

Niles ESD 71 Use of Funds

Niles ESD 71 Use of Funds Plan American Rescue Plan (ESSER III) Illinois school districts that were allocated American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds must develop a Use of Funds plan and submit it to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) within ninety days of funds being received. The funds provided to the school district can be used between March 13, 2020 through September 30, 2024. Districts must also make the Use of Funds plan available to the public on their website and allow for stakeholder input. Please use this survey link to provide input on the proposed Use of Funds plan.

As per the American Rescue Plan, twenty percent of the funds provided must be used to address learning loss.

American Rescue Plan (ESSER III) Use of Funds plan - Total Allotment (\$1,057,036)

- Learning Loss Allocation - \$215,150
 - After school tutoring program
 - Additional Full-time social worker
 - Summer school staff
 - Benefits for tutoring program and summer school staff
- Building Renovations & Addition - \$841,886
 - Additional classroom space to reduce class sizes
 - Upgrades to HVAC system to enhance air quality

As of August 2023, the district has \$525,000 in unspent funds. It will use this money to complete the building renovation and addition project.

Ensuring Interventions Meet Those Disproportionately Impacted by Covid

The District has found that our low income students were most severely impacted by the pandemic. These students are identified annually and targeted for additional support and academic programming.

Meaningful Consultation (Stakeholders Including the Public)

The district received input for the use of funds and return to school through a variety of methods. The district conducted an electronic survey of stakeholders in July 2021. As required by law, there was a board presentation regarding the use of funds and associated public comment.

Throughout the pandemic the parent community, faculty and staff have been involved in the decision making process at District 71. The Niles 71 Teachers' Association played an important role in determining that the District could reopen safely and what mitigation measures needed to be put in place. In June of 2020, the District established a Covid Task Force. This group met

through the summer of 2020 and molded the plan that was successfully implemented in August of 2020. These same individuals have been involved as the District's plans have evolved throughout 2021 and now into 2022.

As needed the Covid Task Force was convened to discuss the plan and whether changes were needed. In addition, the Board of Education spoke about the plan and discuss it at the regularly scheduled Board of Education regular meetings.