

Applicant: GIBSON CITY-MELVIN-SIBLEY CUSD 5

County: Ford

ARP - LEA American Rescue Plan (ESSER III) ▼

Application: 2021-2022 ARP - LEA American Rescue Plan (ESSER III) - E3

Cycle: Amendment 1

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Project Number: 22-4998-E3-09-027-0050-26-ARP-ESSER III

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Loss of Learning		Use of Funds	Reservations	

Use of Funds

Instructions

A. Funds may be used for any purposes listed in section 18003(d) of the CARES Act, Section 313 of the CRRSA and the ARP, 2021. Respond to the questions below, and complete the table with specific fund uses.

1. Describe how the applicant will determine its most important educational needs as a result of COVID19.*

The district will determine the most important educational needs of students as a result of COVID19 through a thorough Needs Assessment process. The anchor of this process will be a survey of parents and families within the district. Additional data for the Needs Assessment will be gathered through consultation from other stakeholders including student surveys, faculty surveys, electronic staff meetings, and community forums. Obviously all assessment data gather during FY21 and subsequent years, including SAT, IAR, FastBridge, ISA, IFA, and Running Records will be integral to planning a response that meets the educational needs of all students.

2. Describe how the applicant intends to assess and address student learning gaps resulting from the disruption in educational services.*

The district plans to assess students as soon as possible upon return to school using the Fastbridge assessments system combined with running records for literacy specific data. Interventions will be provided through both tier 2 and tier 3 instruction. Interventionists will be hired for the specific purpose of providing more support to those students who are struggling. Students with learning gaps will receive targeted support in the core classroom to remediate gaps which hinder their learning of the tier 1 material. Students may also be provided specific, targeted interventions in reading and math outside of the core curriculum. These interventions will be a supplement to strong core instruction not a supplanting of that core instructional time. The district will also offer summer school in FY21 and FY22 as a bridge towards mending the gap between students with and without significant learning loss. Learning gaps will also be addressed through new curriculum materials which better differentiate instruction according to student need rather than painting everyone with the same brush.

3. Provide the proposed timeline for providing services and assistance to students and staff in public schools.*

This summer and fall, devices will be purchased for students to immediately begin accessing remote learning materials. Intervention and support services meant to address learning gaps resulting from the educational disruption will continue to be provided as they have been all year. These supports and intervention service will continue to be provided throughout all subsequent years of the grant. Remote learning assistance will be provided to all students and families needing assistance throughout the school year to ensure that those students have access regardless of how in person or remote instruction is used during the year. Construction on improved ventilation systems will occur as soon as possible after bids can be obtained. Remote learning will only be offered in situations described within the ISBE Remote Learning Guidance Chart: "Any student who is under quarantine or excluded from school consistent with guidance or requirements from a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health. This includes students who are not inperson due to the district entering into an adaptive pause after consultation with the local public health department"

4. Describe the extent to which the applicant intends to use ARP-ESSER III funds to promote remote learning. If funds will NOT be used to promote remote learning, enter NA.*

These ESSER III funds will be essential to continued remote learning in situations which necessitate it. This may include purchasing technology for students and teachers to interact remotely as well as curriculum that can be accessed remotely.

5. Describe how the applicant will address the needs of students who require devices and connectivity in order to access remote learning. If funds will NOT be used for this purpose, enter NA.*

The ARP funds will be used to provide student with both devices and connectivity when needed. The Needs Assessment survey of parents and families indicated a definitive need for home based technology for families. Most families indicated that they did not have devices for their children's exclusive use or they did not have devices at all. Access in the rural areas of our district is a major concern. Many of the smaller towns within the consolidated district have fewer than 500 residents which means that connectivity is very limited. Even when internet connectivity is an option, the cost is often prohibitive to our many low income families.

6. Describe briefly the program(s) to be carried out with these funds. This description and the detailed amounts below should be consistent with the Budget Detail page.*

Summer School will be conducted in FY21, 22, and 23. Additional Summer Enrichment opportunities for SEL instruction will be offered in those same years. Infrastructure improvements will be made to the ventilation system at the high school to ensure students can safely attend school in-person.

B. Digital Divide

The use of funds by LEAs or other entities in compliance with Section 18003(d) of the CARES Act, Section 313 of CRRSA, and the ARP includes activities that address the digital divide. Such activities include securing access to home-based connectivity and remote-use devices and related issues in supporting remote learning for all students, including disadvantaged populations.