Acronym Glossary

Acronym	Description
ARP	American Rescue Plan Act
CARES	Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act
CRF	Coronavirus Relief Fund
CRRSA	Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act
EANS	Emergency Aid for Non-public Schools
ESSER	Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund
GEER	Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund
HCY	Homeless Children and Youth
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
LEAs	Local Education Agencies
LSTA	Library Services & Technology Act

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Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)

The CARES Act established the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) to support states with expenses due to the public health emergency with respect to the COVID-19 incurred from March 1, 2020, to Dec. 30, 2020. In May 2020, Gov. Polis directed the transfer of \$510 million from the State of Colorado's CARES Act CRF to CDE to be awarded to school districts, the Charter School Institute, the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind and facility schools on a per pupil basis. Additionally, each BOCES in the state received \$25,000.

Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)

The CARES Act included \$3 billion for a Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund. Colorado was allocated more than \$44 million from the GEER fund. The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2020 added \$4.05 billion for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund. GEER II included \$2.75 billion for emergency assistance to nonpublic schools through the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) grants of which \$28,433,931 has been allocated to Colorado.

Rural: Yes, Small rural
Free and Reduced Lunch: 33%
Special Education: 17%
Gifted and Talented: too few to report
BOCES: Centennial BOCES

Other Funding Facts

2019-2020 Total Program Funding: \$2,803,052 (\$13,647 Per Pupil Funding)

2020-2021 Total Program Funding: \$2,713,998 (\$13,207 Per Pupil Funding)

2021-2022 Total Program Funding: \$3,042,488 (\$14,454 Per Pupil Funding)

Local Share: 30%

State Share: 70%

Loss in state share for the 2020-21 school year: **-\$397,305**

Loss in state share for the 2021-22 school year: **-\$191,778**

Cumulative loss in state share since 2009-10: **-\$3,843,873**



Learn more at the Weldon Valley RE-20(J) website:

<http://weldonvalley.org>