



# Schoolcraft Community Schools

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To Board of Education and Schoolcraft Stakeholders,

Under the Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II Fund and the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund Section 98c appropriated \$52,056,000 in federal funding to address learning loss. As such, Schoolcraft Community Schools intends to apply for this funding which will be distributed to qualifying LEAs in equal amounts, that are currently unknown, by per pupil membership through monthly state aid payments.

Schoolcraft Community Schools is committed to continuously improving learning strategies for all students enrolled in K – 12. The Covid-19 epidemic has created potential gaps in students' learning and requires us to evaluate and make changes to our instructional models. The district uses benchmarks assessment evidence to monitor and evaluate patterns and trends in district performance, along with assisting in identifying effective instructional programs. This information provides guidance for standardizing or adjusting curriculum and instruction across grade levels, schools, and districts.

The pandemic has placed a number of constraints on school systems, and many of the normal processes and procedures have been put on hold while we worked through ways to vary instruction, reach all students, and manage the virus in our schools and communities. We have adapted the way we teach in a number of different ways, and after reviewing assessment data have found our 7th and 8th grade students need additional support and resources to address learning loss. We had adjusted our master schedule to break down these grade levels into smaller class sections with a specific focus on remediation. With this schedule adjustment, we see a need to equip our teachers with additional remediation strategies and tools.

Therefore, if awarded funding under Section 98c the District will utilize those funds in the following order until all funds have been expended.

1. Purchase of new software tools to help aid our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade staff and students in providing effective instruction. Currently our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade team, along with administrators, are working on evaluating which service will meet the needs of their students and departments within those grades.
2. Purchase of Cracking the Reading Code with the Brain in Mind book for each first grade class. This resource helps teachers with phonics through multiple options based on how we know that each kid learns differently. The total cost for this is estimated to be approximately \$470.
3. Purchase of reusable folders for every child for our elementary reading literacy group that facilitates grades K-6. This purchase is estimated to be approximately \$900.
4. Hire a MS Interventionalist to assist with our 7th grade class. This individual will work alongside teaching staff to provide additional support to students not meeting academic standards.
5. SCS understands that small classroom sizes have a positive impact on instructional time and provides students with individualized attention. Additionally students' achievement and behavior can benefit. SCS will use any additional grant funds to fund the salaries and benefits of newly hired teachers to reduce class sizes.

Our administrators will continue to creatively identify problems, seek feedback, allocate resources, and make choices to best support the needs of all students and staff. If any Schoolcraft Community Schools stakeholder has any questions or concerns in regards to this funding or learning loss plan please feel free to contact the Superintendent, Rick Frens.

Thank you for your consideration of our application.

Sincerely,

Rick Frens, Superintendent