

## American Rescue Plan/ESSER III - LEA Plan of Use Narrative

Agency: East Jackson Community Schools

2020 - 2021

Recipient Code: 38090

- ☐ The LEA Plan of Use Narrative is currently in progress and not ready for submission. The LEA agrees to amend their application at the time the Plan of Use Narrative is complete.

**Please describe the extent to which and how the funds will be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent CDC guidance on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning:**

East Jackson Community Schools safely reopened to in-person instruction for over 155 days during the 20-21 school year. The District Reopening Plan was guided by the MiSafeSchools Return to Learning Plan with extensive input provided by stakeholders within and throughout our community. This plan was updated and modified during the 21-22 school year to include student masking, twice daily disinfection of all building touch points with an EPA-approved disinfectant, proactive communication with families, and reduction of class sizes.

Ongoing, monthly input was actively sought on modifications of the district's COVID-19 Continuity of Learning Plan through public comment at each monthly Board meeting & through regular communication with families and union stakeholders.

**Please describe how the LEA will use the funds it reserves under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act (see below) to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year:**

East Jackson Community Schools has heavily relied upon the Michigan Comprehensive Student Recovery document to provide guidance on how to proactively address student learning loss. There are 3 key components that are a part of the district's plan. First, ARP funding was keyed to develop an innovative summer school and credit recovery program during 2021. This program will be continued into the following 2 summers (2022 & 2023) using the ESSERS III funding to provide academic support and enrichment activities. The comprehensive summer school program provided for innovative instruction with highly qualified staff for students in grades K-12, transportation of students to and from school, as well as breakfast and lunch service for 8 weeks during the summer recess period. Second, the district partnered with Highfields to develop a research-based afterschool program for 7-12 grade students. This program launched during the 21-22 school year and will be continued through the 22-23 school year using ESSERS III funding to provide academic support and enrichment activities. Third, the district secured a partnership with Phoenix Early Learning to expand early childhood opportunities for families with quality, research-based programming.

**Please describe how the LEA will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act.**

Through capital improvement projects in 2014 and 2019, East Jackson was able to improve much of the HVAC systems throughout the district's facilities. However, not all areas of all buildings were feasible in the budget of these bond projects. ESSERS III funds are specifically set aside to complete many of these projects that were out of the reach of the original project budgets. ARP funding will target improvement of HVAC systems to improve overall air quality for students and staff for in-person learning. Technology items in the ESSERS III budget target the improvement of classroom technology, student devices, staff devices. (Note that support of remote instruction through the use of WIFI hotspots is budgeted in other grants.)

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**Please describe how the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions implemented under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act (see below) to address the academic impact of lost instructional time, 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 learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students.**

East Jackson has a strong focus on Social-Emotional learning year round. The district has social workers that provide weekly mental health screening with an SEL focus. Added supports include an innovative summer school & credit recovery program that removed barriers of transportation and hunger through targeted services. An afterschool program is set to be in place to extend the school day for those in need of added academic support and enrichment in order to overcome student learning loss.

The district is committed to quarterly review of disaggregated data that focuses on student recovery and success through our school improvement teams in each building and district-wide. Data is disaggregated according to racial status, gender, at-risk status, LEP status, students with disabilities, homeless students, foster care students, and migratory students.