**Lowrey Public School – American Rescue Plan – Use of Funds**

**Total Allocation: $458,659.37**

**20% Student Learning Loss: $91,731.86**

In response to the requirements of the American Rescue Plan, Lowrey Public School conducted a public meeting on June 29, 2021 to discuss the utilization of funds from the Education Stabilization Fund and the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief fund.

**(\*)** ARP-ESSER III funds will be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies specified in the updated Lowrey Public School Return to Learn Plan. Lowrey Public School will refer to CDC and/or OSHD guidelines when making decisions in the categories of instruction, health protocols, and activities. Funds will be used to facilitate the protocols developed in these areas to ensure the implementation of the most recent CDC guidance on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely offer in-person learning to all Lowrey students. Funds will be used to upgrade flooring and counter top areas to facilitate a cleaner campus. Funds will also be allocated to provide salaries for staff positions that may have been eliminated due to low student enrollment, thus allowing for smaller classes and greater social distancing. In addition, video surveillance upgrades will be funded to monitor campus social distancing as well as contact tracing if necessary. Funds will also be used to significantly improve school to home communication with the purchase of a Lowrey school app that will immediately notify parents of daily information as well as district health and wellness concerns. The need for professional development to address learning loss will also be included, outside of the regular school calendar. Staff members will be given a PD stipend upon completing this training.

**20% Student Learning Loss: $91,731.86**

**Note:** We have actually budgeted more than the minimum required.

**(\*)** The academic impact of lost instructional time will be addressed by the hiring of Lowrey Public School Learning Loss Instructors. A LLI will work during the school day to provide one on one instructional time, both in a pull-out setting as well as a team teacher, primarily focusing on learning loss instruction in reading, for lower grade students, utilizing the SIPPS reading program. To determine individual student needs the LLI will work daily with classroom teachers in addition to facilitating regularly scheduled benchmark assessments. The after-school LLI will work primarily with upper grades students during our after-school program to facilitate remediation in areas of reading and math. Student instructional need will be determined utilizing IXL benchmark assessments. Professional development focused on addressing learning loss and reading remediation will be available to all staff members. The Lowrey board of education will approve a professional development stipend for staff members that complete the learning loss professional development.

**As a small school that benefits from a 1 to 9 certified staff to student ratio the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to those implemented under section 2001 (e)(1) [20% set-aside], will respond to the academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of students, particularly those students disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, including students from low-income families, students of color, English language learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care and migratory students. The LEA is currently comprised of 77% minority students, 33% students with learning disabilities, 84% of students from low-income families, and no students, at this time that are homeless, in foster care, or migratory students. Certified teachers monitor the academic, social, emotional and needs of every student daily. Concerns that arise are shared immediately with administration and appropriate interventions are implemented. The LEA contacts the parent/guardian to discuss the implemented intervention within 24 hours of implementation. As a close-knit school/community the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of every student is priority at Lowrey public school.**

**80% Other Allowable Uses**

**(\*) R**emaining ARP ESSER funds will be used to fund the following expenditures;

- flooring upgrades and improvements to facilitate a cleaner environment

- replacing counter top and cabinetry to improve surface cleanliness

- upgrading campus cameras to facilitate monitoring social distancing and contact tracing

- personnel expenses to provide adequate certified and support staffing

- Purchase of a Lowrey app to significantly improve school to home communications.

This Use of Funds plan was developed in consultation with stakeholder that attended our public meeting on June 29, 2021. In addition to those present at our public meeting the district is in consultation with partners, including but not limited to: Cherokee Nation, Cherokee County Emergency Management, Cherokee Nation Health Services, and the Cherokee County Health Department

**(\*)** Lowrey Public School will ensure that the interventions implemented, in accordance to ARP ESSER III specification, will respond to the academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of all students. Review and update meetings will be scheduled two times each applicable school year to determine if the interventions are meeting the needs of all Lowrey students. These meeting dates will be posted on the school website and parents will be notified via the school app.