

## ARP ESSERS NARRATIVE

Hart County School District appreciates receiving ARP ESSERS to address the remaining needs of our students and of our schools. Our CARES Budget Team/ESSERS Committee met to review the new money, and looking at a needs assessment conducted during early CARES funding, we prioritized needs that still exist. Specifically, we looked at student learning gaps and expenditures needed to enable students to reach their potential.

Of course, student and staff safety is of the utmost importance. Therefore, see below some specific COVID-19 prevention and mitigation strategies in place for which ESSERS funding will be utilized:

Our Covid-19 Prevention/Opening Plan consists of the following:

We will have school five days a week for grades K-12 beginning on August 11, 2021. Our preschool students will begin on August 30, 2021. We are so pleased to offer five days a week in-person instruction to our students. To continue with in-person instruction, we need COVID-19 infections to stay low among our staff and students. We have some measures, as well as recommendations, to assist us with that goal:

- We recommend that all staff and students wear masks unless actively eating or drinking until Hart County is out of "red zone" status.
- To the extent possible, we will use spacing of 3 feet between individuals.
- Hand hygiene will continue to be stressed among our staff and students. Hand sanitizing stations will be plentiful throughout buildings.
- Masks must be worn on buses by staff and students according to a federal mandate. District will supply masks.
- No outside visitors inside school buildings during school hours as long as Hart County is a "red zone" status.
- The volunteer program is discontinued until Hart County is out of "red zone" status.
- Students will be allowed to fill up water bottles at water filling stations; however, drinking fountains will continue to be turned off until Hart County is out of "red zone" status. Water bottles will be provided by district.
- Custodial and maintenance staffs continue to follow disinfection protocols. CDC recommended cleaning supplies have been ordered in bulk.
- Lunches will be handled in a normal fashion with 3-foot spacing when possible. Possible purchase of extra lunchroom tables exists.
- Temperature checks will occur. Automated temp checkers will be purchased and placed at each entrance doors in all 9 buildings (including district office, RCA, and bus garage).
- Hart County Virtual Academy applications were due on June 16, 2021, for students whose medical conditions might inhibit their attending in-person instruction. Extra staff will be hired to handle virtual load.
- HVAC systems will be replaced throughout district to improve air quality.

Both a Survey Monkey survey and a Google survey went out to all 3,000 Hart County School District Facebook followers in our community, an InTouch call went out to all student homes, as well as to staff, to encourage participation in the survey, a staff email was sent to additionally encourage participation among staff, and parents were alerted through phone messaging and social media posts that they could also access survey on district website. Meaningful consultation occurred through survey answers and follow-up meetings with district leadership to analyze survey responses. As of August 5, 2021, Covid-19 data has been in the "red zone" for Hart County for quite some time; therefore, a virtual survey occurred, instead of a face-to-face meeting as planned. The survey included the following stakeholders:

Students, families, school and district administrators, educators (we have no teacher unions in Hart County; however, Kentucky Education Association (KEA) and Christian Educators

Association International (CEAI) (the closest memberships to collective bargaining that Hart County has) teacher members did participate in the survey), community/county leaders (we have no civil rights organizations in our district; however, minority populations were included in the survey participation), and stakeholders (including FRYSC's) representing children from historically disadvantaged groups (such as African-American, Hispanic, Free and Reduced population in our respective district).

The top ranking items of interests focused our spending plan after being reviewed by our ESSERS Committee: additional instructional resources to reduce learning loss, additional staff to reduce learning loss, additional technology including assistive technology, equipment to drastically improve air quality, and other items needed to ensure safety of faculty, staff, and students.

To address impact of lost instructional time, the district has posted four virtual teaching positions (K-5, 6-8, 9-12, and special education) for the 21-22 school year. In addition, six GAP reduction teacher postings have been made which will allow a full-time teacher in each building to work with individual students and small groups to address specific learning needs based on universal screening and teacher/parent input. COVID-19 instructional assistants were hired for all six school buildings. These assistants will collaborate with the GAP teacher in addressing learning needs, and the assistant will also collaborate with health and safety staff. Instructional resources listed below this paragraph and referenced in the citation section will be purchased which match Kentucky Learning Standards, and will fortify individualized instruction, as well as provide teacher guidance. Instructional resources include textbooks, consumable workbooks, technology devices, software programs, and other classroom items based on individual student needs.

Reading Grades K-1 Pioneer Valley Literacy Footprints and Recipe for Reading (Phonics Instruction)  
Reading Grades 2-5 McGraw Hill Wonders  
Reading Grades 6-12 McGraw Hill StudySync

Math Grades K-8 McGraw Hill Reveal Math  
Grades 6-8 also participate in Access to Algebra grant via AdvanceKentucky

Science Grades K-2 Mystery Science  
Science Grades 3-8 McGraw Hill Inspire Science

Social Studies Grades K-5 Teacher Created Materials (TCM) Exploring Social Studies Kentucky  
Social Studies Grades 6-8 TCI History Alive!

Preschool--Collaborative for Teaching and Learning (CTL) Artful Reading

Zuni Learning—virtual classroom resources plus Special Education Resources for in-person students

**High School resources:**

Cengage for Social Studies—AP US History

DiscoverEd Science Techbooks

McGraw Hill Textbook StudySync for ELA

5 class sets of TI-84 CTE Calculators

Novels to support ELA KY standards

**10th Fences**

**11th The House on Mango Street**

## 12th Beowulf

Social, emotional, and mental health is also a priority in Hart County Schools. A Mental Health Counselor was hired through an earlier version of ESSERS, and he will continue to assess students and work with existing district counselors and social workers to meet the social, emotional, and mental health needs of our students. He has developed a mental health assessment to use with students and to determine the specific need that exist (link in citation list).

Again, Hart County School District appreciates the funding through ESSERS that allows us to meet new and emerging student needs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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