

BATH COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
American Rescue Plan (ARP) ESSER III Plan (3/11/2022)

Section 1: Introduction

The purpose of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III Fund is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impacts of COVID-19 on the nation's students by addressing students' **academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs**. Bath County Public Schools has been awarded \$610,102.96 in ESSER III funds. This plan describes how the awarded funds will be used. Questions about this plan should be directed to Sue Hirsh, Division Superintendent, at sueh@bath.k12.va.us.

Section 2: Prevention and Mitigation Strategies

ARP Act ESSER III funds may be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) guidance](#) on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning. Bath County Public Schools will use approximately \$3,102.96 of its ARP Act ESSER III funds to implement prevention and mitigation strategies as described below.

- Tables to provide flexible and spaced seating
- Classroom desks to provide flexible and spaced seating
- Cleaning equipment and supplies

Section 3: Addressing Unfinished Learning

Section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act requires each LEA to use twenty percent of its formula funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time (learning loss) through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs. Bath County Public Schools will use approximately \$398,000 (more than 20% of total grant) of its ARP Act ESSER III funds to address unfinished learning as described below.

- Additional Elementary Staff (4 Teachers and 2 Aides)
- Additional High School Teaching Periods for English and Mathematics Support
- After-School Tutoring
- Summer Academy for Reading and Math Instruction, Science and History Integration and P.E.
- Summer Enrichment
- Extended Year Services
- Software to support instruction and/or assess student academic progress

Section 4: Other Uses of Funds

Section 2001(e) of the ARP Act permits school divisions to use the ARP Act ESSER III funding not reserved to address unfinished learning to address mental and physical impacts of COVID-19. Bath County Public Schools will use approximately \$209,000. of its ARP Act ESSER III funds in accordance with Section 2001(e) of the ARP Act as described below.

- School Nurse - Increase three positions from .75 to 1.0 FTE – Salary and Benefits
- Therapeutic Day Treatment (TDT) or School Counselor Personnel 1.0 FTE – Salary and Benefits

Section 5: Addressing Students' Academic, Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs

Teachers will minimize the effects of the pandemic by focusing on building strong relationships with students and families to learn their circumstances (job loss, financial stability, illness and death of loved ones, isolation, food insecurity, etc.), utilize diagnostic formative and summative assessments to identify strength and weaknesses, and differentiating instruction, particularly for the most vulnerable.

Spring 2021 SOL assessment results, Fall 2021 growth assessments, PALS assessments and other classroom assessments will be used to identify learning gaps. Explicit and systematic instruction, with a focus on English/Reading/Language Arts, will be provided, as indicated, during the school day, after school, and during the summer.

School counselors, behavior interventionists, and classroom teachers will continue to implement the WhyTry resilience curriculum in classroom counseling sessions and integrated by classroom teachers across the curriculum. A SEL (Social-emotional Learning) handbook has been developed for instructional personnel.

Teachers log student and family contacts and communication to identify student needs. School counselors provide individual student counseling and may refer the student or family for outside (although limited) mental health services.

All faculty and staff work to provide a nurturing, safe and secure learning environment for students.

Section 6: Consultation with Stakeholders and Opportunity for Public Comment

In developing the ARP ESSER Plan, Bath County Public Schools conducted consultation in the following with

- School Administrative Team (Principals, Special Education Director, Technology Supervisor); Division Advisory Committees, including Special Education and School Health Advisory; School Leadership Teams; Superintendent's Advisory Committee (comprised of teachers and support staff), and Public Comments at School Board meetings.
- There are no migrant students, rarely homeless or foster care students, and very few English learners. Our population of economically disadvantaged learners has increased since March 2020 and the division qualifies for the Community Eligibility Program for free meals for all students.
- Public comments at school board meetings will be considered, and expenditures of allocated funds may be adjusted.

Section 7: Making the Plan Available to the Public

Bath County Public Schools has taken the following steps to make this plan available to the public:

- The plan is posted at www.bath.k12.va.us
- The plan may be orally translated for parents, and upon request, a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA may be provided with the plan in an alternative format accessible by contacting the Director of Pupil Personnel Services and Special Education, Jane Hall, at janeh@bath.k12.va.us