

ARP ESSER III Use of Funds Plan

District Name:	Wellston Public Schools
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URL:	

The LEA must engage in consultation with stakeholders and give the public an opportunity to provide input. Specifically, the LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with students, families, school and district administrators (including special education administrators), teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, staff and unions. Further, the meaningful consultation must extend to Tribes, civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations) and stakeholders representing interests of children with disabilities, English Learners, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated and other underserved students. Finally, the LEA's plan must be in an understandable and uniform format, written in a language that parents can understand, orally translated and, upon request by a parent who is individual with a disability, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent. The Plan must consist of the following:

1. The extent to which and how the funds will 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 order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning;

The Wellston Public Schools ARP-ESSER3 Consultation Committee has discussed additional ways the district can make the learning environment safe and healthy for students, teachers, and staff. With that in mind, and using the CDC's most current guidelines to inform the decisions, these are the uses Wellston Public Schools proposes in this area in order to Prepare, Prevent, or Respond to COVID-19 and its impact:

Cafeteria Tables for greater social distancing in response to COVID-19; (FY22)

Custodial Supplies for increased sanitizing across the school district in response to COVID-19; (FY22 through FY24)

HVAC replacements, repairs and refurbishing for better air filtration and air quality across the school district. This expenditure will allow for much better air quality and a safe and healthy environment for students and staff in our efforts to respond to the adverse effects of COVID-19. Many units are very old and do not afford classrooms with a safe and healthy space especially given the risks associated with COVID-19 and the likely variants to follow. (FY22 through FY24)

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Install air filtration/ventilation equipment at the secondary PE facility. This expenditure will allow for much better air quality and a safe and healthy environment for students and staff to better respond to the effects of COVID-19. The facility is used by multiple sites and multiple grade levels both during regular class time and during evening events. It will also allow for better social distancing through the increased use of the space. (FY23)

Installation of additional security cameras, equipment, and software throughout all campuses to allow for much more appropriate and adequate contact tracing in response to COVID-19. The use of the various security system equipment and software is in keeping with CDC guidance as it relates to activities school districts can take to ensure and enhance the health and safety of students and staff. (FY22 and FY23)

Roof repairs and recoating across the district This expenditure will allow for much better air quality and a safe and healthy environment for students and staff which is critical in our efforts to respond to the effects of COVID-19. Several campuses have various roof issues associated with classrooms that can affect the health and safety of students and staff and substantially compromise the indoor air quality due to leaks. (FY22 through FY24)

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2. How the LEA will use the funds it reserved under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act [20% of ESSER ARP Act formula funds] 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;

20% of Wellston Public Schools total ARP funds (\$500,626.06) will be \$100,125.22. These funds will be utilized to determine individual student and grade level learning gaps or loss due to COVID-19, and then to address such loss through research-based interventions and programs. As such, the following are recommendations from the Consultation Committee:

The committee suggests a three-year program of expenditures, which are close to equal in size and scope.

In response to the learning losses associated with COVID-19 an Intensive Summer School Program will be conducted each June (Salaries and benefits for all staff and appropriate supplies and materials). (FY22 through FY24)

In response to the learning losses associated with COVID-19 an After School Tutoring Program will be implemented throughout the school year (Salaries and benefits for all staff and appropriate supplies and material). (FY22 through FY24)

Upgrade Library/Media selections with more age appropriate and reading levels necessary to impact all levels of students. This request is being put forth to allow the district to address the academic area of greatest concern, reading. At all levels there will be efforts to increase the learning loss gaps in language arts and reading in response to the effects of COVID-19. The addition of additional library media selections will allow us to have the basic materials necessary to support our reading remediation efforts. Furthermore, due to declining operational revenue due to COVID-19 the district has not been able to provide the basic materials needed to ensure the reading outcomes the district desires. (FY22 through FY24)

Hire an additional paraprofessional in response to COVID-19 learning loss. This staff member will provide additional assistance for students in math and reading instruction at the elementary level who are not at the appropriate grade level in math and reading. The hire will also allow us to provide additional one on one support to students along with freeing up various elementary teachers to provide more focused intervention strategies with students. (FY22 through FY24)

In response to the learning losses associated with COVID-19, purchase of Renaissance (Accelerated Reading and Accelerated Math), IXL, DIBELS software packages to use as focused intervention tools with elementary students. The IXL software will be used in concert with the DIBELS diagnostic tool, which will also be purchased, to better target the instructional methods needed. Said diagnostic data will also inform our efforts during our summer school and after school tutoring as well. The Renaissance software will enhance efforts during the school day and through the summer school and after school intervention strategies to deal specifically with the learning loss due to COVID-19.(FY22-FY24)

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In response to the learning losses associated with COVID-19, purchase Study Island software package for use with secondary students (6-12) for both diagnostic and remediation purposes. Students will be able to use the software during after school and summer school programming as well as during the regular school day. There will be substantial benefits to students by using the same software throughout all education modalities thereby creating much more targeted instruction with maximum outcomes. (FY22 through FY24)

Hiring additional counseling for students at all levels. This expenditure along with the Counselor Corps Competitive grant will allow the district to better help students with their enhanced social and emotional needs due to COVID-19. (FY22 through FY24)

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3. How the LEA will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with the uses authorized in section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act; and

Wellston Public Schools plans to utilize ARP-ESSER III funds to Prepare, Prevent, and/ or Respond to the Covid 19 impact on our district. In order to maintain operations and continuity of the district in either direct preparation for, to prevent, or in response to Covid 19; or because of loss of revenue due in large part to the same, Wellston Public Schools will utilize the various approved funding in the following manner:

Technology upgrades, including computers, interactive boards, Chromebooks, etc. in order to maintain operations and continuity of the district to respond to COVID-19 and because of a loss of revenue due in large part to COVID-19. (FY22 through FY24)

Purchase of vehicle to transport students, to transport meals, and deliver virtual lessons and devices, when necessary, in response to the effects of COVID-19. (FY22)

Contract to evaluate and repair district route busses that are critical for proper social distancing under the CDC guidance and in response to the COVID-19. Without proper evaluation and subsequent repairs, the district will be forced into a situation where social distancing is impossible on route busses due to the lack of serviceable busses. (FY23 and FY24)

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4. How the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to those implemented under section 2001(e)(1) [20% set-aside], will respond to the academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care and migratory students

Wellston Public Schools plans to utilize ARP ESSER III funds to Prepare, Prevent, and/ or Respond to the COVID-19 impact on our district. The consultation committee recommends we engage in contracted professional support to help faculty and staff identify potential areas of concerns with assisting students who are at risk because of disproportionate impact due to COVID-19. Also, to help administrators identify appropriate responses, including current school staff and contracted agencies to engage. (FY22)

Furthermore, the consultation committee recognizes that all aforementioned expenditures will serve all students and position the district to meet not only the academic needs of students but their emotional and mental health needs as well. It is both our desire and our understanding that we meet the needs of the whole child regardless of their situation. Again, we believe that what we have put forth within this ARP/ESSERIII budget along with other federal and non-federal funds will meet all the needs of all the students that we serve as we attempt to deal with the effects of COVID-19.