

**Ford Heights School District 169**  
**American Rescue Plan (ARP) - ESSERIII**  
**Use of Funds Plan**

The district received an allocation of \$4,563,337, which must be expended by September 30, 2024. This grant requires a State Set Aside amount of \$26,901 for learning loss and a 23% federal reserve for learning loss in the amount of \$1,055,237. The remaining funds may be used for COVID-19 mitigation efforts and capital improvements.

There were perimeters that Districts had to follow when spending the funds, which were taken into consideration when deciding how the funds would be appropriated. Input was provided through a survey of faculty and staff, as well as parents on the best usage of the funds. The biggest priority of the district was to safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and to also address the impacts of COVID-19 on students by addressing students’ academic, social, and emotional needs.

The breakdown on how the funds have been allocated for Ford Heights School District 169 are as follows:

**ESSER III Proposed Activities**

<b>Required 20% Learning Loss Set Aside</b>	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Tentative Budget</b>
After School Tutorials	\$126,913
Chromebook licenses and voice over Ip phones for classrooms	\$98,185
Instructional devices, textbooks and resource materials, classroom libraries, wireless devices	\$785,797
Distant learning furniture, interactive learning tools	\$44,342
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,055,237</b>



<b>Required State Set Aside</b>	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Tentative Budget</b>
<b>SEA Reserve Learning Loss</b> – Connectivity for remote learning devices at home	\$18,900
<b>SEA Reserve Summer Enrichment</b> – Intense academic support in Reading and Math	\$3,784
<b>SEA After School Programs -</b> Intense academic support in Reading and Math	\$3,784
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$26,468</b>

<b>LEA (ARP Allocation)</b>	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Tentative Budget</b>
District Media	\$31,596
PPE supplies such as masks, hand sanitizer and gloves for students and staff	\$20,000
Construction Upgrade/'renovations of classrooms, bathrooms, open space for social distance	\$3,165,779
Additional daytime Custodian to provide COVID-19 cleaning and sanitizing	\$54,250
Food storage for preparation of food due to covid restrictions for serving	\$59,970
Furniture for Classrooms for individual cooperative learning	\$150,037
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,481,632</b>

## **Prevention and Mitigation Strategies**

Ford Heights School District 169 plans to utilize the ARP ESSER Funds to reduce contamination and ensure sanitary procedures with the following upgrades, installations, and repairs:

- To ensure air quality and concerns by repairing/upgrading the HVAC system and adding air filtration units in every classroom and areas where individuals are present.
- FY23 & FY 24 Sanitation, personal protective equipment, etc.
- All prevention and mitigation strategies will follow current CDC guidance. Consideration will also be given to ADA compliance where appropriate.

The ARP-ESSER III grant will be reviewed and updated quarterly after the expenditure reports have been submitted. Each review it will be determine whether an amended is needed, and more importantly, ensure the grant is being spent as expected on a yearly basis.

## **Academic Impact of Lost Instructional Time**

Ford Heights School District will provide Summer School in 2022 to address academic needs and enrichment activities of all students, particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. ARP ESSER Funds will be utilized for Summer School and after school salaries/benefits and Paraprofessional staff salaries/benefits where appropriate.

Throughout the school year, after school tutoring will be offered to students that need additional support to reduce the disproportionate impact from the COVID-19 pandemic. This service will ensure the maximum intervention is provided to all impacted students, particularly children with disabilities and those students disproportionately impacted by the loss of in person instruction at the height of the pandemic. Funds will provide for staff stipends and benefits.

During previous remote learning times, staff experienced difficulties providing materials through online platforms and current curriculum. To mitigate that barrier to providing quality instruction, Ford Heights School District staff will be selecting updated curriculum in reading, mathematics, science, and social studies. The new curriculum will enhance learning opportunities through digital resources and opportunities for students required to learn remotely to have equitable access to all learning materials, synchronized learning opportunities, and staff support.

The social and emotional strain on students and staff throughout the pandemic greatly impacts student learning and staff effectiveness. To address the impact of social emotional learning and support staff mental health, Ford Heights School District will monitor student and staff. Outside services may be added when the need arises.