

## **Avon Local Schools: “Local Use of Funds” Plan**

The federal governments allocated three rounds of relief funding to public schools during the course of the pandemic. Its most recent allocation, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was enacted on March 11, 2021 will provide \$4.5 billion to Ohio school districts. These monies, commonly referred to as ESSER III or ARP ESSER can be applied to needs arising between March 13, 2020 and September 30, 2024. The purpose of this funding is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of COVID-19 on the nation’s student’s academic, social, emotional and mental health needs. Below is a breakdown in funds awarded to Avon Local Schools in order to re has been awarded respectively to safely reopen schools, sustain school operations and to meet student needs. Funds from **ESSER I, II, and III** allocations are pending approval by the Ohio Department of Education, and subject to revision based and guidance and feedback from the Ohio Department of Education.

Coronavirus Relief Fund (CARES)- \$193,278.56 awarded directly from ODE to Avon LSD  
Coronavirus Relief Fund (CARES)- \$100,000.00 awarded from the City of Avon to Avon LSD  
Coronavirus Relief Fund (CARES)- \$10,000.00 awarded from the ESC to Avon LSD  
Homeless (ARP)- \$5,911.80 awarded directly from ODE to Avon LSD  
Homeless (ARP)- \$1,131.02 awarded from the ESC to Avon LSD  
IDEA Part B (ARP)- \$229,584.94 awarded directly from ODE to Avon LSD  
IDEA Early Childhood (ARP)- \$16,993.24 awarded directly from ODE to Avon LSD  
ARP ESSER III -\$1,387,996.26  
ESSER I and ESSER II (CARES) funds of \$158,062.15 and \$617,586.30

### **1.How will ARP ESSER funds be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent CDC guidance on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?**

The ARP ESSER funds will be used by the district to meet proper social distancing requirements while in school and while being transported in accordance with CDC guidance, local health department recommendations/requirements and ODE requirements. Proper cleaning and sanitizing procedures and protocols will be adhered to. To meet these protocols, additional equipment, student furniture/tables, PPE, cleaning supplies, and various medical supplies will be necessary for students to be able to attend in person. A portion of the ARP ESSER dollars are being used to install an air purification system in the air handlers at all Avon Local School buildings to reduce airborne pathogens and improve indoor air quality for staff and

students. The protocols learned during over the past year the past 15 months for in person learning will be expanded upon to the extent possible to assure student/staff safety.

**2. How will the LEA use the funds it reserves under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year?**

A significant portion of our ARP ESSER Funds, above the 20% minimum set-aside, is being used to provide targeted interventions for students who displayed learning loss due to the pandemic. The district will use ARP ESSER III funds to address learning loss during the pandemic by hiring at least the following number of tutors for specialized intervention: Grades K-8 11 Tutors and Grades 9-12-10 Tutors. These tutors will provide before/after school targeted instruction aimed at students' needs. ARP funds are being invested in a June/July/August extended learning program for students who are performing at below grade level expectations at the conclusion of the year. In addition to providing summer and/or before and after school interventions; the district will be purchasing additional software to assist teachers to track student progress, purchase additional textbooks, classroom software/ support supplies, and classroom technology needed to provide effective instruction. The district will provide necessary teacher professional development opportunities for staff to increase their knowledge and address students both academic and emotional losses due to the pandemic. Additional strategies will be addressed as needs arise.

**3. How will the LEA spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act?**

The remaining ARP ESSER III funds will be used to provide improved educational technology to aid teachers and students, school vehicle purchases to maintain proper distancing to and from school, cleaning/sanitizing supplies, HVAC repairs, cafeteria expansion and tables (to address proper distancing for all in person students), furniture (to address proper distancing for all in person students), curriculum materials and textbooks, summer transportation or summer/before

and after school programs, and additional technology purchases and technology needs. Additional items not included here may be included as needs arise.

**4. How will the LEA ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions implemented under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act to address the academic impact of lost instructional time, will respond to the academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care and migratory students**

Avon Local Schools will ensure that the interventions it implements address the needs of students by examining baseline data taken in May 2021 and Fall of 2021 in the areas of academic achievement, attendance, discipline, visits to the clinic, requests to speak with counselors, participation in counselor/SEL student support groups, student hospitalizations, homelessness, students in foster care and family attendance at school activities. Data will be collected throughout the year and reviewed by administrators, TAC, BLTs, PLC's and stakeholders to measure effectiveness and determine courses of action.

**5. Briefly describe the extent to which the LEA intends to use ARP ESSER funds to promote remote learning.**

ARP ESSER Funds are being used in part to purchase chromebooks and hotspots that can be used for remote and personalized student learning. Professional Development will be offered to teachers to promote their use of remote tools used to access and enhance our students' education. In addition, each curricular series that is being invested in will have a robust online component that can be leveraged for remote instruction.

**6. Describe the LEA's plan for addressing learning loss by: administering and using high-quality assessments to assess students' academic progress and meet students' academic needs, including through differentiating instruction; implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students; providing information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment; and/or tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education.**

The Avon Local Schools determined needs by administering the MAP assessments to all K-8 students in May 2021 and Fall of 2021. Additional assessments included, surveying all stakeholders (community, staff, families, students) in May 2021, collecting state and national data from the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years and seeking input from community agencies including mental health and public health agencies. Avon Local school staff conducted monthly meetings led by administrators and lead staff through BLT and PLC discussions that reviewed data to determine needs. Services have already begun with previous ESSER I and ESSER II funding sources. A summer program was conducted for all grade levels at the conclusion of the 2020/2021 school year. Efforts will be ongoing year round through the expiration of this source of funding (and beyond) to monitor progress with students, teachers, families with interactions, surveys, family nights, assessments, etc.

**7. Describe the uses of funds for developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators and other staff. Briefly describe how the LEA determined its most important educational needs as a result of COVID-19.**

Avon Local Schools has determined through the use of our state and local health departments and safe return to school plans that proactive measures will be taken to ensure safety and prevention for the operation of school. Data provided by our local agencies, CDC and Ohio Department of Education have provided safe return guidelines. These guidelines were then tailored to the structure of our daily operations. Funds will be used to purchase ppe equipment, cleaning supplies, air filtration systems, and furniture needs that allow for social distancing.

**8. Describe how ARP ESSER Funds have been/will be used for other activities for maintaining the operations and continuity of services in the LEA and continuing to employ existing staff of the LEA.**

ARP Funds are being used to fund roof renovations. If we had to divert General fund dollars to the roof project we would be in danger of not being able to fund normal operating expenses such as salaries and essential programs. Funds are also being used to invest in curricular materials to maintain a continuity of services for students and address academic learning loss. In addition, ARP funds will be used to extend programs begun during the 2020-2021 school year that support student and family success, social and emotional support, workforce development through a partnership with the Lorain County Community College, and student academic interventions that focus on remediating deficits caused by the pandemic.