

Whitney ISD ESSER Continuity of Services and Use of Funds School Community Survey (Summer 2022)

Whitney ISD would like to receive input from you regarding how the district should continue to use its ARP ESSER III stimulus funding for the 2021-2022 school year and upcoming years through 2023-2024. The stimulus funds may only be spent on the following:

- 1) Address COVID related learning loss
- 2) Accelerate learning
- 3) Support the mental health needs of our students
- 4) Address other barriers to learning (e.g. meals, technology, etc.)
- 5) Address other health and safety concerns

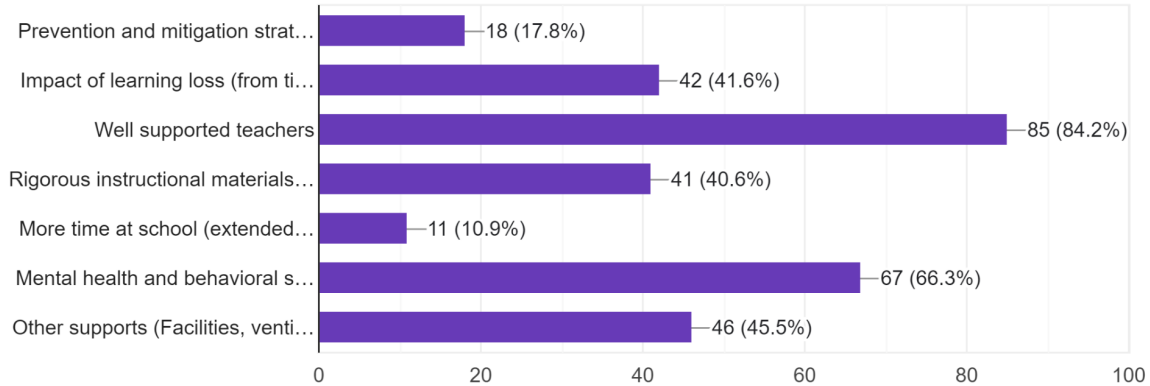
Your feedback will be an invaluable resource to the district as we move forward with the planning process for how ARP ESSER III funds will be used to make the most impact for our students.

Whitney ISD ensures that the interventions to be implemented 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 language learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students.

All plans are subject to change based on regulations by the Texas Education Agency and the Office of the Governor of Texas. Parents and other stakeholders in our school community will be notified if changes are necessary.

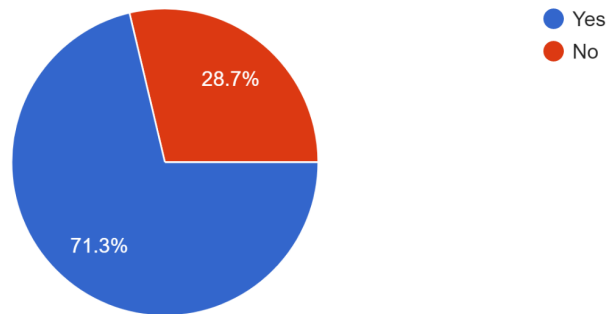
Which of these options is important to you? Please check all that apply.

101 responses



Do you feel Whitney ISD's current plan to provide a continuity of services is currently successful?
(You can review the plan here: <https://www.whitney.k12.tx.us/Page/2564>)

101 responses



4. Please explain why you do or do not feel the current plan is successful. Your feedback will be reviewed and considered for future updates and planning. Whitney ISD will continue to seek stakeholder input and update our plan every 6 months through September 2023.

63 responses

-WISD has zero covid protocol anymore. It is as if the school has pretended it has gone away. -There needs to be more done for ethnic care in sports. Things are different and those needs should be

addressed (hair style, soaps/lotions/shower needs). -Mental health needs to be a bigger area of concern. Kids should not feel punished for differences or seeking help. They should have their concerns with bullying taken seriously. Kids who tell others to kill themselves should be immediately sent to alternate locations. Kids who threaten with violence should also be sent to alternate locations. Students who complain about teachers should be taken more seriously. For years Mr. Nowlin has had kids quit band because of his outbursts and bullying of children. That affects their mental health and is not taken seriously enough. Please start listening to the kids and parents. -More support should be given to those less fortunate in the community. All. These "fees" makes it hard for some parents to sign up for school. Most are too proud to admit it but administrative fees and school supplies can really break the bank for some families. Please help the less fortunate by cutting some of the fees to register students. (Also, listing h.s. supply lists online by class over summer would allow parents to buy it little by little based presumptuously off of what classes their kids need.) -We need more school safety. Gun violence is everywhere. Threats of any kinds need a ZERO TOLERANCE policy. Not a "we spoke to them and they said it was a joke" lackadaisical attitude. We need to do things for the greater good, not popularity. Parents are scared, kids are dying. Do what is necessary to make it less likely to happen here. With that being said, the school also does not need to feel like a prison. Kids need freedoms. -Teachers need help. Back in the day there were "room mothers". It would be nice if we could have a background checked parent allowed to help out and give teachers some help. Teachers are dealing with academic issues, mental health, home troubles and kids acting out in class. They need a break. There needs to be a way they can ask for help when they are at their breaking point without retribution. Sometimes walking away for 10 minutes is all they need. We need to help their mental health and remove some of their stressors by offering assistance.

1 response

Instead of getting on here like most teachers would, and rant and rave about what is not liked; I will say that I absolutely love working for a smaller district. Would I like to see some things change, yes I would. Not complaining, but this is a list of things that should be considered. I feel that smaller class sizes would benefit and impact student growth and achievement. Now days teaching is done more at a small group level, and if there are larger class sizes, then it is harder to focus on those small group teachings to really focus on growing the mindset of our students. Another thing is that smaller class sizes will decrease in behavior (I believe). When everyone experienced covid, they were all subjected to staying put, with very little stimulation around them and their 'possible' learning. With larger class sizes, there is too much stimulation around them, and for those who have behaviors (and those are growing year to year) it is very hard for them to learn without getting overstimulated.

Thus making it, in turn, harder to teach the other students because of the behaviors. I also feel that only in-district and staff kids should attend Whitney schools. I feel that when outside district children come in, it creates an overpopulated school, and could potentially create problems in the learning environment. Another concern that I have, is just a thought, more or less, but what if we were to level classes? If we made classrooms according to ability level, then it will be easier to meet those gaps or needs that all students have. The higher students can all collaborate and build on to their prior knowledge, rather than store up that knowledge and wait for the lower kids to catch up. The lower kids can all work together in a class. A lot of times the lower kids have behavior issues because they are lower and feel inferior to the ones higher than they are. So if the classes are leveled, then I feel that the children will be able to learn better at their differentiated levels a lot better. Sorry so long, but these are my opinions, and things that if I could, I would change. Have a blessed day!

1 response

Our current plan is not successful due to the following: 1) Severe mental health issues are affecting student behavior, thus making it very difficult for teachers to do their job and what is expected of them. Many students are coming to school are severely behind and lack necessary social skills to be successful. Students' basic needs must be met before our focus can be on academics. Reduced class sizes; as well as the addition of staff, such as math interventionist would allow us to bridge gaps and increase learning/scores. The numbers on our campus are greater than other campuses, yet we have less staff and are stretched very thin. Scores are not going to go up if our class size increases and we can not pull small groups that are best practice. 2) We are losing good staff and their families to other districts (and some out of education altogether) and an alarming rate. We have got to do everything we can in order to keep quality staff. We need to make it a point to grow our own and allow them opportunities to advance in their career. Increased pay, would make our district more appealing. Also, consistency and reduced demands of staff would allow teachers more time to focus on what and how to best meet their students' needs. 3) As far as programming and technology programs, it would be better to allow for teacher input (since we are in the classroom on a daily basis and better know our students and their needs) and then allow campus administrators the ability to make decisions to meet those needs. It seems each year with our funding we are spending it on unnecessary resources or programs that do not best support our students. As a parent, I am concerned that intermediate does not utilize a phonics program or have a diagnostic screener in order to identify the needs of each student.

1 response

Throw the SEL in the trash and teach the kids along the way how to be respectful, like we have done in the past. I feel less technology and more books and paper is needed. I understand our society is trending toward everything technology. However, iPad and computers all day are not healthy for growing brains. When you go to the pediatrician do you recall what they ask about screen time and recommendations? Also, some children do much better learning with books and paper even though the active learning apps are often more enticing. Have you tried to do an assignment online to have the textbook online too and try to flip back and forth? Productive, I think not. Distracting and frustrating is how I would describe it. I believe the teachers should get the bonus as well. This area dealt with Covid differently than a lot of metropolitan areas and the children should not have gotten too far behind. I would be delighted to see tutoring opportunities for the children but understand this would be most difficult. Most money divided up looks good however, I don't know all the details of it.

1 response

I think the teachers need more support, and time to work with students. Because of increased assessments this year teachers spent more time assessing and less time meeting kids where they are. So many kids are falling through the cracks and just shoved into special education without teachers being able to work with them. Teachers need to be able to meet the kids where they are and work with them and assess students at their level then be able to work with them to bring them up to where they need to be. Assessing a kid on a 2nd grade reading level when they don't even know all of their letters and sounds isn't doing anyone any good. Punishing. A dyslexic child with low grades because they can't read quickly is not doing the student any good. I feel the special education population is the most significantly impacted by these measures. We can do better by this group of kids.

1 response

Your teachers are not compensated for the amount of work they do. The district is not transparent on plans. At the campus level they are. Parent communication and participation is lacking at the higher levels. The elementary and intermediate school is not safe for children, the buildings are toxic, there is not enough space and not enough resources for Special Education at any level, their department is severely lacking in staff and support. There should be more leadership opportunities for students at all levels. Work place skills are lacking from students. Accountability is not being addressed for teachers and admin and district staff. CTE should hold more value than athletics, the budget should reflect that as well, they do more with less staff and less money.

1 response

The schools desperately need more mental health professionals, especially the middle school, and not just teachers who took some counseling classes. We need trained professionals who can bring research-based best practices to bear with our students and an administration who is willing to put their feet down and say, "Enough! This student's behavior is causing more trauma and distress in the classroom to their classmates and teachers than they are contributing to the collective whole so we have to use alt school to safeguard the other students: the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the one."

1 response

I am thankful for the Intermediate SEL person to receive this amount of pay because that job is overwhelming and non-stop; yet it is what allows me, as a counselor to meet the intense needs of students who are abused, need guidance regarding safe ways to express their brokenness other than cutting or being suicidal, parents who are incarcerated, or have lost someone to death in their families, and I could go on and on. Science and common sense tell us all that until these physical, social, and emotional needs are met, true, valuable academic learning will not take place.

1 response

For my son he is doing fine and does not struggle but my daughter has had a really hard time trying to keep up and didn't make it this year school was already hard for her and now it is even harder so she really needs help and doesn't get the help she needs and teachers just leave her be because she doesn't ask questions and she just automatically says she got it even though she doesn't I've told the teachers several times that is what she does and they still don't give her help like she needs

1 response

More \$ should be spent on teachers and paraprofessionals as well as the children they serve each day. More money on support for staff and security across the board. Safety of all in any building should be at the forefront. More time spent for staff training especially for new members that may join your team. Less on technology, more on actual books for learning. Not all students learn the same especially those with special needs including dyslexia and speech.

1 response

I believe our students do not have the the necessary technology to advance their learning. We have teachers that aren't really teaching just pushing them through the year. Whichever plan you have I

feel is a failure at this point and I believe our education should be top priority. Either better pay for the teachers involvement, better tablets to ensure our kids have the necessary tools to excel in the world that's advancing at a high rate.

1 response

The plan addresses social/emotional programs, but does not address the need for smaller class sizes for students to GET the attention and bonding they need, especially at a PK-5 level when they are forming who they are. These years are so important and when students are in a class with 18+ students, they nor their teachers, can address social/emotional needs effectively- much less address academic learning gaps that result from behavior.

1 response

This sure seems like a lot of money spent. Covid is over, quit worrying. Get on with education. I definitely do not want longer days and extended years. I prefer tutoring over summer school. I need a summer break to relax and not feel so stressed. Please get rid of the SEL! Just teach. No math online!!! Sometimes it would be nice to have a textbook. I wish you could give a raise to the teachers that teach and leave the others out.

1 response

I feel that we are not Able to meet our students needs because our class sizes are so big, also with the behaviors that I have seen it makes it even harder for a teacher to get the things he or she needs to get done during a work day because of the constant interruptions. I feel that if the class sizes were smaller and the behaviors were handled a little better that we can better meet the needs that our students are needing.

1 response

My son has adhd. He has ard. He has had 2 math and 2 science classes for 3 years and still failed. The teachers didn't try at all. They want to push him through. The adhd was their idea because the school gets more funding. They threatened to put him in iss in the 5th grade if I didn't medicate him. This survey won't do a damn thing to help. This is about a democratic agenda on guns. Thanks for sending this to me, though.

1 response

There needs to be a focus on educators pay. If the goal is to focus on the students educational gaps, then the only way to do that is to have happy and appreciated educators. Good teachers are the best to understand and gauge individual student needs. To spend the money on something that will be a luxury is not helping the students. Pay teachers more and trust that they will continue to do what is best for the students.

1 response

I feel if teachers had less students in each class as well as behaviors being handled in a different way then this past year the teachers would be able to effectively teach and serve all students the way we are supposed too! Our jobs are turning into small group learning versus whole group and we can't do that with 18 plus kids in our class when we have 5 or more behavior kids!

1 response

Yes students are getting an "extra review" but they still aren't benefiting from it. Majority of teachers are using the RTO time as finish your homework or makeup time. There's no accelerated learning time for those students who want and need it. And, majority of the counselors on campus barely know the Kidman names let it alone what they actually deal with on a daily basis.

1 response

I don't feel like students are supported with outside resources to help with social emotional needs. We need more resources to offer to students. Our counselors are tasked with so many other duties they are not able to give 100% of their time to students's needs, this requiring outside help from other agencies to help with the social emotional needs of students.

1 response

This was my children's first year in WISD and after reading the continuity of services plan, I believe WISD attempted to implement the plan with fidelity. However, as a veteran educator I do believe that additional supports, increased pay for the staff and more training is required to better serve the growth and change of all stakeholders within the district.

1 response

I believe this plan will help in getting students back on track, as well as make parents feel more comfortable about sending their children to school without the added worry of Covid-19 outbreaks. Also, with the continuing rise in mental health related issues, extra resources to help kids deal with mental health will be extremely helpful.

1 response

If what you are doing is successful, you wouldn't have high turn over rates in educators. Educators need more support and positive feedback. Not only do they need support, I believe educators need more positive feedback and help. We should be asking teachers what they need instead of parents. Educators are our foundation.

1 response

While I support the use of technology such as laptops, calculators, and such, I do believe we should teach and memorize multiplication tables. I found it sad to have a student break his concentration to solving a more complicated problem because he didn't know what 7 times 6 equaled.

1 response

Honestly this is generic. It's what other schools have and there is not a single thing special about it. It saves you from lawsuits which is good for you guys but honestly the school could do a lot more but then the issue is funding which is a whole another topic.

1 response

Our teachers need a lot more support so not only would they have a desire to stay but so they also enjoy what they are doing again. Not only will this help the learning environment it will also help the students mental health in so many ways!

1 response

We are losing too many teachers to other districts. We are reminded often that "we don't have the money for _____" supplies that will assist students and teachers in achieving a more quality education.

1 response

The CDC is a worthless corrupt agency. Masking children was a terrible mistake and forced vaccine mandates are a dangerous experiment. I am against the politics and "scientism" of the CDC.

1 response

It does not support the employees and students well enough. People who don't work at school can whine and fuss and get thier way every time.

1 response

I do not feel these expenditures are necessarily the best use of funds that will have the biggest impact on the needs of our students.

1 response

The SEL position for WES was most helpful but the Elementary still doesn't not have a FULL time counselor which I see as a BIG need

1 response

Wages for educators is not competitive to bring in highly qualified professionals, or to keep them.

1 response

Teachers have to much paperwork to take care if that actually reduces their time to plan accurately

1 response

Lack of communication (tools) between teachers and parents. Lack of training for teachers

1 response

I would really like to see money spent on textbooks/workbooks instead of technology.!

1 response

I see no issues due to covid other than lost time which can never be gotten back.

1 response

covid numbers are down and failing kids are up.....looks bad for the district

1 response

I don't know.

1 response

Na

1 response

