

Flora CUSD #35 ESSER III-Use of Funds

Flora CUSD #35 has received funds under the ARP-LEA American Rescue Plan-(ESSER III). Grant funds can be expended from March 13, 2020 through September 30, 2024. Below is a summary of the projected budget items for the remaining grant funds.

- Employment of staff to address learning loss and reduce class sizes to promote student achievement and growth (\$436351)
- Stipends for staff to conduct after school and summer school programs. (\$182527)
- Purchase of instructional and assessment programs and supplies to be utilized to enhance the education of the students. (\$587556)
- Purchase of equipment to enhance the instruction provided to students and ensure the safety of students and staff. (\$216455)
- Payment of dual credit fees for our dual credit vocational courses in order to promote more students overall obtaining college credit during high school. (\$30780)
- Employment of maintenance/custodial staff to assist in the repair, improvement, and cleaning of the buildings to ensure the safety of staff and students. (\$375757)
- Purchase of equipment for building (ion generators, HVAC, scrubbers) to provide better air quality and to ensure the safety and cleanliness of the building for students and staff. (1336000)

Through the purchase of scrubbers, ion generators, and updated HVAC systems along with the employment of additional maintenance and custodial staff, the district will utilize the grant funds to implement prevention and mitigation strategies consistent with CDC guidance to provide a safe learning environment for staff and students. Additionally, funds will be utilized to employ staff as well as instructional and assessment programs and supplies in order to address the academic impact of lost instructional time. To assess that the interventions/instructional programs are addressing the academic as well as social/emotional needs of the students, we will continue to conduct benchmarking on a regular basis to identify further learning loss as well as the growth of the students as well as addressing and assessing student growth and achievement through assessments, interventions, and observations in the classrooms. Through our guidance counselors as well as our partnership with outside counseling through the hospital, we will also continually assess the social, emotional, and mental health needs of our students particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The plan for safe return to school as well as the use of funding was developed through input from parents, students, and staff through the Curriculum Advisory Committee, the public through public board meetings, discussion with the union and staff at all buildings, administration, special education coordinator, the Board of Education, and the health department. We will continue to collaborate and consult with all stakeholders on the logistics and decision making of the plan to ensure we are continually meeting the needs of students and providing a safe learning environment for staff and students.