

# Stevens Point Area Public School District

## ESSER III

### Stakeholder Input Session

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# Why We're Reaching Out

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act provides one-time funds for our district through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III grant program.

During this session we will:

1. share information about the grant
2. invite you to share your ideas with us
3. and explain what lies ahead.



# ESSER III Grant Basics

1. The District expects to receive \$6,187,411 in ESSER III funding over a two-year budget period.
2. Funds may be used to support our response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Funds are intended to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools.

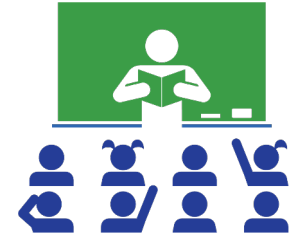


# What is This Money For?

The school district must use a *minimum of 20%* to implement evidence-based interventions to address learning loss, for example:

In this first of two budget years, the school district is using 80% of the allocation to address learning loss by supporting

1. instructional material needs and
2. instruction or instructional support in the areas of
  - a. reading,
  - b. support and intervention,
  - c. program support,
  - d. At Risk, and
  - e. special needs.



# What is This Money For?

## Technology

ESSER III funding supported

- half of the cost of laptops
- provided students access to learning opportunities
- provided staff with instructional capabilities
- Supported increased academic capabilities during COVID  
virtual  
hybrid  
face-to-face instructional phases

# Addressing Needs: Proposed Priorities for Addressing Learning Loss and Other Needs

ESSER III	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	TOTAL
PPE, Health & Safety Supplies	\$ 36,762		\$ 36,762
Technology - Supporting High Quality Instruction & Intervention	\$ 532,431		\$ 532,431
Specialized Training	\$ 51,714		\$ 51,714
<u>Addressing Learning Loss</u>			
Instructional Materials - Addressing Learning Loss	\$ 208,394		\$ 208,394
Instruction - Addressing Learning Loss			
Reading	\$ 360,228		\$ 360,228
Support and Intervention	\$ 254,874		\$ 254,874
Program Support	\$ 201,410		\$ 201,410
At Risk	\$ 404,647		\$ 404,647
Special Needs	\$ 1,141,411		\$ 1,141,411
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,191,871</b>	<b>\$ 2,995,540</b>	<b>\$ 6,187,411</b>

*Year 2 detail currently undetermined.*

# Your Thoughts on the ESSER III Plan

The priorities we have identified will have the most impact on the students with the greatest needs.

1. What other ideas do you have about using this funding?



# Our Plan for Safe Return

Alongside the ESSER III plan, the district must submit a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. The plan must describe:

1. How the district will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff, and the extent to which the district has adopted policies regarding safety recommendations established by the CDC
2. How the district will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services addressing:
  - a. student academic needs
  - b. student and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services





# Your Thoughts on the Safe Return Plan

If you choose to provide input, you may want to point out what stood out to you and what was most likely to have a positive impact.

1. Let us know what questions or ideas you have about the plan.
2. Are there important needs the plan does not yet address ?



# Where We Go From Here

## Future Budgets

The Wisconsin Legislature created a 2021-23 biennial budget that provided no revenue limit per pupil increase.

In the previous biennial budget, revenue limit per pupil increases provided about \$1.7 million in new authority each year, or about \$3.4 million over the biennial period. This school year's total revenue limit increase was \$173,325.

Because of enrollment decline, intensified by COVID issues, next year's revenue limit is expected to decrease by about \$1.5 million.



# Where We Go From Here

## Future Budgets (Continued)

ESSER III funds help mitigate the shortfall in revenue during this biennial period.

However, by the start of the next biennial period the ESSER III funds will be gone, the anticipated shortfall in revenue to the General Fund budget is estimated to be about \$5 million.

A revenue limit increase of \$1.5 to \$1.7 million is needed to keep up with current inflationary cost figures. It is unlikely that the legislature will provide the District with the \$5 million needed in addition to covering inflationary costs.

The District faces a serious budgetary financial cliff in two years.

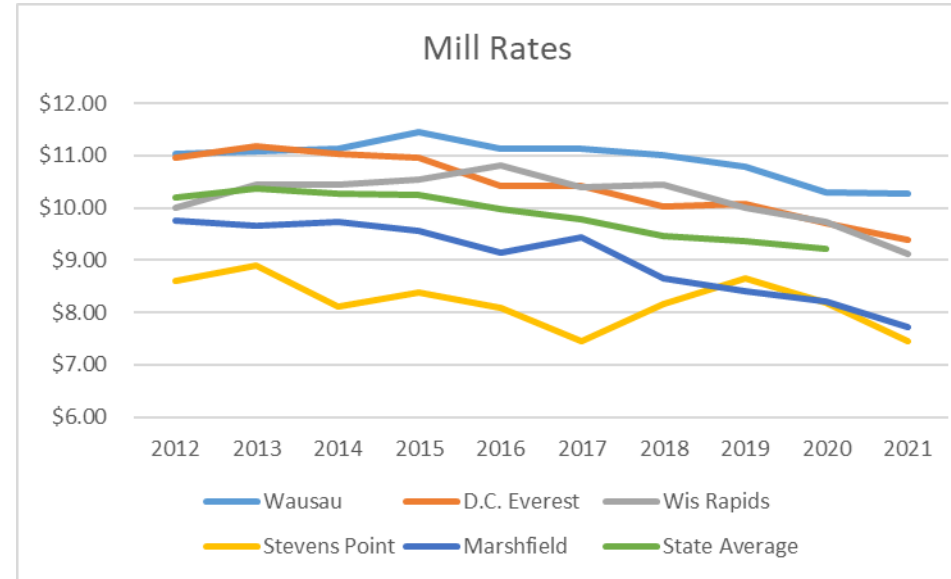


# Where We Go From Here

## Future Budgets (Continued)

Because of this impending financial cliff, the District needs to give serious consideration to offering a recurring operational referendum to voters in the near future.

Looking back over the past ten (10) fiscal years, it is clear that the District, shown in yellow, has been responsible with the tax rate, having the lowest rate in every year but one among the five largest districts in our region.



# For More Information



Provide input and view the SPAPSD Safe  
Return plan at [www.PointSchools.net/ESSER](http://www.PointSchools.net/ESSER)



Visit the Wisconsin Department of Public  
Instruction's website for ESSER III funds:

[dpi.wi.gov/arp/esser-iii](http://dpi.wi.gov/arp/esser-iii)

