



# AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP)- ELEMENTARY and SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF (ESSER III)

Dr. Kelvin Adams, Superintendent

July 27, 2021



# PURPOSE



To support schools and districts in addressing the impact of COVID-19, Congress has provided financial support through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund.

Districts have the flexibility to use the ESSER funds on any "activity authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act." ESSER funds can be used for:

- ☐ Assessments
- ☐ Identifying and addressing unfinished learning
- ☐ Instructional materials
- ☐ After school/extended day
- ☐ Summer learning
- ☐ Professional development
- ☐ Mental health services
- ☐ Software, hardware, connectivity
- ☐ Teacher pay related to closures

To receive the **ARP ESSER III Funds**, Saint Louis Public Schools must submit an application to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) by Monday, August 23, 2021.

In May, parents, students, teachers, and community members had the opportunity to provide input and feedback through a survey regarding how the ARP ESSER funds should be allocated.

The application will reflect the District's plan to utilize these funds to address unfinished learning, return safely to in-person instruction, and provide support and interventions to students most impacted by COVID-19.





# ESSER COMMITTEE



- ❑ The ESSER Committee advised the Superintendent and SLPS on the key focus areas for these new investments, with a commitment to allocating the funding in an **equitable** and sustainable manner. SLPS will leverage the new funding over three years and must ensure the new opportunities can be supported for years to come. The ESSER Committee had four meetings, once weekly over 30 days with the final meeting held on Thursday, July 22, 2021.
- ❑ The core approach of all aspects of current work in SLPS align to our Transformation Plan with a focus on Equity and Coherence. Meetings were hosted virtually.
- ❑ ESSER Committee members represented a wide range of stakeholders who engaged with SLPS on a regular basis, and were selected based on their affiliation with students, schools, and their knowledge of the District's strategic priorities.



# PLAN CREATION AND PRIORITIES



## Timeline:

### May 2021:

- ❑ District surveyed community members, teachers, leaders, and parents

### May-July 2021:

- ❑ Forty-three volunteers across all stakeholder groups joined the ESSER Committee to begin planning how to use this funding to support the academic and social-emotional needs of all students.
- ❑ This committee analyzed survey results, reviewed 2020-2021 student data, and engaged in a collaborative process to determine three priorities that would guide the district's ESSER plan.

## Three Key Priorities:

### 1. Supporting the whole child:

Dramatically improve student learning and outcomes from a trauma-informed perspective

### 2. Expanding 21<sup>st</sup> century schools:

Transform our buildings to ensure innovative and equitable spaces

### 3. Investing in Our Staff:

Develop and empower our staff to improve staff culture

**Teacher, parent, and student engagement is critical to the plan creation and ongoing revision. Funding decisions will center on the individuals closest to students.**

# PRIORITY #1:

# SUPPORTING THE WHOLE CHILD



## Dramatically Improve Student Learning and Outcomes from a Trauma-Informed Perspective

### Provide and Establish

- ☐ Educational software programs for schools to support instruction
- ☐ In-person and virtual tutoring before/after school and Saturday
- ☐ Additional funding to every school to support school themes and further innovation
- ☐ Microgrants to teachers to purchase instructional materials and instructional supports
- ☐ Integration and implementation of Social Emotional Learning (SEL), Trauma-Informed Practices, and Restorative Practices in all schools to impact overall student wellbeing
- ☐ Tiered student support services provided by counselors, nurses, social workers, and other behavioral therapists

### Expand

- ☐ Year-round enrichment opportunities
  - ☐ Summer Learning, Winter and Spring Break Camps
- ☐ Co-teaching model in targeted schools
- ☐ Flexible seating and calming spaces in all schools
- ☐ Community Schools
- ☐ Parent and Family Engagement funding across all schools

### Enhance

- ☐ Social Emotional Learning curriculum & training in all schools
- ☐ Trauma training for all staff

# **PRIORITY #2:**

# **EXPAND 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY SCHOOLS**



## **Transform Our Buildings to Ensure Innovative and Equitable Spaces**

### **Provide and Establish:**

- ☐ Equitable building standards for all schools used to guide facility updates
  - ☐ Water bottle filling stations
  - ☐ HEPA filters
- ☐ Classroom redesign to include collaborative spaces for learning
- ☐ Technology in classrooms to provide engaging learning experiences for students
  - ☐ Interactive whiteboards in all classrooms

### **Expand:**

- ☐ Spaces in schools to include STEM labs, Robotics, and makerspace (3D printers, Artificial Intelligence)
- ☐ COVID-19 mitigation strategies including air quality testing and filters in all schools

### **Enhance:**

- ☐ Existing building infrastructure

# PRIORITY #3:

## INVESTING IN OUR STAFF



**Develop and empower our staff to improve staff culture**

### **Provide and Establish:**

- ☐ Teacher Development & Wellness Center to provide physical, social & emotional, pedagogical supports to teachers.
- ☐ Board-Approved Vendors to provide high-quality, embedded, professional learning to build staff capacity

### **Expand:**

- ☐ Teacher Development on STEM Education
- ☐ Professional learning with instructional topics such as lesson planning and professional development to support with new curriculum implementation

### **Enhance:**

- ☐ Programming for Teacher Leadership Pathways
- ☐ Grow Your Own Programs in current high schools to inspire SLPS students to teach in SLPS and create a sense of pride in teaching.

# BUDGET OVERVIEW

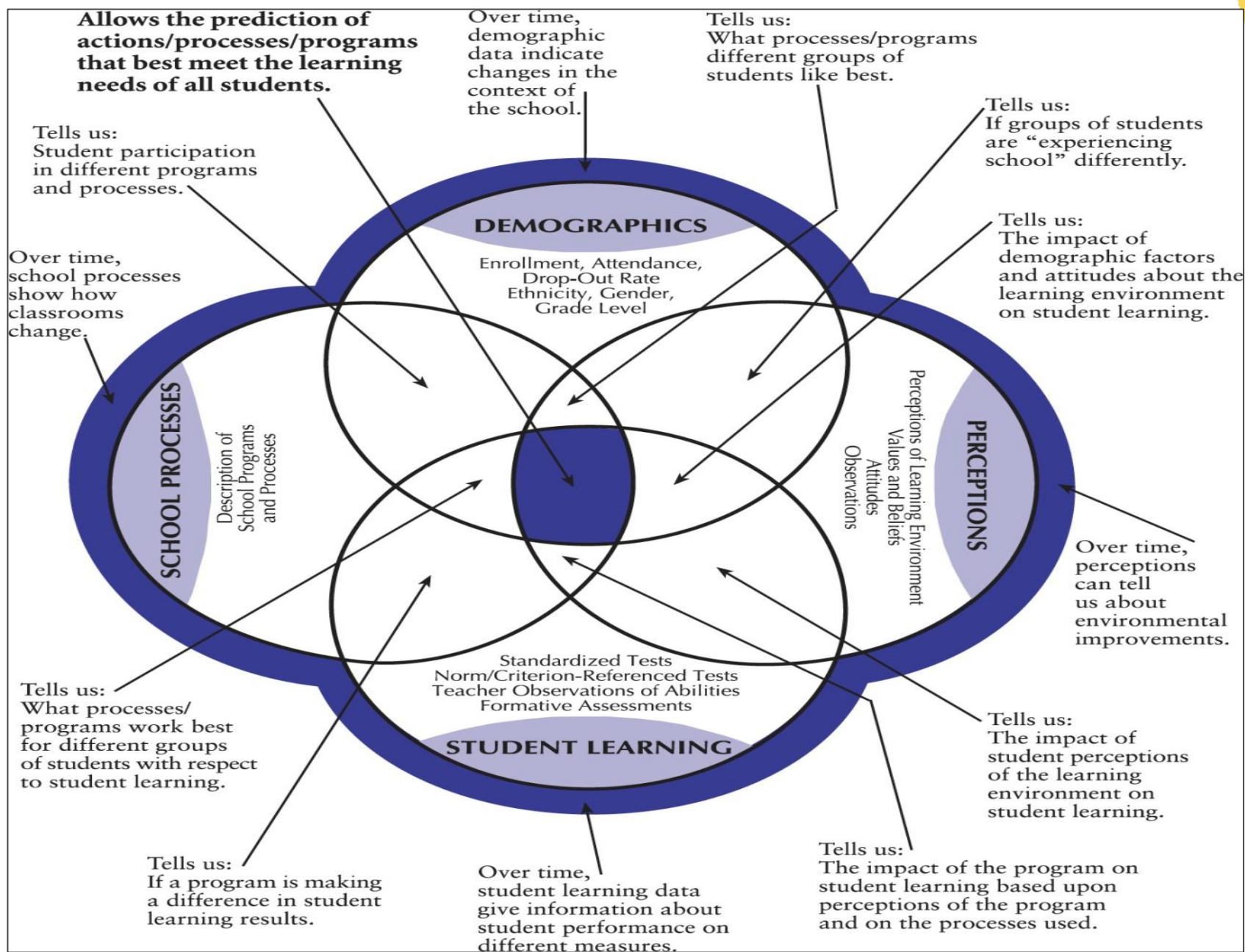


Upon submission of the District's ARP plan, SLPS will be eligible for approximately \$103 million in funding. The table below details how the funding will be allocated.

Category	Percent of Budget
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Direct Support to Learners –District and School</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Assessments</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Identifying and addressing unfinished learning</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Instructional materials</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> After school/extended day</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Summer learning</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Professional development</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Mental health services</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Software, hardware, connectivity</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Teacher pay related to closures</li></ul>	70%
<b>Facility Improvements/COVID Prevention</b>	25%
<b>Training/Procedure Creation</b>	5%



# MEASURING IMPACT



Victoria L. Bernhardt, *Data Analysis for Continuous School Improvement* (New York, NY: Routledge, 2018).



# MEASURING IMPACT

- ❑ To measure the effectiveness and impact of our financial investments, our team will align metrics to the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) from the Transformation Plan.
- ❑ Progress towards the KPIs will be tracked on a data dashboard.

Focus Area	Methods	Frequency
Student Learning	STAR data	3X a year
	SAVAS	Monthly
	Observations and Learning Walks	Weekly
Demographic Data	Panorama Surveys	2-3X a year
	Student Attendance	Daily
Perception Data: Stakeholder Experience	Focus Groups	Quarterly
School Processes	Observations and Learning Walks	Weekly
	Evaluation of Instructional programs in the school	Monthly



# NEXT STEPS

- ❑ The plan will be posted on the District's website beginning tomorrow, July 28, for a 10-day public review and comment period.
- ❑ Survey results from stakeholders will also be available to view on the website.
- ❑ A small work committee will begin meeting to work on the details and implementation of the plan.
- ❑ The Board will review and approve the plan at the Tuesday, August 10, 2021 Board meeting.
- ❑ The plan must be submitted to DESE by August 23, 2021.



# QUESTIONS