

Use of Funds Plan - ESSER III

Eswood Elementary School District #269 intends to use ARP-ESSER III Funds to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, in line with the most recent CDC guidance, in order to continuously and safely operate schools for in-person learning. To that end, funds will be expended in three major areas:

1. HVAC upgrades
2. After School support programming
3. Summer learning and enrichment

1. HVAC Upgrades

Eswood Elementary School classrooms utilize a ventilator system for heat and air quality and currently utilize window units for air conditioning in the warmer months. The classroom ventilators are aging and in order to provide the healthiest environment for students and teachers, we plan to upgrade all of them in our elementary wing to include pressure relief and cooling. In the most recent Health/Life/Safety study this was identified as an area of need. The work would be done in the summer of 2022.

2. After School Support Programming

Eswood is a small school with small class sizes. Because of this, we are able to provide our students with a high degree of individualized learning in the classroom, but there is always room for additional support, particularly for those students who are still suffering the impact of extended periods of remote learning during the 2020-21 school year, as well as students who may miss extended periods of time due to quarantine.

We intend to implement an after school support system, beginning in January, 2022 in which there would be no less than one elementary and one middle school teacher assigned to support students with homework, assessments, and identification of learning gaps. The program would operate twice a week for the second semester of the 2021-22 school year and continue through the entirety of the 2023-2024 school year. In addition to homework support and assessment preparation, Eswood School intends to research, purchase, and implement an executive functioning curriculum for use with these students. If successful, the executive functioning curriculum could be applied to core academics.

3. Summer Learning and Enrichment

Even with after school support and the embedded support we are able to offer students in our small classes, there will always be students who would benefit from the opportunity afforded by a summer school program. Eswood intends to offer a two week program in the summer of 2022, 2023, and 2024 to all students. This program will include both academic support for students in need of additional instruction and learning loss mitigation, as well as enrichment opportunities in both STEM and the humanities.

