

Galatia CUSD #1 School District ESSER III Spending Plan

ESSER III Spending Plan

Under the American Rescue Plan (ARP), which became law in March 2021, school districts around the country will receive funding to address the impact of COVID-19 on students' academic, social, emotional and mental health needs. This funding is known as "ESSER III." "ESSER" is short for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief. ESSER III receives its numerical designation from the fact that the ARP ESSER Fund is the third set of COVID-related federal relief grants for schools that Congress has passed since the pandemic began. ESSER I and ESSER II were established respectively by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act in March 2020 and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act in December 2020.

How much money will ESSER III provide?

ESSER III will provide nearly \$122 billion to state educational agencies and school districts to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students. Galatia Unit #1 School is expected to receive \$1,055,851.00 in ESSER III funds.

How will Galatia Unit #1 School District Use ESSER III funds? This spending plan focuses on three areas. 1. to ensure the continued employment of staff due to loss of funds related to tax dollars. 2. Provide additional funds to supplement instruction to make up for learning loss. 3. Improve the air quality in district buildings and to ensure the safety of our students and staff against COVID 19. Our plan recognizes that no less than 20% of all ESSER III funds must be used to address learning loss. The costs listed below are estimates only. In order to support individual student success, teachers and administrators will analyze data to determine the supports needed for each student. As presented to the Galatia CUSD #1 School Board, the District plans to use its ESSER III grant money in three major areas, pending approval from the Illinois State Board of Education:

1. Academics and Improvement of Instruction

2. Retention of staff

Staff and instructional materials to implement supplemental instruction during the 21-22, 22-23, and 23-24 school years

A.	Curricular Materials:	\$10,000
B.	Summer Learning and Enrichment:	\$19,459
C.	After School Care-	\$19,459
D.	Loss of Learning Teachers	\$282,744
E.	Support Staff Retention	\$214,761

3. Capital Improvements and Janitorial Supplies to combat Covid-19: Repair and upgrade of the HVAC Heating and Cooling Systems with individual heating/cooling air units to help improve indoor air quality.

All amounts are estimates and subject to change

A.	HVAC upgrade/repair	\$ 450,000
B.	HVAC architect fees	\$ 50,000
C.	Supplies for cleaning /social distancing	\$ 9,428

Total Improvement of Instruction = \$ 546,423
Total Capital Improvements = \$ 459,428

Total ESSER III Funds \$1,055,851.00

Update on 7-1-2023

Return to In-Person Learning Plan

Forward

When the plan was originally created the state of Illinois was under an emergency declaration with a five-phase plan to return to normal activities. Since the initiation of the plan, the emergency declaration has ended, and "normal" operations have resumed. Some components of the plan are still applicable, but many components have simply been removed. If anyone has questions or comments please contact a district administrator.

2021-2022 Return to In-Person Learning Plan

The following plan is organized under a question and answer format. This is being done to help readers find information quickly and the overall organization of the document. If after reading this, you still have questions please email the questions to returntoschool@galatiak12.org and we will find an answer for you.

Will every student be required to return to in-person learning?

Yes

Where can I get the vaccine?

Multiple retailers and the Egyptian Health Department can administer vaccines.

Will drop-off and pick-up procedures be similar to last year?

Yes. No students will enter the building until 7:45. At the end of the day, we will stagger release times and doors we exit in order to provide as much social distancing as possible.

What about hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette?

As we did last year, we will provide times for frequent handwashing and hand sanitizer. We will also give basic instructions in hand washing and respiratory etiquette at the beginning of the school year and reminders throughout the year.

What measures will the school take to properly clean and improve ventilation in the district buildings?

During the 2023-2024 school year, the district continued cleaning procedures including wiping down all hard surfaces more frequently, using a spray solution after school to improve air quality and kill viruses that were missed during the day, or regular cleaning. Teachers have bottles of cleaning solution so they can wipe down desks during the day, especially if more than one student is going to utilize a particular seat. We paid special attention to this practice at the Junior High and Senior High level where students move from class to class. Additionally, we did enhance cleaning on the busses, cleaning after both morning and afternoon routes HVAC systems have been updated throughout the district

Summative lists of mitigation for the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year

Increased cleaning of buildings and busses.

Frequent wiping down of desks. (especially if more than one student shares a desk).

Contact tracing as needed.

Following guidelines from IDPH on symptoms related to COVID and school exclusion.

Ionized disinfecting spray after staff and students are gone.

Staggered dismissal times and bus loading.

Immediately quarantine staff or students if COVID is suspected.

Continue to work with local and state healthcare providers.

Continue multiple cleanings of school busses

Does my child have to be vaccinated against COVID 19 to come to school?

The short answer is no. At this point, neither the Illinois State Board of Education nor The Illinois Department of Public Health require COVID vaccinations for students.

Will the school do diagnostic screening for COVID 19?

No. The district will continue to utilize the many community, and health care facilities testing for COVID 19. If you suspect you were exposed to COVID 19 and need to be tested, we will be happy to share the locations we know are doing testing services.

Will the district continue to work under the health guidance of federal, state, and local health authorities?

Besides our school nurse, we are not medical practitioners and must rely on federal, state, and local health authorities to guide us in the medical arena. We must ensure we are using best practices as prescribed by governing authorities to protect staff, students, and the community at large.

My student seems to be behind after being on remote learning last year, how do I get help to catch them up?

This is not a short answer or an easy solution. The district has invested money into programs that can be used supplementary at home and after school as well as some diagnostic tools for parents and students to continually monitor progress. Teachers are the best resources you have for your student. Please reach out to your child's teacher and let them know your concerns. We will help to the greatest extent possible.

How will the social and emotional needs be met for students and staff?

The district employs a full-time counselor that students of all ages can utilize. If you feel your student needs to talk to the counselor, please contact a district administrator or your child's teacher. We also work very closely with the Egyptian Health Department. The health department offers an array of services for families, students, and staff who may be in need of services.