

Johnston City CUSD #1
ESSER - Use of Funds Plan

Johnston City CUSD #1 will utilize the ESSER III funds to implement strategies to combat learning loss and implement mitigation strategies throughout the District. We are continually working on ways to address learning loss and to provide a way to safely operate schools for in-person learning. The following strategies are many of the ways our district is working to ensure students and staff have the resources and facilities they need to overcome the issues related to the pandemic:

- ESSER III funding will focus on mitigation and learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Additional teachers and support staff will be hired to address learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Update teacher supplies and equipment that can better engage students and classrooms
- Provide extended learning opportunities through both summer and after-school programs
- Support educators and other staff through professional development opportunities and classroom resources
- Implement strategies and protocols to operate schools with in-person learning while effectively maintaining the health and safety of all students and staff.
- Providing learning loss resources to educators
- Providing a quality and safe in-person learning environment

Johnston City CUSD #1 will implement intervention programs such as Exact Path, Learning A-Z, Wonders Reading Program, CKLA Amplify, and others to help the academic growth of students and learning loss. We have evaluated and continue to review the social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students (low-income, students of color, English Learners, children with disabilities, homelessness, foster care, and migratory students) impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and facilitate those students as needed.

Johnston City CUSD #1 will also continue to engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders (students, families, school administrators, school leaders, educators, special education co-op, and other staff) to evaluate the needs of all students within the district. By doing so, the district will have a more accurate approach for purchasing needed equipment, educational programs, educational resources, and transportation to better accommodate all students at Johnston City CUSD #1 to provide a safer and healthier in-person learning environment.

Johnston City CUSD #1 has provided the public opportunity to have input in the development of the district use of ESSER III funds by allowing public comment at local school board meetings to address concerns of learning loss, mitigations, and students' mental/physical wellbeing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Stakeholders can also give anonymous input on our plan through a Google Form on our website.

We are optimistic that the funds presented by ESSER III will help with identifying those students that were impacted by loss of instruction from the pandemic and will help re-engage and provide support, through the purchasing of needed materials, equipment, transportation, maintain existing staff, and hiring new staff to close the gap and provide a safe in-person learning environment that has been produced from COVID-19.

All purchases through ESSER III will be directly based upon student need to address educational needs, health needs, and social/emotional needs. The funds will also be used to support evidenced based practices to support afterschool and summer educational programs to address learning loss. These expenses will be based upon information received from all stakeholders.

Johnston City CUSD #1 has implemented an equitable and inclusive Return to School Plan that can be viewed on the district webpage to inform the public and parents of the policies and practices of the opening and day to day operations of the schools. The Return to School Plan will be review at least once every six months. Stakeholders can give anonymous input at any time on our plan through a Google Form on our website.

ESSER III funds may also be utilized to help support early childhood educational programs with a vast assortment of educational support to help determine the learning loss and close the learning gap that has been produced due to the COVID-19 pandemic.