

# Guide to Grants & Federal Funding Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic



Fox Chapel Area School District  
November 8, 2021

# Grants & Federal Funding Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic

- There were multiple federal funding sources available to school districts made available to support schools during the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery.
- Funding sources had different requirements but often overlapped, meaning they were available at the same time and could often be used for the same or similar purposes.
- Information and, often, requirements are continuing to emerge for funding sources. Therefore, the use of federal funds continues to be a fluid process.

# Federal Funding Sources Related to COVID-19

- Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD)
- Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER I)
- Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II)
- American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP – ESSER III)
- Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF)

# Using Federal Funding Sources Related to COVID-19

- Some of the first federal funding sources were designed for and used for emergency needs in 2020.
- The next set of funding sources were designed for and used for continuing needs in 2020, 2021, and 2022.
- Over the summer, federal funding sources emerged specifically dedicated to technology and connectivity.
- An additional funding source, the American Rescue Plan (ESSER III), includes requirements for set-asides and will be used for longer-term recovery in 2022, 2023, 2024.

# FCASD Federal COVID-19 Funding Spending Areas



Learning Loss



Capital Projects



Technology &  
Connectivity



Student and Staff  
Health & Wellness

**Federal funding sources related to the COVID-19 pandemic are temporary funding sources.**

**There is no expectation that school districts will receive similar funds in the future.**

**As a result, the district plans to use funds in ways that avoid future funding cliffs.**

# Grants and Federal Funding - PCCD

Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) = \$277,372 & \$112,549  
Nonpublic share = \$3,564

Funded Through: ESSER I, ESSER II, CRRSA Act (Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act)

## Allowable Components:

- Purchasing of cleaning/sanitizing products
- Training of staff on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases
- Purchasing of equipment (PPE, thermometers, etc.),
- Modification of schools for social distancing
- Providing mental health supports for students impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Purchasing educational technology to ensure the continuity of education
- Other health and safety programs, items or services necessary to address the COVID-19 emergency

# Grants and Federal Funding - PCCD

Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) = \$277,372 & \$112,549  
Nonpublic share = \$3,564

Funded Through: ESSER II, CRRSA Act (Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act)

## Fox Chapel Area Uses:

- Cleaning supplies (wipes, disinfectants, towels, air filters)
- COVID specific supplies (masks, PPE, facial tissues, thermometers, hand sanitizer)
- Technology (devices, remote learning platforms, additional firewall protection, TechEd Lab equipment)
- Health & Behavioral Screening Tools (Ruvna & PASS)



# Grants and Federal Funding – ESSER I

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER I) = \$337,345  
Nonpublic share = \$11,174

Funded Through: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

## Allowable Components:

- Coordinate district and school response efforts to COVID-19
- Address the needs of specific populations of students
- Professional development for staff to minimize the spread of infectious disease
- Purchasing of cleaning/sanitizing products
- Plan for and coordinate operations during long-term closures
- Purchase educational technology for students
- Provide staff and student mental health services and supports
- Plan and implement summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs

# Grants and Federal Funding – ESSER I

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER I) = \$337,345

Nonpublic share = \$11,174

Funded Through: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

## Fox Chapel Area Uses:

- Salaries & benefits for Summer Learning Academy for 2020-2021
- Technology and technology supplies (iPads, cases, accessories, additional online learning software fees)

# Grants and Federal Funding – ESSER II

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II) = \$1,548,074

Funded Through: CRRSA Act (Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act)

## Allowable Components:

- Addressing learning loss among students
- Making school facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission
- Inspecting, testing, repairing, and other projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities

# Grants and Federal Funding – ESSER II

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II) = \$1,548,074

Funded Through: CRRSA Act (Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act)

## Fox Chapel Area Uses:

- Summer Learning Academy 2021-2022
- COVID related supplies (PPE, masks, sanitizer, face shields, water bottle fillers, bottled water, PPE gowns)
- Legionella testing & fees
- Storage trailer rentals
- Additional licenses for remote learning platforms & software license fees
- Allowable budgeted HVAC project and construction project
- Assessment tools (PASS & Level Data Services)

# Grants and Federal Funding – ARP/ESSER III

American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP/ESSER III) = \$3,133,129

Funded Through: American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund

## Allowable Components:

- Broad array of programs including extending the school day or year, mental health supports, professional training
- Undertaking priority school facility repairs and improvements

## Required Components:

- Address learning loss through evidence-based interventions
- Provide summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs, specifically targeting historically underperforming students
- Student and staff support
- Reading support

# Grants and Federal Funding - ECF

## Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF)

## Funded Through American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund

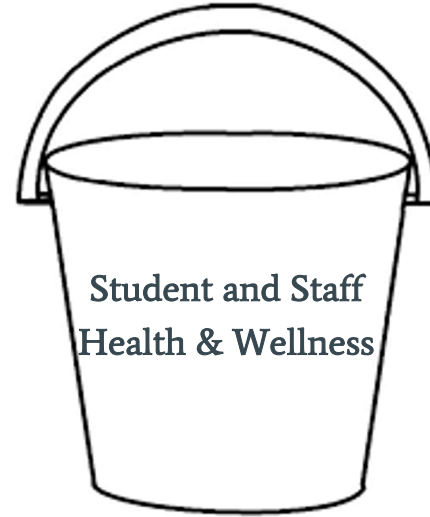
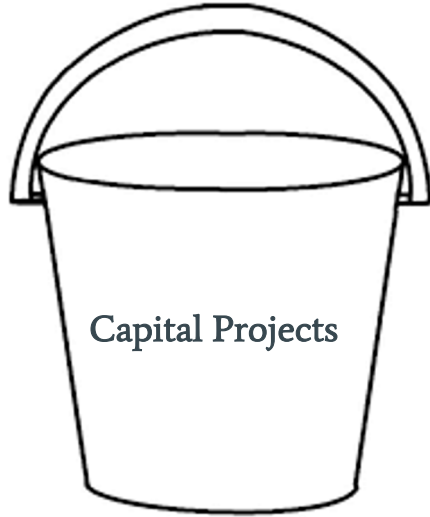
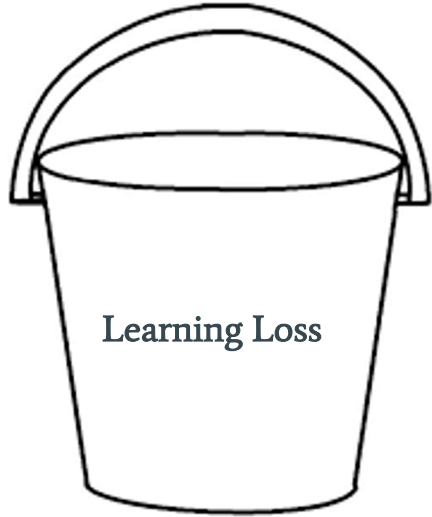
### Allowable Components:

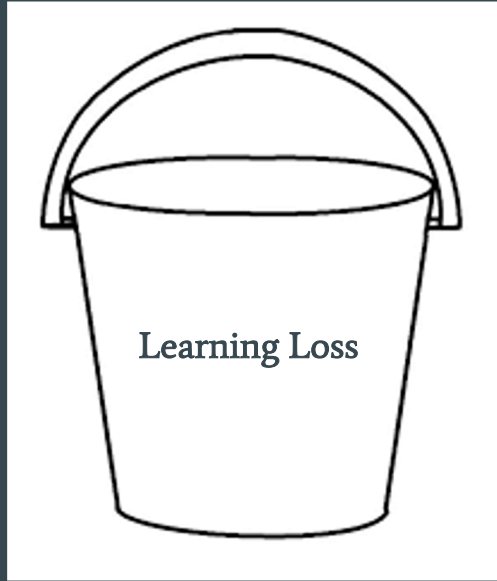
- Mobile devices only for staff and students
- Filtered Wi-Fi hotspots for those who have no access

### \*Most Restrictive Funding Source - Two Rounds of Funding

- Round I Award Date: 9/24/2021
  - Impacted working ESSER II considerations and ARP ESSER III considerations
  - Impacted previously submitted PCCD 35449 Award
  - Impacted 2022/2023 budget predictions
- Round II Award Date: TBD
  - Would impact 2022/2023 budget predictions

# FCASD Federal COVID-19 Funding Spending Areas - ESSER III





## Fox Chapel Area Tentative Plans:

Summer Learning Academy

Extra Innings After School Intervention Program

Professional Development to Support the Academic and Mental Health Needs of Students

Core Aligned Curricular Materials

Instructional Support, Including Resources for Academic Intervention and Enrichment to Support Tier I, II, and III Supports in Math and Reading



Fox Chapel Area Tentative Plans:

Window Encasement and Air Circulation Project

Other capital projects, if allowable





Fox Chapel Area Tentative Plans:

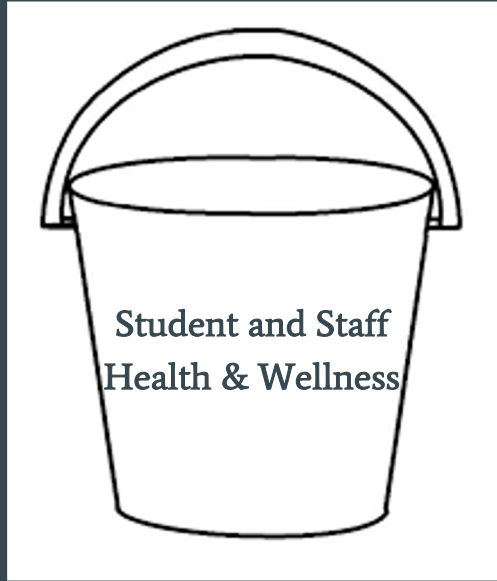
High School and Middle School Lab Replacements

Staff Device Rotations\*

Content Specific Device Replacement\*

Interactive Displays for Classrooms

*\*ECF Funding will supplant purchase*



Fox Chapel Area Tentative Plans:

Pupil Attitudes to School and Self (PASS Survey)

Staff Professional Development to support students

PPE and School Nurse Supplies

Mindfulness and Stress-management Resources for  
Students and Staff

# Community Input for ESSER III

- The Fox Chapel Area School District purposefully planned to use these funds through 2024, thus has purposefully delayed application for them.
- The district will continue to gather information regarding student data to inform needs for students. This data is expected to evolve as the needs of our students shift in the next two years.
- The district will continue to work with staff members to understand needs so that funds may be applied in helpful ways and as intended by the funding stream.

# Community Input for ESSER III

- The district will continue to include items on board committee agendas and board meeting agendas for public comment.
- When looking at a particular need, product, or service, the district will engage teams of individuals to share input (such as for curricular materials, student programming, capital projects, etc.).

# Community Input for ESSER III

- Additionally, members of the Fox Chapel Area community can email [ESSER3input@fcasd.edu](mailto:ESSER3input@fcasd.edu) to provide input and share ideas or thoughts to assist the district in using its ARP ESSER III funds in the allotted areas of learning loss, capital projects, connectivity and technology, and student and staff health and wellness.

**The district applied for additional funding streams and grants.**

**If the district receives additional funding from other sources, it may shift planned uses for federal funding sources.**