

## **Altamont CUSD #10**

### **ARP ESSER III – The American Rescue Plan**

This plan will be updated continually through the grant period depending on routine evaluations.

#### **Definition**

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in major changes to all aspects of life, including unprecedented school closure in the spring of 2020 and revised schedules and protocols in the fall of 2020. The ARP ESSER III The American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSE) fund provides states and school districts financial assistance to safely reopen to sustain the safe operations of schools. In addition, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic upon the nation's students will be addressed through ARP ESSER.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) fund is to provide states and school districts with assistance to safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the nation's students.

#### **Safe Return to In-person instruction and continuity of services**

The Altamont CUSD #10 Tentative Back-to-School/Return to Learn Plan is aligned with the guidance provide by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). School strategies in this plan may be removed based upon local conditions, levels of community transmission (low, moderate, substantial, and high), local vaccine coverage, and consultation with local public health officials to determine the prevention strategies needed. School officials will communicate any changes in plans to staff members, students, and parents through the district communications platforms.

The full Back-to School/Return to Learn Plan can be found on the Altamont CUSD #10's website ([www.altamontschools.org](http://www.altamontschools.org)). The plan includes a description of how Altamont CUSD #10 will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff. It will explain the extent to which it has adopted policies, and it will provide a description of policies and each of the prevention and mitigation strategies that will be implemented for the safety of all staff and students.

#### **Community Input in regard to ESSER III Funds**

Our monthly board meetings have agenda items for public comment. Community members are welcome to attend monthly meetings to share their concerns, ideas, etc.

Surveys will be conducted with parents, students, and staff to collect information as needed regarding COVID related issues.

## **Funds**

Altamont CUSD #10 will engage in consultation with students, families, school administrators, teachers, support staff and local unions.

Funds will address student learning loss from the pandemic, as well as curriculum, air quality, transportation, and sanitation. Additional steps will be taken to ensure proper social distancing.

- Evidence based curriculum and related professional development to address learning loss and accelerate early literacy skills
- District wide online learning curriculum
- Additional teachers for classroom reduction (student to teacher ratio of physical distancing)
- Social and emotional learning programs
- Supplies to help district clean effectively
- Bring district into compliance with fire and safety codes to create more space
- Academic support through after-school tutoring and summer academy

## **Learning Loss**

Altamont CUSD #10 will allocate no less than 20% of its ESSER funds to address learning loss through implementation of evidence-based interventions. Interventions will be based on students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19.

## **Additional Funds**

All activities are approvable and are listed in Section 18003(d) of the Coronavirus, Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Section 313(d) of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, and Section 2001(e) of the ARP Act that an LEA may support with ESSER Funds.

## **Reporting**

Altamont CUSD #10 will submit all necessary reporting to ISBE semi-annually. The district will report on funds spend and provide detail on specific interventions addressed. Examples are: specific interventions, after-school tutoring programs; additional staff to provide SEL assistance.

## **Maintenance of Equity**

Altamont CUSD #10 will not disproportionately reduce state and local per-pupil funding. The District will also not reduce the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) staff per pupil.