

American Rescue Plan 2021

Athens Area Schools - 13050

1. Please describe 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-person learning:

We are reserving a small portion of the first allocation of ESSER III funds and will use a more substantial portion (majority of it) of our second allocation to upgrade heating and air conditioning units at East Leroy Elementary. The current system is old and not designed up to current codes to promote a healthy building. The new units will allow fresh air to be drawn into the building and exhaust the stagnate air out of the building. The result is to increase overall health in the building and reduce disease transmission. This follows the CDC guidelines of improving air quality and reduces the amount of airborne transmission which is the primary method of spread of the virus. As an added bonus the new units also monitor room CO2 levels and inject fresh air so students will be more alert and therefore benefit from instruction.

2. Please describe how the LEA will use the funds it reserves under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act (see below) 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:

By replacing the 1950s technology radio bridge that is used to provide internet access to the elementary with fiber optic cable we can increase the bandwidth available at the school. The increased bandwidth will afford a broader use of internet based diagnostic testing software to document student areas of weakness due to learning loss. The increased bandwidth will also eliminate the slow downs associated with heavy use when we are using software purchased with MI Connect funds to provide individualize remediation instruction from learning loss during the pandemic. We will also use additional funds to buy wireless access on school grounds using wireless access points that will be available for students to get internet access outside the building making the building basically an internet park, in an area that has little internet access, for student use after hours since wireless providers like Verizon, Sprint, or T-Mobile are not readily available in this rural area.

3. Please describe how the LEA will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act:

Because of the available resources we already had our priority and identified need in the area of training did not warrant spending ESSERIII funds on staff training for sanitation. We have a school nurse that is a former employee of the Calhoun County Public Health Department that has handle all of our training for staff. There are weekly meeting between the health department and the school as a means of communicating current conditions in the county and state. As new information is available from the county, State, or the CDC the information is relayed and appropriate adjustments are made to protocols, operating plans, or training for staff.

4. Please describe how the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions implemented under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act (see below) 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.

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To address the academic, social, emotional, and academic needs we will Create a position called an Outreach Coordinator. The primary responsibilities will be: engage in intentional outreach to families and students to increase student academic success in the school, work with student to transition back into traditional in-person learning, support student wellness based on experiences brought about the recent events that have interrupted education, work with families to address the emotional ramifications of inconstant in person learning, and help student receive needed mental health services.