How has the District used their federal ESSER funds?

ESSER monies are COVID-19 relief monies given to districts to help offset the increased costs incurred during the pandemic. These are one-time source funds and have stipulations on how the monies may be used and should not be used to supplant the operational budget of a school district. Below are the details on our ESSER funds and how we have used this funding.

ESSER I (CARES Act)

These monies can be used for quality online resources, training for remote instruction, mental health services, cleaning and sanitizing supplies, responding to COVID-19 needs and maintaining the health and safety of our students and staff, to name a few.

Gillett received \$118,238.00 and needed to be used by Sept. 30, 2022. We used these monies to purchase MiFis and service for online learning, iPads for lower grades for learning, a health room assistant, an online learning platform, and other technology to aid in online, remote, and student learning.

ESSER II (CRRSAA)

These monies can be used similar to ESSER I monies. Gillett received \$479,632.00 and the funds must be used by Sept. 30, 2023. We have spent most of the allocated funds for Chromebooks for grades that didn't have them, continuation of a health room assistant, CESA 8 instructional support, the replacement of our internal server switches, an elementary reading interventionist, and other technology to aid student learning.

ESSER III (ARPA)

As of February 10, 2022, the federal government has not yet approved the State's ESSER III plan, but it is in the final stages and should be approved shortly. Gillett is slated to receive \$1,077,934.00. The funds need to be used by Sept. 30, 2024.

Gillett will need to use at least 20% to address learning loss amongst students and on evidence-based instructional strategies and student supports. Other areas that can be used are school facility upgrades to reduce virus transmission, continued response to COVID-19 and the health and safety of our students and staff, providing mental health services and supports, and the continued use of monies as outlined in ESSER I and II.

Initially, we would use the monies for evidence-based strategies and supports, continued CESA 8 instructional support, continuation of a health room assistant, interventionists, and other areas to address the learning gaps of our students.

More information about how ESSER funds can be found at the DPI website under ESSER I. II. and III overview.