

Ector County ISD

BOARD RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has allocated CARES Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER II and III) funds to Texas;

WHEREAS, the State of Texas has received these funding allocation amounts that are intended to supplement the needs of Texas school districts as they support the unfinished learning and social-emotional needs of the students we serve;

WHEREAS, local education agencies in other states have already received their allocations and planning amounts and Texas has not allocated these funds to local education agencies to allow for planning and budgeting to address unfinished learning for the children of Texas;

WHEREAS, the District is extending the school calendar to include additional days of instruction by expanding summer learning experiences, providing high-dosage tutoring for targeted students, using strategic staffing methods to redesign current staffing models, providing additional professional learning and coaching to support teachers as they accelerate and personalize instruction;

WHEREAS, the needs of Texas' schools and its children are of paramount concern to both the people of Texas and the long-term economic and cultural aspects of both the future of our State and our Nation;

WHEREAS, the People of the United States of America have proven their exceptionalism time and time again to the world and the People of Texas have continually proven their exceptionalism both to the world and to all of the other States in the Union who continue to look to Texas for bravery, integrity and leadership;

WHEREAS, the Great State of Texas will only continue to maintain its greatness, exceptionalism, cultural uniqueness, and economic edge with a high-quality workforce and educated citizenry through a continued statewide commitment to quality public education for all;

WHEREAS, each State shall make allocations to local educational agencies in an expedited and timely manner and, to the extent practicable, not later than 60 days after the receipt of such funds;

WHEREAS, there has been a delay of the allocation of these funds and the initial discussions indicating these funds will supplant funds already designated for districts rather than supplementing the funds local education agencies should already receive and are entitled to for the purpose of addressing unfinished learning;

WHEREAS, there is discussion about how the Texas Education Agency may add additional requirements above and beyond the Federal guidelines related to allowable partners and technical assistance providers with which local education agencies can utilize these funds;

WHEREAS, local government is more efficient, effective, and responsive to its citizens than state government or regulators from Austin, yet state government and regulators continue to erode the traditional local control of Texas public school districts to the detriment of Texas students, teachers, administrators, parents, taxpayers, board members and local school districts statewide;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Ector County Independent School District respectfully asks, and recommends, that Governor Greg Abbott, the Texas Legislature, and the Texas Education Agency ensure all supplemental funds allocated from the Federal Government flow directly to local education agencies without additional restrictions beyond what the Federal Government has stipulated:

- The Texas Education Agency utilize these funds to supplement funding to school districts;
- The Texas Education Agency does not supplant and provide these funds in place of funds already due to districts through the Foundation School Program and Available School Fund;
- The Texas Education Agency not attach additional restrictions and extend their control in place of local control on how these funds can best be utilized in districts across the state with such diversity;

Approved unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Ector County Independent School District on Tuesday, March 23, 2021.

Board President

Board Vice-President

Board Secretary

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member

Superintendent