

10033 - 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:	08/11/2021 - 05/20/2022
Initial Submit Date:	Aug 11, 2021 2:04 PM
Initially Submitted By:	Shae Peplinski
Last Submit Date:	Sep 2, 2021 11:52 AM
Last Submitted By:	Danielle O'Brien
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Contact Information

Primary Contact Information

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Organization Information

Name*:	Billings County School District - DPI
Organization Type*:	Public LEA
Tax Id:	
Organization Website:	http://www.billingscounty.k12.nd.us
Address*:	PO Box 307 Medora North Dakota 58645-____ City State/Province Postal Code/Zip

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SAM.gov Entity ID: DXMPSSS1HAE1
SAM.gov Name: Billings County Public School District No..1
SAM.gov Entity ID Expiration Date: 08/16/2022

ESSER III Application - Stakeholder Consultation

Stakeholder Consultation

Students*:

As solely an elementary school, our student feedback was limited to classroom discussion with our upper level students on what they would like to see addressed in our buildings or educational settings. The general consensus from our student population was they looked forward to the tutoring opportunities and would benefit from additional academic time.

Tribes (if applicable)-MUST write NA if not applicable*:

N/A

Civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations)*:

Billings County School District consulted with their Title IX coordinator and 504 coordinator to ensure proper consultation. These individuals were invited to attend a public hearing on the ESSER III application. The public hearing was held on August 10th, 2021. The public meeting provided all stakeholders an opportunity to provide feedback and give recommendations on Billings County School District's ESSER III Plan. Billings County School District also posted the plan on our school website to gather public input on how ESSER III Funds should be used to best meet the needs of our school district. Input was gathered and ESSER III funds were allocated to the programs/capital projects deemed most beneficial to our students.

Superintendents*:

The superintendent meets weekly with the principal, business manager, and technology coordinator, and has many discussions on ESSER III funds with this group. The superintendent also kept the school board informed of the requirements of the grants and made recommendations as to the use of the grants.

Teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions*:

Teacher and para input was gathered throughout the year. This communication was with the principal, superintendent, or both. Other staff, such as the technology coordinator, custodians, maintenance, special education, and general education teachers were consulted individually on their needs and the best use of the ESSER III funds. These group members also had the opportunity to give their input through the August 10th public meeting.

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*:

Billings County School District does not have any students in these categories, other than Learning Disabled and English Language Learners. The needs of these students have been acknowledged and addressed by use of funds through direct student services.

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*:

<http://www.billingscounty.k12.nd.us/files/2020/10/Health-and-Safety-Plan-Final-10-12-20.pdf>
LEA Website Link (copy from browser-must include http)

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

Describe how ARP ESSER III funds will be used by the district to implement prevention and mitigation strategies.*:

The ESSER funds will be utilized for the continuity of services successfully started in the 2020-2021 school year, as well as, for a district wide staff retention strategy. The plan will focus on addressing the learning loss resulting from COVID-19 and the interruption to the regular school year. The funds will be used to pay for teachers to tutor in a small group or one-to-one setting. The funds will collectively be used to support the return of in-person staff for the upcoming school year. Therefore, the funds will address learning loss and continuity of services and simultaneously work as prevention and mitigation strategies

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.*:

Our LEA plans to use ESSER III funds to address learning loss in Billings County by utilizing a summer and school year face-to-face tutoring program. Over the course of the summer, we opened tutoring sessions for small group and one-on-one learning. Time spent working with certified educators on high need subject areas is proven to be an effective method for student success. We would utilize at least 20% of our ESSER III funds to address learning loss through payment to our teachers from our tutoring program, including additional professional development for our staff. The tutoring program is offered by certified teachers and focuses on intervention assessments, classroom observations, and individual grades. These teachers attend a variety of professional development focusing student growth, effective use of curriculum, and student's mental health during this pandemic.

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.*:

In the 2020-2021 school year, 14% of Billings County School elementary students qualified for free or reduced lunch. With such a low percentage of students qualifying as low-income, the district plans to use ESSER III funds to address the needs of ALL Billings County students, since very few are disproportionately impacted. The two EL students at Billings County is considered low needs and do not qualify for free or reduced lunches. The district has non-discrimination policies in place and intends to follow said policies.. The district does have an understanding with RESP, who will provide English learner support with the two EL students enrolled. BCSD has no students on a 504 plan. The district does have a couple of students with learning disabilities who are served by West River Student Services and the district special education teacher. Plans for use of ESSER III funds will include students with learning disabilities and our EL students. BCSD has no students experiencing homelessness, but does have a homeless liaison should the need arise. BCSD has no students in foster care, but does have a foster care liaison should the need arise. BCSD has no migratory students, but does have a migratory student liaison should the need arise.

Estimated Use of Funds Plan

Allowable Use of Funds

Allowable Use of Funds	Estimated Expenditure Amount	Estimated Amount to address Learning Loss under this Use of Funds (20% of Budget Total MUST be spent on Learning Loss)
Additional pay	\$45,000.00	\$9,003.14
	\$45,000.00	\$9,003.14

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?*

Barriers that may exist for BCSD students include high staff turn over and access to individual or small group education. The expenditure areas would focus on all students, therefore eliminating the concern for potential discrimination based on gender, race, disability, national origin, color, or age. We believe this approach will be most beneficial to all student populations while addressing the six type of barriers often seen regarding gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age. All teachers and students in the district will have equal access to or be positively impacted by the title funding. Administration assists to ensure that all six barriers have equal access to the funds.

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

As we all know, employee retention and recruitment has been extremely difficult throughout the pandemic. Billings County plans to create a retention program for the 21-22 school year that would use ESSER III funds. This would be offered to all employees who work in-person and would be based on returning for the 21-22 school year. We would base the pay off each staff members hours from the 20-21 school year. For example, upon returning in-person for the 21-22 school year, staff would be paid \$0.89 an hour for every in-person hour they worked during the 20-21 school year. This would be a significant factor in demonstrating our support for returning employees and encourage continued employment and dedication to our district. Additionally, the barriers will be overcome by utilizing our small group and individualized tutoring programs developed and implemented by our highly qualified teaching staff, which is being addressed by the 20% allocation of the ESSER III funds regarding learning loss.