

Panhandle Community Unit School District 2

ESSER III

Use of Funds Plan

Grant Overview:

The Panhandle School District received \$962,437.00 in total allotment as a part of the LEA American Rescue Plan (ESSER III) Grant. The following details how the district will utilize the funds to improve academics, improve health and safety, and improve opportunities within the school district.

Through the fiscal Year 2023 the Panhandle school district used \$451,724.00. For Fiscal Year 2024, the district has \$510,713.00 in funds remaining to utilize.

District Plan Through FY23:

The district utilized data from multiple sources as part of ongoing study of student learning and academic achievement. Building administration reviewed data and provided data to superintendent with a comprehensive assessment for improvement.

The district plans address student learning gaps in several ways. Additional special education teacher funded through the grant (\$116,725) and additional paraprofessional staff (\$63,191) funded over the period of the grant will provide intervention and extra support for students identified as below grade level.

Health and safety will be addressed by adding Health services (\$175,958) over the period of grant. Health and safety will also be addressed by adding personnel and supplies (\$142,538) to support the district's response to and in maintaining and a safe and healthy school climate.

Classroom/General Education teachers will have access to research-based curriculum improvements (\$34,490) including textbooks and online resources, with these funds, to support instruction aimed at addressing student learning gaps. In addition to enhancements to instruction during the school year as stated here, we intend to extend the day through tutoring programs and extend the year through a summer program. These extended learning opportunities will be funded through the grant (\$90,225).

Additional major items covered by the grant include the acquisition of a generator (\$25,000) to improve the health and safety of students and staff. Expanding technology opportunities over the period of the grant (137,032) will enhance learning opportunities for students and improve safety as well. The addition of school buses purchased through the grant (\$161,000) will help to improve the health and safety of students as they are transported.

The services and assistance to students proposed in this grant application will be provided to students during the current school year, 2021-22 and ongoing through the 2022-23 school year and into summer 2023.

If there is a need for remote learning the district has purchased devices for all district students. We will use these funds to replace some of these devices in the future as students graduate, move in and/or need replacement devices. We have also been intentional about purchasing several online resources, which would be essential for students if required to learn remotely. Student devices are issued to every

student this school year for in-person instruction. In the event of a remote learning situation, our students would have access to a device daily. Funds from this grant will only be used to provide replacement devices at the end of the grant period, after students have graduated, moved in, or have broken or unusable devices.

District Plan Through FY24:

The district continues to utilize data from multiple sources as part of ongoing study of student learning and academic achievement. Building administration reviewed data and provided data to superintendent with a comprehensive assessment for improvement. The district administrative cabinet reviews current plans and were provided the opportunity for input towards improvement.

The district plans address student learning loss. Additional special education teachers funded through the grant (\$113,997) and additional paraprofessional staff (\$60,750) funded over the period of the grant will provide intervention and extra support for students identified as below grade level. Benefits for the staff will be funded through the grant (\$64,110) as well.

Loss of Learning will also be addressed through a summer school program as well. Summer school funded through the grant (\$24,741) will provide intervention and extra support for students identified as below grade level.

Use of funds as described in the grant will be used in a variety of capacities in FY24.

Health and safety will be addressed by adding Health services (\$107,369) over the period of grant for nursing services and benefits. Health and safety will also be addressed by adding supplies (\$2,758) to support the district's response to and in maintaining and a safe and healthy school climate.

School environmental control will be addressed through the continued addition of a HVAC staff to maintain a safe and healthy school environment. The staff will be funded through the grant (\$76,478). A safe and healthy school environment will also be supported through the addition of an emergency generator for the Raymond Campus. The generator which was originally approved in a prior ESSER grant will be funded through the grant (40,864).

Additional grant resources will be used to enhance the curriculum within the school district over the grant period. Materials and supplies will be funded through the grant (6,406). Technology supplies will be funded through the grant (13,240) as well.

The ESSER funds supplement local and state funds that Panhandle CUSD 2 uses to operate. The ESSER funds enable Panhandle to complete various projects in a timely manner. We can address various student concerns in a more efficient and timely manner because of the availability of these funds.

The goals of the district which can be supported using these funds include:

1. addressing learning gaps resulting from COVID-19 and related educational disruption, including staffing and materials needs, to provide support for students from special populations,
2. supporting students' social/emotional and mental health needs as a result of the pandemic,
3. ensuring that schools are safe for students for in-person learning, including improving air quality, environmental services, and facility needs.
4. providing specific and aligned support and professional development for district staff.