

Lowell Area Schools
American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief
(ARP ESSER) Fund
PLAN FOR USE OF FUNDS

Lowell Area Schools is a recipient of grant dollars from the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, enacted on March 11, 2021. ARP ESSER provides a total of nearly \$122 billion to States and school districts to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students.

The district engaged in meaningful consultation in a variety of ways including staff, community, and student survey, school board meetings, and through a parent advisory committee. Through strategic allocation and transparent communication, our school district aims to leverage ESSER funds to create a resilient, adaptive, and supportive learning environment for all students. This plan is designed to comply with all reporting requirements specified by ESSER regulations. Detailed records of fund utilization will be maintained, and documentation will be readily available for audit purposes.

ESSER III (ARP) - \$2,050,259 allocation

Twenty percent of funds within the federal side of ESSER III are required to be classified for specific learning loss. The district submitted an application for the items listed below based on the total dollars available.

- Elementary Math Coordinator (supports learning loss)
- Literacy Coordinator (supports learning loss)
- IXL Learning Software for Math and Reading (supports learning loss)
- Math Intervention Para Position (supports learning loss)
- After School Tutoring Programs (supports learning loss)
- Summer School for six weeks in each of 2022, 2023, & 2024 serving elementary and middle school students (supports learning loss)
- Middle school after-school tutoring (supports learning loss)
- MS and HS Mental Health Support via small groups
- Library Books (K-12) & Media Center staffing
- Coordinator of Student Support - Elementary
- Secondary At-Risk Position
- Secondary Coordinator of Student Support
- Staff Retention Bonus
- Staff Professional Development to support Professional Learning Communities

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ESSER III (11t Equalization Funds) - \$2,016,051 allocation

This funding source is distinguished from what is noted above on the federal side. State equalization funds must solely be spent on specifically identified student sub groups including students from low-income families, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students.

In addition, state equalization funds must be allocated as 10.3% toward after school programming, 10.3% for summer programming, and 51.4% going to specific learning loss for the identified sub groups.

Equalization funds have been allocated in the following ways:

Activities to Address Learning Loss (51.4% minimum)

- ELL Teacher and ELL paraprofessional
- In-School Tutoring via partnership with GVSU
- Elementary teacher salary offset for proportion of subgroup students

After-School programming (10.3% minimum)

- Middle school after-school tutoring by existing staff
- Partnership with Sylvan Learning to provide after-school tutoring
- Partnership with BookNook to provide after-school tutoring

Summer programming (10.3% minimum)

- Summer School for six weeks for each in 2022, 2023, & 2024 serving elementary and middle school students

Other Activities to Support Students (28% maximum)

- Board Certified Behavior Analyst

Revised February 12, 2024 after meaningful consultation:

Parents and community members 1/24/2024

District and School leadership team 1/29/2024

Discussed at Board of Education meeting 2/12/2024