

ESSER III Funding Plan

The intent and purpose of the ARP Act of 2021, ESSER III funding is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students. The District must comply with each of these requirements in the application to be considered for funding: 1. Comply with reporting requirements, which may include: a. Methodology used by the LEA to provide services or assistance to students and staff in public schools; and b. Uses of funds by the LEA or other entities and demonstration of their compliance with Section 2001, such as any use of funds to address required set aside of at least 20% for learning loss mitigation, including through afterschool, summer school, extended day/year programs, targeted to ESEA subgroups, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care. Authorized by American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) Fund.

ESSER III Allocation

Forsan ISD's allocation of ESSER III federal grant funds is \$530,699. There are a total of 28 allowable activities. Of this total allocation at least 20% (\$106,140) must be set-aside for learning loss mitigation. The funding plan described in this document includes a total of six (6) allowable activities. In the aggregate, the funding plan includes a total of \$184,745, or 35% of the total allocation to address learning loss. The remaining 65% will be used for other activities in an effort to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The funding plan includes planned expenditures over a 3-year period: 2020 - 2021 through 2022-2023. See a separate document for details.

Stakeholder Input

The District engaged stakeholders in an opportunity to provide meaningful consultation through online surveys regarding the ESSER III grant opportunity in May 2021. This survey was presented to the largest audience. But, FISD also generated community input through two School Board Meetings, staff meetings, a newspaper article, a District Educational Improvement Committee meeting (parents, students, staff), and a Safety and Security Committee Meeting. See a separate document for details. The top areas that emerged as needs are:

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan

The Forsan ISD safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan was initially developed during the summer of 2020 with stakeholder input. It has been continuously reviewed and revised as the Texas Education Agency and CDC guidance has changed safety protocols over the past year and a half.

The safety and well-being of our students, staff and visitors are a priority. FISD held in-person instruction throughout the 2020-2021 school year. Based on current recommendations and current laws governing education, Forsan ISD will not offer remote instruction for the 2021-2022 school year to large groups of students, so all students will be required to attend school on campus unless a medical condition precludes attendance.

Forsan ISD schools will continue to monitor and update practices and protocols based on recommendations by state and local agencies, CDC, and the Texas Education Agency. The goal is to collaboratively ensure that all students, employees, and visitors in the district facilities remain safe and secure while providing a first-rate education to our students.

*Thanks to Lackland ISD for the use of their words and planning as a major foundation for this summary of our work thus far in relation to ESSER funding.