10305 - ESSER III 3/20-9/24 84.425U - 2021

Status Report Details

Funding Opportunity: 9830-ESSER III - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund III
Program Area: CARES-CRRSA-ARP
Status: Approved
Status Report Number: 001
Status Report Type: Application
Reporting Period: 08/01/2021 - 09/30/2024

Initial Submit Date: Aug 17, 2021 1:17 PM
Initially Submitted By: Jordan Brown
Last Submit Date: Oct 6, 2021 12:45 PM
Last Submitted By: Jordan Brown
Approved Date: Oct 6, 2021 1:08 PM

Contact Information

Primary Contact Information

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Middle Name: Brown
Last Name: Brown
Title: Superintendent/Principal
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Address*: 315 A Street

Organization Information

Name*: Oberon Public School
Organization Type*: Public LEA
Tax Id: 
Organization Website: https://www.oberon.k12.nd.us/
Address*: PO Box 2

Oberon North Dakota 58357-____
City: Oberon
State/Province: North Dakota
Postal Code/Zip: 58357-____
ESSER III Application - Stakeholder Consultation

**Students**: Students have been notified through the use of a student survey asking about their experiences and how they might improve what the school did in terms of remote learning when the pandemic forced us to move to that approach. The school website contains a letter notifying parents, stakeholders, students, and staff about the ESSER III funding and seeking input into how these funds can be used to address any needs they perceive to be required and allowable under the law.

**Tribes (if applicable)-MUST write NA if not applicable**: There was a Tribal Consultation with Spirit Lake education officials to discuss a variety of topics with all area school serving students who are enrolled members of the Spirit Lake Tribe and served by the Oberon School LEA (Section 8538(a)). There will be subsequent discussion with the Tribal Chairman and others from the tribe as during the duration of the ESSER III grant period.

**Civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations)**: On May 3rd, 2021, Parents were invited to the school to discuss the needs of students, including how to best address the needs of students with disabilities. Unfortunately, the only people in attendance that evening were school staff. The district has planned to set aside times to discuss this issue, along with others, at times throughout the upcoming school year. Using Parent nights, conferences, and school activities as opportunities to pull parents aside to gather input from them. The school plans to also send home several surveys throughout the school year to gather more information on how to better serve students.

**Superintendents**: Same as above. Oberon is a single administrator school who is responsible for the ESSER application, funding, budget and the spending authorizations throughout the duration fo the grant period.

**Teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions**: There have been a couple fo working sessions with staff to address and seek their input into the ESSER III funding which included budget development, interpretations of the regulations, the scoring of other information., etc. Oberon School does not have a teacher representative group but will continue to address teacher and other staff needs through input and suggestion via staff meetings and other means such as the school's website and Facebook pages. Teacher and staff input will also be addressed with the administrators open door policy.

**Stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children and youth in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students**: Stakeholders and other groups have access to the schools website. The Oberon School services a rural area over several school district and the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation. The school's Homeless Coordinator*s responsibilities rest with a classroom teacher who makes regular contacts with parents to insure this group is reviewing the services it is illegible for with all programs. She also is on top of parent contacts regularly. On May 3rd, 2021, Parents were invited to the school to discuss the needs of students, including how to best address the needs of students with disabilities. Unfortunately, the only people in attendance that evening were school staff. The district has planned to set aside times to discuss this issue, along with others, at times throughout the upcoming school year. Using Parent nights, conferences, and school activities as opportunities to pull parents aside to gather input from them. The school plans to also send home several surveys throughout the school year to gather more information on how to better serve students. All of this is being done to build a positive school community and atmosphere.

**ESSER III Approved Applications**
District confirms the approved ESSER III application will be posted to their website for public access.*: Yes

ESSER III Application

Prevention & Mitigation Strategies

Return to In-Person Instruction Plan*:
https://www.oberon.k12.nd.us/safety-smart-restart-plan/
LEA Website Link (copy from browser-must include http)

Yes

District confirms the plan will be updated at least every six months through September 2024 and will seek ongoing public input on the plan.*:

Describe how ARP ESSER III funds will be used by the district to implement prevention and mitigation strategies.*:
The Oberon School District will follow all county and state megaton strategies as will as those of the Center for Disease Control (CDC). The district will also insure that with the visitation and review of its Return to In-Person Instruction Plan that these strategies will be continuously reviewed by the District's Review and Planning Team to insure all considerations and viewpoints are taken with any improvements or changes being made to the plan. It is planned that the Team will meet regularly as potential changes in these strategies are being anticipated due to changes in the pandemic. This approved plan will be undated and placed in the necessary places in order for all people involved in the school organization process, from students, parents, stateholders and staff, are made fully aware of the changes. Then school board will renew the necessary approvals as required and recommended. Any and all mitigation and prevention strategies planned, that require use of ESSER III dollars, will be given the necessary consideration for approval with budget amendments as necessary. Only costs will be given consideration. Oberon has in place a Safe Return to Learning Plan, in which it will work with parents and local health organizations to help prevent student exposure. The district will stay in contact with county and tribal health officials to address changes in status and how to approach concerns. Students will be monitored and steps will be taken if students show signs or symptoms. These procedures will be implemented fairly and equally to all students. Access to materials or resources will not be denied to any students of the district. Part of the prevention strategy is to improve and maintain a safe learning environment. The OSD plans to do this by increasing regular cleaning of facilities, bringing a full time janitor that is dedicated to the cleaning of the facility. This individual will also be provided with much needed updated janitorial equipment and supplies. As there will be more regular cleanings, more supplies will be used. To help improve air quality, the school is planning to upgrade its current HVAC system with cleaners and climate control options. This system will come with construction costs.

Learning Loss

Describe how the district will use the mandatory 20% set-aside to address the academic impact of learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions.*:
The Oberon Public School District is going far above and beyond the 20% mandatory minimum to address learning loss in our district. First, Oberon has hired a counselor/social worker 1 FTE (for the first time in its history) at the elementary level to address the learning of students through intense counseling opportunities to address those learners who fall into tier 2 or 3 of the MTSS framework. The need for addressing social/emotional learning has been identified as a high need. It is believed that the students of the Oberon School cannot learn to their fullest potential until their basic needs are met along with their socio-emotional challenges. In order to implement MTSS effectively, Oberon will have professional development on the MTSS framework. Stakeholder feedback has indicated an increased need for a counselor. Oberon will also implement a half hour block during each day for students who are behind and need extra help to catch up. This same block will also allow students who are not behind an enrichment period. The Oberon School will work to balance the variety of learning challenges through the various programs it currently implements in order to offer a complete and seamless learning program for all students.

Needs of Students Disproportionately Impacted

Describe how the district will respond to the needs of students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Address each stakeholder group.*:

Oberon School District is a very small district, so numbers in the various groups are small. The use of instructional aides will allow for more individualized instruction. We are in the process of expanding our instructional aide numbers both on a full-time and part-time basis. MTSS training will allow teachers and administrators to provide a more individualized plan for students who are having issues in school. This will be the same.
strategy the District will be using for all of our students. It is believed that having a full-time counselor/social worker on staff will bring a tremendous boost to all groups served by the Oberon School District. In addition to being a small district, the OSD serves students primarily from the Spirit Lake Reservation. 99% of these students identify as Native American. The school also is 100% free and reduced lunch status. All the students that Oberon serves fall into the categories of disproportionately impacted. This is taken into strong consideration when developing strategies, because the goal behind these strategies is to serve all of Oberon's students better.

**Estimated Use of Funds Plan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allowable Use of Funds</th>
<th>Estimated Expenditure Amount</th>
<th>Estimated Amount to address Learning Loss under this Use of Funds (20% of Budget Total MUST be spent on Learning Loss)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coordinate emergency response</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure preparedness and coordination</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase cleaning supplies</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educational Technology</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental health supports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplemental learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordinate long-term closures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving Air Quality</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional pay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Implement public health protocols</td>
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<tr>
<td>High quality instructional materials and curricula</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction Projects</td>
<td>$100,000.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budgetary shortfalls</td>
<td>$64,180.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian, Native Hawaiian, &amp; Alaskan Native Act</td>
<td>$80,000.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDEA (Special Education)</td>
<td>$22,000.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<td>McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act</td>
<td>$22,000.00</td>
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**Compliance with General Education Provisions Act Section 427**

**Compliance with General Education Provisions Act Section 427 (GEPA)**

**What barriers exist in your community that may prevent students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries from access or participation in the funded projects or activities listed in the application?**

One of the most evident barriers in our district is poverty. A very large percentage (100%) of our students qualify each year for either free or reduced lunch. Another barrier is that we are largely a rural district, and many of the parents do not live close to the school and do not have the necessary transportation methods to access regularly with any after school programs. This may require additional bus runs to address this issue.

**What steps are being taken to address or overcome these barriers?**

The Oberon School District does provide information on-line through our web-site and Facebook pages. We make an effort to inform parents through newsletters and other communications of all benefits available to all students. Meetings are held weekly with all teachers to discuss issues and provide information and programs and plans that are available for teachers. Communications with teachers is excellent with all administrators. The district is looking to implement an after school program for students to enroll in to receive additional instruction, practice, and guidance from
teachers and staff. This would require additional busing and transportation, as 100% of enrolled students take part in busing services. We use technology to the widest extent possible. We communicate with parents through newsletters, emails, text messaging, phone calls, and posts as indicated above. The Oberon School District does have policies in place that address this issue. Policy AAC deals with Non Discrimination and Anti-Harassment and includes references to Federal laws that deal with discrimination, including Title IX and Rehabilitation. We also have Policy AACA that includes a Dispute Resolution for Section 504. Policy ABDA states that the Board will make facilities available to all, including individuals with disabilities. Policy FDE includes language that outlines our commitment to education all students, including those with disabilities. Oberon Public School ensures that required policies are adopted by the Board and are followed. Should there be any policy changes needed due to state or federal modification Oberon School policies will reflect accordingly through the policy review process and approval.