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Webinar ID: 873 8128 0980

**The following item will be discussed at a virtual Public Forum Meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations on Monday, December 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**

gb #1-271 - Ms. Novick (September 29, 2021)

Provide opportunities for public input on the district's plans for Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief funding, as required by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

ITEM: gb #1-271

STANDING COMMITTEE: **FINANCE AND OPERATIONS**

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, December 20, 2021

ITEM: Ms. Novick (September 29, 2021)

Provide opportunities for public input on the district's plans for Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief funding, as required by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

PRIOR ACTION:

10-7-21 - It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

BACKUP:

Annex A (11 pages) contains a copy of the ESSER Spending Plan.

# WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS E.S.S.E.R

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF

## Spending Plans

WORCESTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
*Standing Committee on Finance and Operations*  
Public Hearing on ESSER Funding  
December 20, 2021



# ESSER Spending Overview



## **ESSER I**

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief I (ESSER I) Fund, authorized under section 18003 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) signed into law on March 27, 2020.

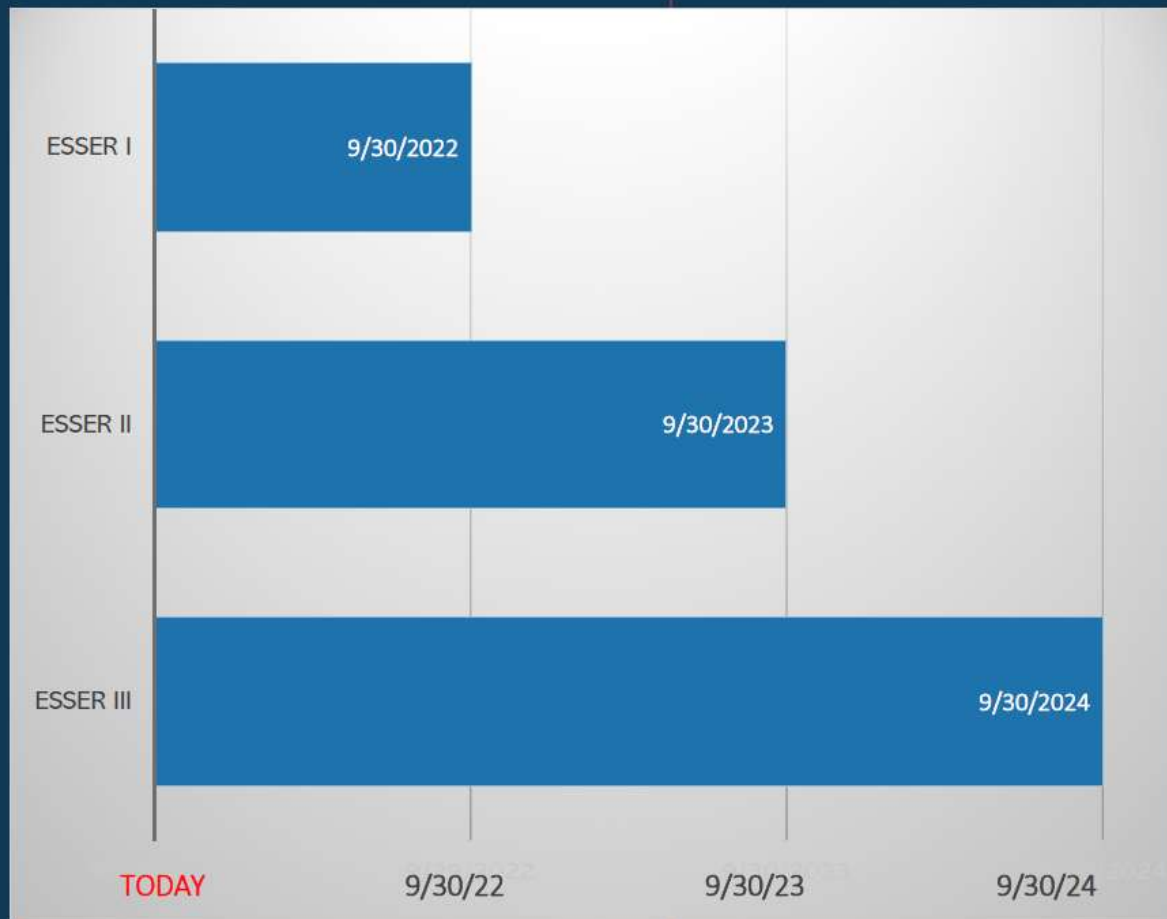
## **ESSER II**

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA), was signed into law on December 27, 2020, and provides an additional \$54.3 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund.

## **ESSER III**

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act was signed into law on March 11, 2021, included \$122 billion for the ARP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund

# ESSER ENDING DATES



# Stakeholder Outreach and Input

OF ESSER III

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## IMPLEMENTATION OF ESSER III USE OF FUNDS PLAN:

A district that receives ESSER III funds must consult with the stakeholder groups listed below and formulate a plan that includes the following, which will all be captured on your ESSER III application.



# Funding Requirements

OF ESSER III

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- 20% must be used to combat loss of instructional time/learning loss by using evidence-based practices.
- Guidance on the remaining is very broad and closes with “Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services...and continuing to employ existing staff.”

# Allowable Uses of ESSER Funds

	ESSER-I	ESSER-II	ESSER-III
Anything authorized in ESSA, IDEA, AEFLA, Perkins, McKinney-Vento	✓	✓	✓
Coordination of COVID preparedness and response efforts	✓	✓	✓
Activities for low-income, SWD, EL, racial and ethnic minorities, homeless, and foster	✓	✓	✓
Developing and implementing procedures and systems	✓	✓	✓
Training and PD on minimizing spread of infectious diseases	✓	✓	✓
Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean	✓	✓	✓
Planning for, coordinating, and implementing activities, incl. meals	✓	✓	✓
Technology for students and staff	✓	✓	✓
Mental health services and supports	✓	✓	✓
Summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs	✓	✓	✓
Providing principals with resources necessary to address individual needs of schools	✓	✓	✓
Implementing public health protocols	✓*	✓*	✓
Addressing learning loss (assessments, evidence-based activities, parents, attendance)	✓*	✓	✓
School facility repairs to reduce risk of virus transmission	✓*	✓	✓
Air quality improvements	✓*	✓	✓
Other activities that are necessary to maintain operation and keep staff employed	✓	✓	✓

\* = Not explicit in statute, but still allowable



# Implementation Plan

AS PART OF GRANT APPLICATION

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DESE suggests that ESSER Funds should be thought in these three areas:



Academics



Social Emotional



Operations & Capital

# Implementation Plan

AS PART OF GRANT APPLICATION

In the implementation plan (grant application), districts will describe how they will use ESSER III funds to:



Combat loss of instructional time/learning loss by using evidence-based practices (must reserve at least 20% of funds for this)



Use evidence-based practices to address the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of students



Address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups



US Dept. of Ed is requiring DESE to report URLs!

# Use of ESSER Funds for Construction Projects

Building projects must be related to disease mitigation

- Ventilation systems (new install, upgrades, recommissioning, etc.)
- Air purifiers
- Windows and doors
- Bathroom renovations (ventilation, no-touch fixtures, etc.)
- Replacing water fountains with bottle filling stations

*All construction projects must be preapproved by DESE using the Capital Expenditures form (to be submitted with grant application)*



Province to spend \$200K studying schools that lack ventilation systems | CBC News

# WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

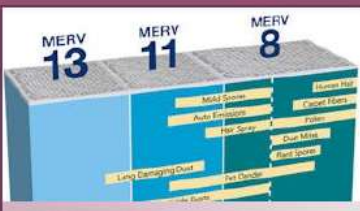
## ESSER SPENDING PLAN



Enrollment  
Sustainability Funds



Student Opportunity  
Act Bridge Funding



Ventilation System  
Upgrades



Ventilation System  
Maintenance



Summer and  
Afterschool Programs



PPE, COVID Testing,  
Nurses



District-Operated  
School Buses



A picture containing text, indoor, computer, stack  
Description automatically generated



# WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## ESSER SPENDING PLAN

### ESSER Annual Spending Plan by Year (By Grant):

	FY21 Allocation	FY22 Allocation	FY23 Allocation	FY24 Allocation	Total Award
<b>Federal Grant Revenue:</b>					
Education Stabilization Fund - ESSER I	\$2,550,426	\$6,913,180	\$0	\$0	\$9,463,606
Education Stabilization Fund - ESSER II		\$17,407,975	\$17,407,975	\$0	\$34,815,950
Education Stabilization Fund - ESSER III		\$34,133,844	\$12,767,688	\$31,267,688	\$78,169,220
<b>TOTAL ESSER FUNDS</b>	<b>\$2,550,426</b>	<b>\$58,454,999</b>	<b>\$30,175,663</b>	<b>\$31,267,688</b>	<b>\$122,448,776</b>

### ESSER Annual Spending Plan by Year (By Targeted Area):

	FY21 Amount	FY22 Amount	FY23 Amount	FY24 Amount	Total Spending
<b>Federal Grant Revenue:</b>					
Student Opportunity Act Bridge Funds	\$0	\$13,157,478	\$13,157,478	\$13,157,478	\$39,472,434
Enrollment Increase Sustainability	\$0	\$9,685,106	\$0	\$0	\$9,685,106
Summer, Afterschool, and PD Programs	\$0	\$8,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$18,000,000
Technology Spending	\$1,274,947	\$2,250,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,250,000	\$6,274,947
COVID-19 Maintenance Spending	\$345,028	\$1,250,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$3,595,028
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	\$879,442	\$750,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,629,442
Ventilation System & Building Projects	\$0	\$4,063,315	\$8,544,672	\$10,234,856	\$22,842,843
School Bus Purchase	\$0	\$18,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$18,500,000
City of Worcester Indirect Costs	\$51,009	\$799,100	\$973,513	\$625,354	\$2,448,976
<b>TOTAL ESSER FUNDS</b>	<b>\$2,550,426</b>	<b>\$58,454,999</b>	<b>\$30,175,663</b>	<b>\$31,267,688</b>	<b>\$122,448,776</b>