

To: Big Hollow School District 38 Board of Education

From: Bob Gold, Superintendent

Date: October 10, 2023

Re: ARP- ESSER III Funds Plan

In September of 2023, we were awarded a total of \$374,079 through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III (ESSER III) American Rescue Plan (ARP) Fund. The Federal Department of Education awards grants to State educational agencies (SEAs) for the purpose of providing local educational agencies (LEAs) with emergency relief funds to address the impact that Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools across the nation. LEAs must provide services to students and teachers in public schools as required under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

The following bullets outline the use of funds plan for the 2023 grant award. The items listed below are believed to fall under the current grant requirements. Further approval will be sought by the Illinois State Board of Education prior to final implementation of the plan.

- Partial salary for Hiring of additional dual language educator to serve at Big Hollow Primary School starting in the 2023-2024 school year.
- Hiring of paraprofessionals to provide extra support for students who are showing signs of being unprepared for receiving instruction in our Primary school. (Approved under the SEA Reserve- Learning Loss area of funding)
- Salaries for after-school academic support programs run by our district or community organizations to address academic needs. (Approved under the SEA Reserve- Learning Loss and SEA Reserve - After School Programs areas of funding)
- Salaries for summer school staff to provide summer enrichment learning opportunities during summer months for students PreK-8. (Approved under the SEA Reserve- Summer Enrichment and SEA reserve- Learning Loss areas of funding)
- Hiring of 2 behavior intervention paraprofessionals
- Hiring of one additional social worker at Big Hollow Middle School
- Hiring of one full-time network administrator

In an attempt to provide opportunities for consultation with all stakeholders while developing this plan, the proposed use of funds was shared with all families and staff in an email sent out on October 6, 2023. Also, the plan was placed in the Board of Education public meeting packet and voted on during open session at the meeting on October 10, 2023. Prior to the vote, there was opportunity for public comment to the Board.