



SALEM
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**Salem City Schools
American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act
Elementary and Secondary School
Emergency Relief (ESSER) Plan**

July 13, 2021

Section 1: Introduction

The purpose of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III Fund is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impacts of COVID-19 on the nation's students by addressing students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. Salem City Schools has been awarded \$3,760,004.07 in ESSER III funds. This plan describes how the awarded funds will be used. Questions about this plan should be directed to Mandy C. Hall at mhall@salem.k12.va.us

Section 2: Prevention and Mitigation Strategies

ARP Act ESSER III funds may be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) guidance](#) on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning. Salem City Schools will use approximately \$490,000 of its ARP Act ESSER III funds to implement prevention and mitigation strategies as described below. Some of the planned uses of these funds include purchases of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as gloves, masks and gowns, as well as for purchases of sanitizing supplies and equipment. These have been ongoing purchases since the beginning of the pandemic, and will continue in the upcoming school year, until directed that it is no longer necessary to do so.

Section 3: Addressing Unfinished Learning

Section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act requires each LEA to use twenty percent of its formula funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time (learning loss) through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs. Salem City Schools will use approximately \$2,256,000 of its ARP Act ESSER III funds to address unfinished learning as described below.

Salem plans to use these funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time (learning loss) through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as extended school year programs and additional staffing to target individualized needs of students within the division.

Section 4: Other Uses of Funds

Section 2001(e) of the ARP Act permits school divisions to use the ARP Act ESSER III funding not reserved to address unfinished learning to address the impacts of COVID-19 in a variety of ways. Salem City Schools will use approximately \$225,000 of its ARP Act ESSER III funds in accordance with Section 2001(e) of the ARP Act as described below.

Salem plans to use funds for an Instructional Technology Resource Teacher (ITRT) to help with the division's increased reliance on technology due to COVID. Staff, students and families have and will continue to need additional support in regards to technology and the newer learning management system (LMS).

Section 5: Addressing Students' Academic, Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs

Salem City Schools will ensure that the interventions it implements will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students. We will do so by adding additional staff such as social worker and/or psychologist to help students adjust to returning to school, as well as social emotional resources for staff and professional development so staff will be prepared to help students when returning. Well-being of staff and students will be a high priority for the division.

Section 6: Consultation with Stakeholders and Opportunity for Public Comment

In developing the ARP ESSER Plan, Salem City Schools conducted consultation in the following ways:

- With stakeholders, including: students, families, school and district administrators (including special education administrators), teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff by sending communication soliciting any feedback desired to be incorporated into the plan;
- With stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities by sending communication soliciting any feedback desired to be incorporated into the plan; and
- By providing the public the opportunity to provide input via a public comment portion of the school board meeting in June and July of 2021 and taking such input into account.

Section 7: Making the Plan Available to the Public

Salem City Schools has taken the following steps to make this plan available to the public:

- The plan is posted at <http://www.salem.k12.va.us/covid19/>;
- The plan is available in English and Spanish;
- The plan may be orally translated for parents. Contact Ruth Moran at 540-389-0130 to request translation; and
- Upon request, a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA may be provided with the plan in an alternative format accessible by contacting Randy Jennings at 540-389-0130 or by email at rjennings@salem.k12.va.us