

## ARP ESSER Funds Allocation Plan for Metamora Township High School District #122

Per ISBE, each school district that receives ESSER III funds must develop a plan for its use and submit it to ISBE within 90 days of funds being received. School districts must provide public opportunity to offer input on the plan, take such input into account, and post the ARP ESSER plan on its website. MTHS consulted many stakeholders in the development of this plan including administrators, teachers, parents, and our Board of Education to name a few.

ESSER II Projected Allocation: \$122,753

ESSER II Projected Expenditures for FY 21:

- The entirety of ESSER II funds will be used to improve the indoor air quality at MTHS through HVAC renovations. The HVAC renovation will include an HVAC system with improved air filtration and greatly improved outdoor air exchange.

ESSER Allocation Plan for FY 21 – FY 24:

ESSER III Projected Allocation = \$342,226

Funds may be used for allowable activities from March 13, 2020 through September 30, 2024

State mandated distribution:

- \$47,624 Learning Loss (online credit recovery program). MTHS will utilize an online credit recovery program to help students stay on track to graduate that may have failed a class during the pandemic.
- \$9,525 Summer Enrichment (Salary; benefits; contracts/Edgenuity). MTHS will host a free summer school, including transportation, for any student who has failed a class.
- \$9,525 After School (Computers for use after school in Room 211). MTHS will house a computer lab with brand new computers for students who need a place to complete homework and do research after school.
- \$55,110 Chromebooks for student use. MTHS will issue these Chromebooks throughout our building to help support student learning in our classrooms. Additionally, these computers can be checked out to students if we have to revert to online learning.
- \$220,442 HVAC upgrades to improve indoor air quality. As mentioned above, the HVAC renovation will include an HVAC system with improved air filtration and greatly improved outdoor air exchange.

## **Plan for Remaining ESSER III Funds**

MTHS has \$7,696 dollars remaining in ESSER III Funds. To date, MTHS has expended \$220,442 in HVAC upgrades to improve indoor air quality. This \$220,442 was part of a \$3.5 million dollar HVAC project aimed at improving indoor air quality. Additionally, MTHS also received over 30 indoor air purifiers that we placed in rooms with no windows. Both the air purifiers and the HVAC project were undertaken to help prevent the spread of airborne viruses. MTHS has also spent ESSER funds to equip two computer labs for before and after school student use. We have purchased \$55,110 in Chromebooks to place around the building and distribute to students to take home if we have to pivot to an online learning environment again.

With our remaining \$7,696, we hope to purchase a set of Chromebooks (\$250 a piece with licenses) and Chromebook storage/charging cart (\$1225.00) to be used in our Academic Resource Center (a.k.a. The ARC). The ARC is staffed by two employees who assist students with a guided study or with online credit recovery to help them stay on track to graduate on time. This room, and thus these computers, will also be used by our summer school students as they seek to recapture credits lost due to failing a course. Last year we had 62 students enrolled in Credit Recovery in the fall and 67 students in the spring. In the fall, we had 76% of enrolled students recapture credit and in the spring, we had 81% of enrolled students earn course credits. In the summer of 2022, we had 10 students make up credits in summer school and in the summer of 2023, we had 9 students make up credits in summer school. By intentionally focusing on students who are struggling we were able to move our 2022 graduation rate of 95.0 % to 95.7% in 2023. Additionally, we were able to increase our freshmen on track from 89.9% in 2021-2022 to 96.5% in 2022-2023. In short, the interventions are helping to keep our most struggling students on pace to graduate with their peers.

In addition to our ARC and Summer School program, MTHS has moved to weekly homerooms for the 2023-2024 school year. The technology MTHS purchased with ESSER funds is also utilized in our homerooms as teachers work through lessons on a wide-range of topics – everything from College and Career planning to lessons on social-emotional wellness.

In the process of developing our plan, MTHS has engaged our vital publics to gather input and share our outcomes to date.