



PULASKI COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS LEA ARP ESSER III PLAN

202 North Washington Avenue
Pulaski, VA 24301
(540) 994-2550

Section 1: Introduction

The purpose of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III Fund is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impacts of COVID-19 on the nation's students by addressing students' **academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs**. Pulaski County Public Schools has been awarded **\$8,126,734.49** in ESSER III funds. This plan describes how the awarded funds will be used. Questions about this plan should be directed to Dr. Kevin Siers, Superintendent, ksiers@pcva.us, (540) 994-2519.

Section 2: Prevention and Mitigation Strategies

ARP Act ESSER III funds may be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) guidance](#) on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning. Pulaski County Public Schools will use approximately **\$6,501,387.59** of its ARP Act ESSER III funds to implement prevention and mitigation strategies as described below.

- Monetary Incentive to Faculty and Staff for Vaccinations – A \$250 one-time monetary incentive will be provided to any PCPS employees and coaches in Fall 2021 who provide evidence that they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
- HVAC Upgrades to Pulaski County High School CTE Center – Replacement of building air handling systems and adding air conditioning to electrical shop, agriculture, horticulture, and new welding lab.
- HVAC Upgrade to Pulaski County High School kitchen – Replace roof top HVAC unit serving the kitchen area.
- Replace Door/Hardware at Pulaski County High School and Critzer Elementary School – Replace exterior doors and associated hardware for two of our oldest schools to improve HVAC efficiency.
- Replace Band/Choir Room Roof at Pulaski County High School – This roof section has been repaired multiple times for leaks and roof replacement will prevent against moisture build-up and mold.
- Replace entire roof at Critzer Elementary School – This roof has been repaired multiple times for leaks and roof replacement will prevent against moisture build-up and mold.
- Replace entire roof at Snowville Elementary School – This roof has been repaired multiple times for leaks and roof replacement will prevent against moisture build-up and mold.
- Purchase 12 school buses – Reduce the number of students on a bus, plus provide after-school transportation for extended learning opportunities.

Section 3: Addressing Unfinished Learning

Section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act requires each LEA to use twenty percent of its formula funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time (learning loss) through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs. Pulaski County Public Schools will use approximately **\$1,625,346.90** of its ARP Act ESSER III funds to address unfinished learning as described below.

Pulaski County High School / Pulaski County Career and Technical Education Center

- After School Credit Recovery Program
- Summer Credit Recovery Program
- CTE On-Line Simulation Software
- Substitute Teachers to Cover for Remediation

Pulaski County Middle School

- Hire Academic Recovery Specialist to oversee ESSER III Learning Loss programs for middle school students.
- After School Virtual Tutoring
- After School In-Person Tutoring
- After School STEAM Programs
- Pupil Transportation for After School Programs
- Summer Camp Programs
- Edgenuity MyPath 6-8 Reading and Math Subscription

All Elementary Schools

- Hire Academic Recovery Specialist to oversee ESSER III Learning Loss programs for elementary students.
- After School Virtual Tutoring
- After School In-Person Tutoring
- After School STEAM Programs
- Pupil Transportation for After School Programs
- Summer Camp Programs
- Edgenuity MyPath K-5 Reading and Math Subscription

School Division

- Stipend provided to Coordinator of Curriculum and Instruction to oversee all division Learning Loss programs and supervise both Academic Recovery Specialists.

Section 4: Other Uses of Funds

Section 2001(e) of the ARP Act permits school divisions to use the ARP Act ESSER III funding not reserved to address unfinished learning to address the impacts of COVID-19 in a variety of ways. Pulaski County Public Schools does not intend to use its ARP Act ESSER III funds for other purposes in accordance with Section 2001(e) of the ARP Act.

Section 5: Addressing Students' Academic, Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs

- The strategies developed in 2020/21 will continue with modifications as needed.

- The current plan for PCPS is to return all students to face-to-face instruction in August 2021. If COVID cases surge, plans may be adapted based on data. There will be a virtual learning component for students who meet eligibility requirements, if parents choose that option.
- Data will be disaggregated on formative and summative assessments, including but not limited to, STAR reading and math, Houghton Mifflin reading assessments, Fountas and Pinnell assessments, Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS), Comprehensive Instructional Program (CIP) benchmark tests, Standard of Learning results, Pearson math assessments, grades, pre- and post-tests, and teacher created assessments.
- Evidenced based interventions to be used will include, but are not limited to, small group instruction, individual instruction, before and after school tutoring based on data disaggregation, computer assisted instruction, robust family engagement, extended learning opportunities during the school year, possible change in the school calendar to help decrease the “summer slide,” and multi-tiered system of supports.
- Student learning gaps will be determined and addressed as described in the "Identification of Instructional Gaps" section of this plan unless an alternate plan is developed by the student's IEP team.
- Case management services will be provided for all SPED students and case managers will make a minimum of one weekly contact with the family of each student during Phase III to monitor the student's progress through the blended learning model.
- All SPED related time-lines for evaluations, eligibility determination, & educational planning will continue to be met as required.
- Special Education teachers' schedules will be developed in a way that reduces interaction with multiple classrooms of students.
- A needs assessment form was sent home to be completed by the parents of each student prior to the start of the 2020/2021 school year.
- School Counselors and Administrators reviewed these needs assessments and considered any previous services or interventions that were being utilized by a student to develop progress plans for students identified as needing additional support.
- Prevention Strategies and available resources that are being utilized to address the needs of each identified student.
 - These include, but are not limited to, classroom guidance, small group counseling, individual counseling, SEL curriculum, community resources such as therapeutic day treatment, school based case management, family engagement activities, and parent nights (virtual or in person).
- Frequent communication with families has occurred and will continue to occur through newsletters, surveys, social media, and school websites.
- Teachers will continue to make monthly individual connections with the parents of students who are identified as having learning gaps.
- Academic and career plans will continue to be developed and updated through the use of in-person and virtual meetings with school counselors.
- Individualized personal & career counseling will be provided through in-person and virtual counseling sessions.
- New River Valley Community Services Board provided two professional development sessions for Pulaski County Public Schools teachers and staff focusing on self-awareness and self-care techniques.

Section 6: Consultation with Stakeholders and Opportunity for Public Comment

In developing the ARP ESSER Plan, Pulaski County Public Schools conducted consultation in the following ways:

- The development of this plan included teachers, principals, and division administrators.

- By providing the public the opportunity to provide input through an advertised public hearing conducted by the Pulaski County School Board on Monday, June 28, 2021 and taking such input into account.
- By providing a plan review and providing the public the opportunity to make comments at the Pulaski County School Board meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 2022.
- By providing a plan review and providing the public the opportunity to make comments at the Pulaski County School Board meeting on Tuesday, December 13, 2022.
- By providing a plan review and providing the public the opportunity to make comments at the Pulaski County School Board meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 2023.

Section 7: Making the Plan Available to the Public

Pulaski County Public Schools has taken the following steps to make this plan available to the public:

- The plan is posted at <https://pcva.us/>;
- The plan is also available in Spanish. Contact Dannah Card, dcard@pcva.us, (540) 643-0919;
- The plan may be orally translated for parents. Contact Dannah Card, dcard@pcva.us, (540) 643-0919 to request translation; and
- Upon request, a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA may be provided with the plan in an alternative format accessible by contacting Sarah Polcha, Director of Special Education, sspolcha@pcva.us, (540) 994-2546.