

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) and Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Planning

CONROE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

JUNE 15, 2021



The Two Types of Plans

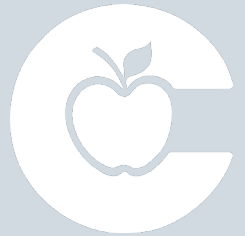
The District Plan for the Spending of Funds:

- ESSER Task Force



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan (Roadmap to Remaining Open):

- Reopening Task Force



Webpages

Both plans are still in development:

<https://www.conroeisd.net/roadmap-to-reopening/>

<https://www.conroeisd.net/esser-iii/>

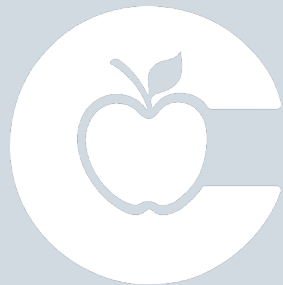


Safe Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan



The Reopening Task Force met last week to review the updated plan.

The current Safe Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan is posted on the web site.



School Health Operations Requirements

June 5, 2021

The guidance in this document is authorized by Executive Order GA-34, which has the effect of state law under Section 418.012 of the Texas Government Code. Executive Order GA-34 provides TEA with the legal authority to publish requirements for the operation of public school systems during the COVID-19 pandemic. This document takes effect June 5, 2021, replacing all prior guidance. TEA recommends that public school systems consult with their local public health authorities and local legal counsel before making final decisions regarding the implementation of this guidance.

This guidance addresses:

- On-campus instruction
- Administrative activities by teachers, staff, or students that occur on school campuses
- Non-UIL extracurricular sports and activities
- Any other activities that teachers, staff, or students must complete

Required Actions if Individuals with Test-Confirmed Cases Have Been in a School

1. If an individual who has been in a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must notify its [local health department](#), in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the [Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\)](#) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
2. Upon receipt of information that any teacher, staff member, student, or visitor at a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must submit a report to the Texas Department of State Health Services via an [online form](#). The report must be submitted each Monday for the prior seven days (Monday-Sunday).

Health and Hygiene Practices: Masks

Per GA-36, school systems cannot require students or staff to wear a mask. GA-36 addresses government-mandated face coverings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Other authority to require protective equipment, including masks, in an employment setting is not necessarily affected by GA-36.

School systems must allow individuals to wear a mask if they choose to do so.

Additionally, as a reference for practices recommended by the CDC, see [here](#).

WHAT IS ESSER III?



The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III funds are being provided under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, enacted on March 11, 2021. Funds are intended to respond to the pandemic and to address student learning loss as a result of COVID19.

ESSER III Allocation-Conroe ISD

TEA has released two-thirds of the total allocation to Texas School Districts. The remaining one-third will be made available upon the USDE's approval of the states spending plan.

Initial Allocation (Two-Thirds)	Remaining Allocation (One-Third)	CISD Total Allocation
\$43,137,201	\$21,568,601	\$64,705,802



ESSER II (December 2020) Allocation



We just received notice that our District allocation is \$28,811,173.

These funds will first be used to pay for the 2020-21 Hold Harmless Costs incurred by the District.

Once the remaining amount is identified, these funds will be incorporated into the overall plan.

We will involve the task force in this plan development.

Everything eligible in ESSER III is eligible in ESSER II.

The biggest difference is this is only two-year money.

ESSER

ESSER (Fund Code 282) contains two planning requirements

- 20% must be spent on learning loss activities
- Maintenance of Equity Provision
 - Supplanting is allowed. District must maintain equity across all schools when reducing local spending.



ESSER Task Force



73 Member Task Force (including the DLPCM) that includes District staff, campus staff, parents, and community members

This group has met 5 times thus far

Established overall categories for funding

Established basic planning amounts

Established Priorities within categories

Established guidance for campuses to plan for use of funds

Developed and Reviewed a survey on the web site

Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Teacher	46.17% 229
Counselor/Nurse	2.22% 11
Parent	49.19% 244
Student	1.61% 8
Campus or School District Administrator	8.06% 40
Conroe ISD Employee	35.48% 176
Community Member	18.95% 94
Total Respondents: 496	

Survey Results

Based on responses, the most preferred interventions include afterschool tutorials, summer school, targeted small group, and summer enrichment.

Added technology, mobile connectivity, academic interventionists, behavioral support, online learning, and additional materials and software were all identified as ways to recover learning.

There was strong support to use funds to respond to the social and emotional needs of our students with additional counselors, behavioral support, Communities In Schools programs, and additional teachers.

There was very strong support to set funds aside for attendance and enrollment fluctuations (Hold Harmless).

There is strong support to manage funds so that we reduce the effects of the funding cliff.

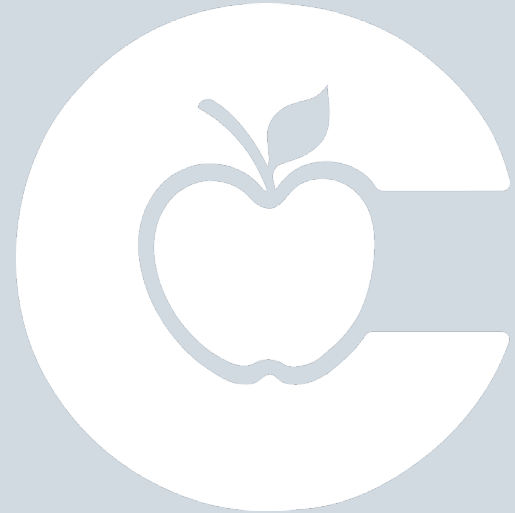
There is very strong support to allow campuses to have funds to develop a campus plan.

There is support for the virtual school (now on hold).

ESSER III

District priorities of our planning:

- Health and Safety
- Learning Recovery
- Social, Emotional, and Physical Needs of Students and Staff
- Equity, Engagement, Remote Learning, and Digital Gaps
- Communication



ESSER III

Considerations as we develop our plan:

- Transparency In Planning
- Meet the needs of students most impacted by the pandemic
- Choose and implement the most effective evidence-based interventions
- Prioritize educational equity
- Include stakeholder engagement
- Have strong fiscal safeguards



What can these funds be used for?



In addition to responding to the impact of lost instructional time, funds can be used to respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including students of low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students.

Any activity authorized under ESEA, IDEA, Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, or the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006

Other Targeted Areas

Programs or projects to close achievement gaps, recover lost learning, fill in missing skill development, prevent dropouts, etc.

Programs or projects to increase unrepresented student groups in upper level courses

Programs or projects to better meet the needs of struggling learners, homeless students, students in foster care, students learning English, students with special needs, etc.

Programs or projects to increase connectedness to school include workforce readiness (CTE) and/or fine arts programs

...to improve students ability to access the internet

...that would better prepare students to be on level when entering colleges



ESSER III – Allowable Activities

Addressing learning loss among students

Developing strategies and implementing public health protocols

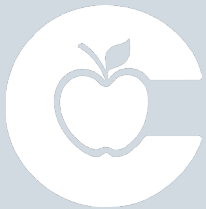
Activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services

Training and professional development for staff on meeting student needs

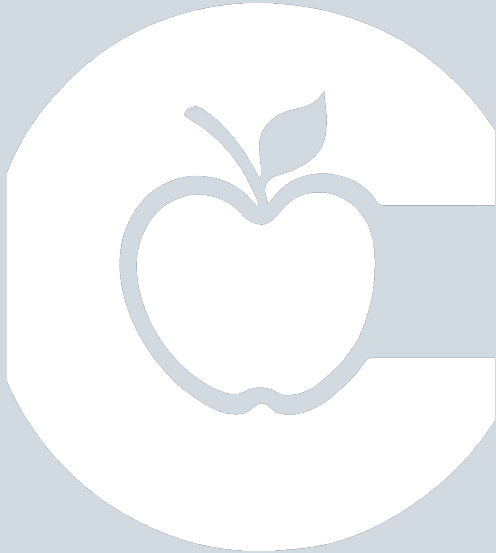
Purchasing educational technology

Providing mental health services and supports

Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning



When will we know what the final plan is?



Although the plan is not yet finalized, some decisions have been made sooner such as those that involve staffing for the next school year. In general, the plan will be published after the grant application has been approved at the state level. The application is due by late July.

<i>Category</i>	SUM of 2020-2021 Est. Amount	SUM of 2021-2022 Est. Amount	SUM of 2022-2023 Est. Amount	SUM of 2023-2024 Est. Amount	SUM of Total Amount
Campus Formula Staff	\$0	\$2,515,000	\$305,340	\$0	\$2,820,340
Campus Learning Recovery Planning Amounts	\$0	\$8,161,981	\$8,261,980	\$0	\$16,423,961
District Support Staff	\$0	\$1,867,000	\$1,792,000	\$0	\$3,659,000
Loss of Hold Harmless/Attendance Concerns	\$0	\$8,000,000	\$4,500,000	\$0	\$12,500,000
Non-Personnel Related Requests	\$0	\$1,609,400	\$1,614,500	\$4,388,000	\$7,611,900
Summer School	\$1,000,000	\$1,225,000	\$0	\$4,800,000	\$7,025,000
Virtual Academy	\$0	\$100,000	\$2,185,000	\$50,000	\$2,335,000
Grand Total	\$1,000,000	\$23,478,381	\$18,658,820	\$9,238,000	\$52,375,201

Draft Categories and Planning Amounts \$64,705,802 (\$43,137,201)

Campus Formula Staff : \$2,515,000

7 Bilingual Teachers

1 Music Teacher

17 General Education Teachers (Pre-K to High School)

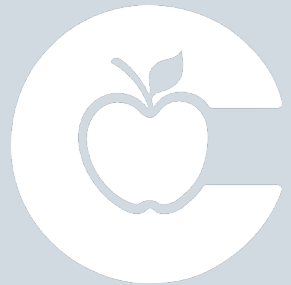
11 Paraprofessionals (Special Education, Pre-K, PE, Clerical)

1 Counselor (in addition to two locally added)

3 Assistant Principals

1 LVN for Special Education

41



District Support: \$1,867,000

2 Dyslexia Teachers

2 G/T Teachers

1 Special Education Bilingual Teacher

2 Social Workers

6 Communities in Schools Additions to the 16 programs in place (Rice, Reaves, Hope, Milam, Glen Loch, Armstrong)

1 Substitute Supervisor (HR)

1 Teacher Incentive Allotment Manager (HR)

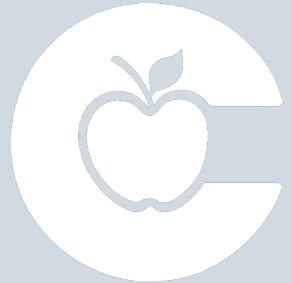
3 Specialists: Fine Arts, Federal Programs, and Athletics

6 Coaches: ESL, Early Childhood, Elementary Math, Foster Care, Interventions

3 Secretaries: Human Resources, Student Support Services, Teaching and Learning

1 Behavior Specialist Special Education

1 Print Graphics Designer

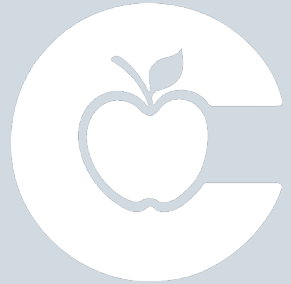


Campus Learning Recovery Planning Amounts: \$16,423,961

We will post the campus amounts on the web site. Amounts are calculated based on per pupil by campus level and weighted for economically disadvantaged students and a minimum amount for each campus.

Campuses will develop plans that might include

- Learning materials and software
- Teacher training
- Academic and/or behavior Interventionists
- Counselors
- Family Engagement Liaisons/Parent Involvement Liaison Aides
- Technology
- Communities in Schools



Hold Harmless: \$12,500.00 (2 Years)

Protects the District against reduced attendance and not meeting enrollment projections



Summer School: \$7,025,000 (4 Summers)

Count of Student ID	Building	Student Name	Student ID	Total
⊕ 603 - Online Accel Summer School				155
⊕ 630 - ESY Elementary Summer School				99
⊕ 631 - ESY Secondary Summer School				74
⊕ 641 - North JH Summer School				293
⊕ 646 - South JH Summer School				286
⊕ 648 - Glen Loch Summer School				390
⊕ 679 - Vogel Intermediate SS				392
⊕ 683 - Rice Elem Summer School				374
⊕ 685 - Travis Int Summer School				245
⊕ 686 - Grangerland Summer School				204
⊕ 693 - Milam Summer School				516
⊕ 696 - Sam Houston Summer School				531
⊕ 697 - Ford Summer School				429
⊕ 699 - District Summer School				1517
Grand Total				5505

Software, Wi-Fi, Staff Development, Technology (\$7,611,900)

Software: Adobe, Zoom, MClass, SeeSaw, Reads and Writes, Test Hound, Branching Minds, Canvas Connector

Professional Development: LLI, Guided Math, Struggling Readers

Mobile Connectivity: Hotspots, Enhanced Campus Wi-Fi

Transportation Software

Computers (IPads, Laptops, Chromebooks)



Virtual Academy (\$2,335,000)

Allows for modifying the plan to possibly begin 2022-23 school year if this receives legislative approval.



Funds Not Yet Allocated:

\$12,330,601 in ESSER III

Amount still yet to be determined from ESSER II



ESSER III – Next Steps

- Continue the application process and refine the plan to be awarded the \$43,137,201
- Stay current on changing guidance
- Being mindful that these are one-time funds through Sept. 2024
- Being mindful of loss of “hold harmless”

