

ESSER III

2023-2024 Safe Schooling Plan

This document is to serve as the Consolidated High School District 230 plan for the continued safe operation of schools in the 2023-2024 school year. Likewise, the purpose is to outline how funds from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief will be used by the district. This plan focuses on four areas to ensure the safety of our students and staff as well as addresses learning loss that may have occurred during the COVID-19 global pandemic. The four areas of focus are Academic Supports, Social/Emotional Programs, Health/Safety Resources, and Capital Improvements.

Academic Supports: Research is clear, there is no substitute for a high-quality, in-person teaching experience to ensure student academic success. The global pandemic interrupted our instructional model and forced schools to provide instruction in a variety of ways (e.g. remote, hybrid, asynchronous, etc.). As we return to full-time in-person instruction we will support:

- After school-Summer credit recovery / academic support programs (staff compensation/materials)
- Conditional Failures / Short Term Summer Credit Recovery (staff compensation / materials)
- Summer Academic Enrichment programs (staff compensation / materials)
- Micro Credentialing through Bloomboard (Prof Dev) - Learning Loss
- Curriculum Review / Revisions for core courses (staff compensation)
- 3.0 FTE for Intervention / Homebound Support
- 3.0 FTE for Remote Programming to support kids either on quarantine or with medical needs
- Summer Remote Planning Day (Pre-Institute)
- 1.0 Support Staff for Interpretive Services (arabic)
- Post-secondary Assessments and Test preparation
- Provide staff access to an Employee Assistance Program.

Notes: Our plan recognizes that no less than 20% of all ESSER III funds must be used to address learning loss. The cost interventions listed above comprise 24% of the funds granted. At the conclusion of the initial grant period, D230 reviewed listed academic supports and programs as well as identified other needs to respond to the federal guidelines. The 2024 application makes the necessary adjustments to address ongoing needs.

Social/Emotional Supports: We recognize that living through a global pandemic has taken an emotional toll on our students. It is clear that schools will play a vital role in helping students process their lived experiences and deal with any trauma the pandemic may have caused. As we return to full-time in-person instruction we will:

- Implement research based SEL programs, including Trauma Informed PD for all staff
- Contract with an outside consultant to support building efforts for SEL instruction and programs
- Add 1.0 FTE for home to school social work resource
- Review / Revise of Advisory Program by staff
- Contract with 6 nurses to support student medical needs and conduct contact tracing
- Provide Micro Credentialing for SEL instructional strategies (2022-23)
- Humanex Culture and Climate
- Partnership/ Professional Support

Notes: There are no federal or state guidelines for allocated money for SEL support. The cost interventions listed above comprise 12.5% of the funds granted. At the conclusion of the 2022-23 school year, D230 reviewed listed social emotional learning and programs as well as identified other needs to respond to the federal guidelines and modified our FY24 application to respond to these needs.

Health/Safety Resources: Health and Safety of our students and staff is always our top priority. The Covid-19 global pandemic has taught us important lessons on how to insure the safety of our students and staff. These include, but are not limited to, enhanced cleaning protocols, hand sanitizing, physical distances and additional ventilation. While the vaccine provides some sense of protection, we will continue to require additional safety measures for the 2023-24 school year. As we continue with full time in person instruction we will:

- Follow mitigation strategies provided by the CDC, IDPH and ISBE.
- Allow and encourage the use of PPE when needed
- Continue with enhanced cleaning protocols.
- Communicate reporting and testing requirements
- Continue to encourage social distancing and provide space necessary

Capital Improvements: The ESSER III funds provide districts with the opportunity to address structural issues that may need to be addressed within their schools. These capital improvements may help bridge the digital divide, improve the learning environment, or make schools safer for students and staff. As we return to full-time in-person instruction we will:

- Air condition gyms and pools in areas not yet equipped
- Provide/enhance outdoor WiFi access

- Replace carpet with other material flooring
- Enhance large space AV/sound systems
- Complete HVAC replacements based on age of equipment
- Improve and add outdoor instructional and eating spaces

Notes: There are no federal or state guidelines for allocated money for Capital Improvements. The cost interventions listed above comprise 40% of the funds granted. At the conclusion of the 2022-23 school year, D230 reviewed listed capital improvements as well as identified other needs to respond to the federal guidelines and modified our FY24 application to respond to these needs..

Summary: Throughout the past few months, we have developed a plan to begin to use roughly 75% of the assigned ESSER Funds. Many of these items were multi-year expenditures, others are one-time only expenditures. We believe that this respectfully addresses the immediate needs of our district while maintaining flexibility for unforeseen future needs. These funds must be used by the end of the 2024 school year.