

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

Agency: Universal Academy

2020 - 2021

Recipient Code: 82950

- 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:

In addition to our layered supports funded by other funds including ESSER (masking, desk shields, vaccination promotions, daily sanitizing), we will further prevent and mitigate COVID-19 transmission by upgrading HVAC systems, filtering, and purification using ESSER III funds.

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:

Utilizing ESSER III funds (20% reserve), the district is investing in significant programs and staff to address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19. This includes but is not limited to reading support staff and programs, supplemental literacy resources, in school accelerations programs, positive behavior support, restorative practices, family engagement and enrichment programs such as robotics and STEM. These programs will work in tandem with the summer school, credit recovery and after-school programs being funded by 23b.

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

The remaining funds will be spent to upgrade HVAC systems, improve filtration and purification of air, additional pay and incentives to proactively address recruitment and retention and to ensure ongoing employment of staff to ensure the smooth continued operation of the academy. All of the aforementioned uses are consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP act.

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.

All interventions that will be implemented under the ARP Act will address all student needs. The funds have been allocated to address academics through the use of supplemental literacy resources, digital resources, and reading support staff to help all students read proficiently. Additional funds will be used to provide all students with enrichment programs in robotics and STEM to ensure a well-rounded education. Family community liaisons will be used to share data and resources with families to support student learning. This includes but not limited to providing PD on digital literacy, providing community resources and outlets to support families, providing parents with surveys to gather their feedback and experience, and/or providing parents with both in-person and virtual option for consultations for concerns they may have. Teacher professional development on research based best practices, like Kagan Structures, will be provided to all staff to ensure all students engage in the lesson. A positive behavioral intervention system, like restorative practices,

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will be used with Deans to help support students and understand their perspective instead of using punitive discipline measures. This will ensure that Deans, and all staff, take the time to help student reflect on actions and provide avenues of growth from their actions.