

**American Rescue Plan/ESSER III - LEA Plan of Use Narrative**

Agency: Berrien Springs Public Schools

2020 - 2021

Recipient Code: 11240

- The LEA Plan of Use Narrative is currently in progress and not ready for submission. The LEA agrees to amend their application at the time the Plan of Use Narrative is complete.

**Please describe the extent to which and how the funds will be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent CDC guidance on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning:**

Berrien Springs Public Schools will employ a school nurse that will oversee the district's compliance to all federal, state, and local rules and regulations including CDC guidance to safely open and operate our schools for in-person learning. The district's Return to Learn plan is in compliance with CDC guidance and be found at <https://www.homeoftheshamrocks.org/return-to-learn/>. This plan details how the district will utilize funds to implement prevention and mitigation strategies.

**Please describe how the LEA will use the funds it reserves under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act (see below) to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year:**

Berrien Springs Public Schools will employ 2 interventionists at each the middle school and high school to address learning loss through the use of evidence-based interventions. Interventionists will focus on common core standards that have not been mastered Sylvester Elementary will also employ 2 additional third grade teachers. This will allow third grade class sizes to be reduced in order for teachers to specifically address learning loss especially to prepare students to meet the criteria for the Read by Grade 3 law. Third grade classrooms utilize Reader's and Writer's Workshop as well as Orton-Gillingham. We will also employ a technology assistant at the elementary level to assist in implementing a one to one device program that will allow teachers to individualize learning for students. There will also be a dean of student at Sylvester Elementary and a behavior specialist at the high school to implement a positive behavior intervention and support program that will provide structure in the midst of a pandemic.

**Please describe how the LEA will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act.**

Berrien Springs Public Schools will use the remaining ARP ESSER funds to administer high quality assessments so that we can evaluate if our efforts to address learning loss are trending in the positive direction. This will also allow us to modify our curriculum, if needed, to best meet the needs of our students. The district will use NWEA to benchmark students three times per year. The district will also use IXL regularly in classrooms so that teachers may monitor student progress and utilize the data in professional learning communities to increase student achievement.

**Please describe how the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions implemented under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act (see below) to address the academic impact of lost instructional time, will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students.**

Berrien Springs Public Schools will provide a multi-tiered system of support to all students that includes

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specific provisions for students disproportionately impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. This includes intervention and support for academics and behavior. Berrien Springs strives to create a personalized learning approach for all students including those disproportionately affected by the pandemic. For our intervention, students are selected by assessment scores. This subgroup of students, often falls into the category that would qualify them for intervention. Our teachers build strong relationships with students to help each student succeed to the best of the ability. Our district has a full time liaison for all of these subgroups and oversees the federal and state programs that ensure these students receive the services they need.