

During the during 2020, 2021 and 2022, Boulder Valley School District received multiple federal and state grants and awards that were authorized by the CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act), ARP (the American Rescue Plan), and the Colorado state legislature. All funding was administered by the Colorado Department of Education. Support to BVSD included awards based on student headcounts, in which BVSD received a proportional share of statewide funding based on federal Title I distributions, as well as a large number of competitive grants. In all cases, BVSD had to apply for these funds, providing a plan for spending that is consistent with the purposes of the legislation (i.e. general or specific responses to conditions in schools create by the Coronavirus pandemic), and the district is accountable to the state and federal government for both spending and outcomes. Due to the magnitude of this funding, and the many uncertainties with the pandemic, some of these grants can be spent through 2023-24.

These additional resources have been, and will continue to be, incredibly important to BVSD, allowing for health and safety responses to the pandemic as well as addressing the social-emotional, mental health challenges and learning losses experienced by many students. Without these resources, drastic measures would have been required to fund the expenditures needed to bring students back to school safely, and continue the teaching and learning that happens each and every day in BVSD.

This is the funding that BVSD has received, in roughly chronological order (numbers have been rounded):

- [Coronavirus Relief Fund](#) (CRF) BVSD allocated these funds entirely towards teacher salaries. This enabled BVSD to maintain instruction during the pandemic without layoffs or furloughs. \$14.9 million
- [ESSER I Fund](#) BVSD received this first ESSER (Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief Fund) grant to support remote learning technology - monitors, chromebooks for students and teachers, webcams for teachers, - everything needed for the REVA (Remote Education Video Audio) system which was used for [HyFlex instruction](#) (remoted, blended). \$1.5 million
- [Safe Schools Reopening Grant](#) BVSD applied for and received this grant to purchase HVAC, air purification, filters, safety equipment, and cleaning supplies to help reopen schools. \$1.5 million.
- [Connecting Colorado Grant](#) BVSD received funding from both state and federal grants funding to expand the District's ConnectME home internet access program for students with Wi-Fi access in neighborhoods. \$1.3 million
- [ESSER I Special Education Grant](#) BVSD has used this grant to focus on COVID academic catch-up and behavioral support for students with IEPs. \$1.6 million
- [ESSER II Fund](#) The district applied this funding toward additional personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies, CO2 sensors, online learning programs, unemployment claims, extra nurses, and upgrades to HVAC systems. \$6.2 million
 - ESSER II provided for separate, smaller grants to serve American Indian (\$34,000), Special Education (\$226,000), and homeless students (\$80,000). American Indian students are receiving additional community outreach, academic supports, and cultural activities; the Special Education grant is being used for summer services, updated compensatory education plans, ChildFind evaluations, and added paras and teachers. BVSD's McKinney-Vento program was able to add a second liaison to work with homeless children and families.
- [Colorado BEST Air Quality Grant](#) The state legislature provided funding for schools to purchase air purifiers and/or replacement air filters for classrooms. \$308,000.
- [ESSER III Fund](#) The district is allocating ESSER III toward differentiated funding for high support schools, with an emphasis on academic catch-up supports, as well the addition of additional

online learning opportunities, COVID testing, and nurses. For details on the ESSER III funding plan, link [here](#). \$14 million.

- Like ESSER II, ESSER III is providing separate, smaller grants for categorical services to American Indian, Special Education, and homeless students which are being used for purposes similar to the awards under ESSER II (\$50,000; \$226,000; \$86,000).
- **Nurse Workforce Grant** ARP funding to the Centers for Disease Control was distributed to state education agencies to provide grants to districts to retain or add school nurses, increasing school nursing services related to the COVID pandemic. BVSD is paying three nurses under this grant. \$308,000
- **Childcare Stabilization Grants** Responding to severe statewide staffing shortages in childcare facilities, Colorado's newly established Department of Early Childhood Services received ARP funding from the US Department of Housing and Human Services in order to provide sustainability grants to licensed Colorado childcare providers. BVSD received funds to pay childcare staff, provide tuition relief to parents, train staff, and improve services in Community Schools sites and preschools. \$3.4 million.
- **ESSER Workforce Stabilization Grant** This grant is providing hiring stipends for bus drivers, food service workers, and child care workers – all job categories that have been difficult to fill in the COVID era. \$99,000
 - Boulder Prep received a separate grant for Workforce Stabilization, providing extra pay for staff, enabling the school to stay open and retain its teachers. (\$91,000)
- **ESSER Mentoring Grant** BVSD had, like many other school districts, a large number of retirements and resignations during COVID, requiring the hiring of many new teachers and administrators. This grant will establish a New Teacher Center in BVSD, with added services, an extra full-time a Induction Mentor, and stipends to school-based senior teachers providing mentoring for new teachers. (\$372,000)
- **ESSER Extended Learning Grant** This grant was established to fund added after-school and summer services responding to students' socio-emotional and academic needs following COVID disruptions. The district is funding for a summer tutoring program at Boulder High, added teachers and time in the district-wide K-8 summer school, and tutoring through the Emerald and Sanchez elementary school 21st Century Learning Centers. \$364,000.

Local nonpublic schools meeting specific criteria were eligible for services from local public school districts under ESSER I. BVSD publicized this, consulted with those interested, and did provide such services in 2020-21. Following ESSER I, private schools have been able to apply directly to the state for COVID relief funding under the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) grant and [Emergency Aid to Nonpublic Schools](#).