

MEETING DATE: May 18, 2021

AGENDA ITEM: District Planned Use of One Time Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Federal Funds

PRESENTER: Susan Bohn, Superintendent and Earl Husfeld, Chief Financial Officer

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- On March 11, 2021, the federal government enacted the \$122 billion American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund.
- On April 28, 2021, the State of Texas released its allocation of \$11.2 billion of ARP ESSER, or ESSER III, funds to public school districts.
- The District's total allocation of these one-time ESSER III funds is \$2,196,151. Two-thirds of this allocation is available immediately. Due to federal requirements, the remaining one-third will be made available after the U.S. Department of Education's (USDE) approval of the State's plan for use of this funding.
- The period of availability for these funds is March 13, 2020 through September 30, 2023. A one-year extension to September 30, 2024 may also be requested.
- Although we are continuing to review all of the requirements surrounding these federal funds, one required step is to gather input from stakeholders in the development of the District's plan for spending ESSER III funding. The District Administration is currently planning for the various ways the District will gather input. The District intends to gather input during meetings of the following groups and in other ways.
 - Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) meeting
 - Bearcat Leadership Team (BLT) meeting
 - o District Wide Effectiveness Improvement Committee (DWEIC) meeting
 - Board of Trustees meetings
- Based on initial reviews of the federal requirements, ESSER III funds may be used for a wide range of activities. However, there are some spending requirements related to addressing learning loss and costs incurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. A few of the initial ideas that are being discussed at this time for the expenditure of the District's allocation are the following:
 - Staff for elementary and secondary intervention and credit recovery
 - Curriculum materials for early literacy
 - Enhanced summer school programing
 - Technology equipment



• Additional information will be shared with the Community and Board of Trustees as information is distributed by the Texas Education Agency.

FISCAL INFORMATION:

The District's total ESSER III allocation is \$2,196,151, split between the first allocation of \$1,464,101 and the remaining allocation of \$732,050.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION:

None – Informational Report