

ESSER Funding Plan Oak Lawn Community High School

Under the American Rescue Plan (ARP), which became law in March 2021, school districts will receive funding to address the impact of COVID-19 on students' academic, social, emotional and mental health needs. This funding is known as "ESSER." "ESSER" is short for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief. ESSER III receives its numerical designation from the fact that the ARP ESSER Fund is the third set of COVID-related federal relief grants for schools that Congress has passed since the pandemic began.

ESSER I and ESSER II were established respectively by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act in March 2020 and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act in December 2020.

How Much Money Will ESSER III Provide?

ESSER III will provide **nearly \$122 billion** to state educational agencies and school districts to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students.

School District 229 is expected to receive \$4,656,083 in ESSER III funds.

Our plan recognizes that no less than 20% of all ESSER III funds must be used to address learning loss.

How Will Oak Lawn Community High School District 229 Use Its ESSER III Funds?

The district plans to use its ESSER III grant money in seven major areas:

- Implement COVID19 prevention and mitigation strategies, to the extent practicable, consistent with CDC guidance to promote in-person instruction
- Capital Improvements (AERO Special Education Cooperative and Student Services Office Renovation)
- Summer School Learning Loss and Enrichment Opportunities
- Before/After-School Learning Loss and Enrichment Opportunities
- Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health Support Programs and Staffing
- Substitute Staffing for Instructional Needs
- Employment of Certified HVAC Staffing
- Curriculum Related Materials

The funding plan has been discussed with the Board of Education during several meetings, but most recently reviewed on September 7, 2022. The funding plan is tentative and may change as needed to meet the requirements of the ESSER program and the needs of students/staff members.

Those wishing to provide input on the District plans are encouraged to contact Assistant Superintendent Joseph McCurdy at 708/424-5200.