

**Prevention and Mitigation Strategies consistent with CDC guidance on reopening schools**

The Meade County Schools (MCS) will implement a multi-layered approach to safely reopen schools in accordance with CDC and state guidance. This approach will include the purchase of recommended PPE, sanitizing equipment, etc. It will also include some additional staff and/or staff time to utilize and organize this equipment. The School District collaborated meaningfully with a variety of stakeholders to develop this plan. District employees (certified teachers, administrators, and classified staff) were included in discussions on plan development. Additionally, students, parents, and community leaders actively participated in discussing ideas and strategies to develop an effective plan. Items related to this area include:

1. Chromebooks
2. Flaherty Primary School PreSchool classroom
3. Purchase of 5 additional school buses
4. Hire one additional school nurse
5. Hire MyMeade Online staff
6. Hire District Health Coordinator

District leaders took the stakeholder input and grouped it into the following categories. Once we had organized the stakeholder input, we were better able to narrow the plan into specific items that would most benefit the school district and the community in general.

Results of stakeholder input:

**Additional Staff:** Our stakeholder groups shared that the district should hire additional staff to most effectively utilize these funds. Staff could be classroom teaching staff, small group coaches, instructional coaches, interventionists, one-on-one support staff, etc.

**Resources to Support Strong Instruction:** Stakeholders shared that these funds should be used to help with staffing and resources to implement small group instruction. They noted that small groups would be an effective way to shrink learning gaps created through the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Mental Health (Social Emotional Learning):** Our stakeholder groups also frequently identified mental health supports as a high priority item. They wanted the district to invest in staff, resources, and strategies that would target healthy emotional well being in our return to in-person instruction.

**How the LEA will use funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions.**

1. **MAP:** The LEA will utilize MAP (Measures of Academic Progress), a research based assessment tool to identify math and reading learning gaps caused by COVID-19. MAP is used by all students in grades K through 10 in Meade County. Students utilize this formative assessment tool three times each year to help teachers see individual student academic growth and to identify students who have fallen behind their peer group. This will help inform instruction and help teachers more effectively reduce the academic impact of lost instructional time. Estimated cost:
2. **Instructional Resources:** The stakeholder groups that we worked with mentioned textbooks and instructional resources as one of the high priority items for the use of these funds. Even though technology has reduced the need for some classroom resources, textbooks, hands-on-manipulatives, and other instructional resources have proven to be invaluable in enhancing student achievement. Many of the district resources in this area have become outdated and were in need of replacement. Virtually every student in the district will benefit from these resources as resources will be given at all grade levels in all of the district schools.
3. **Hire COVID-19 Teachers/Coaches:** Our stakeholder groups also identified additional staff were needed, particularly staff who could coach and help improve overall instruction in our district classrooms. Each elementary school will hire one highly qualified teacher to serve as a COVID-19 interventionist/coach. Our middle and high school will share a COVID-19 coach. These 7 employees will be great resources to help MCS target and track students as they transition back to face-to-face in-person instruction. They will coach, intervene, and lead our teaching staff as they transition most of our 5000 students back into the building. We believe these hires are essential in our district plan to eliminate COVID-19 related learning gaps quickly.

### **How the LEA will spend the remainder of its funds.**

1. **MCHS Media Center technology:** Since Meade County High School is the only high school in the district, every student will find themselves walking the halls of MCHS eventually. To ensure that this media center meets the needs of our students, the LEA will add additional touch screen panels and group seating options to enhance student learning. With this additional technology, students will be able to complete group and individual assignments with modern research tools and technology.
2. **Hire one additional school safety officer:** 1-2 additional School Resource Officers would help the district meet the emotional learning needs of the students in our district. Adding additional school safety officers would help the DARE program be more efficient in each of our schools. It would also put an additional safety support system in the schools located furthest from the central office.
3. **Buses:** Additional buses will allow for increased social distancing while students are traveling to/from school on the buses. Additional buses will help MCS catch up on an aging fleet. 2 of the elementary schools (Ekron and Payneville) will be able to have their own buses and students will have an equitable instructional time experience in accordance with the rest of the district schools.
4. **Flaherty Primary Preschool:** Moving one Preschool classroom to the Flaherty campus will reduce travel time for the Flaherty students and increase instructional time for these students. Our students would need equitable access to preschool resources, so the Flaherty Primary preschool classroom would need upgrades including the outdoor playground area.
5. **Technology:** MC Schools provide 1:1 learning through chromebooks in grades 6-12 currently. The purchase of 2500 additional Chromebooks would ensure 1:1 learning opportunities continue for Meade County students. Edgenuity is the curriculum platform the district uses for virtual learning. It is essential to the online learning during the pandemic MCS provide a virtual platform that is rich in rigor

and instruction. Students virtual and in-person would have access to the learning program for Core instruction as well as enrichment/remediation.

6. **New Technology Staff Member:** The district has purchased hundreds of new devices online due to COVID-19. An additional technology support staff would ensure virtual learning would be constant across the district. This would help ensure equitable learning experiences for all MC students.
7. **Hire School Nurses:** 1-2 additional nursing staff would be hired and used on the Flaherty/Ekron campus. This additional staff member would allow our nursing staff to provide services to students AND provide COVID support to the district.
8. **Leadership and Athletic Development Program:** Meade County has committed to support students through the addition of a Leadership and Athletic Development Program. This program will be based at the LEA high school (Meade County High School) and will be available to both males and females during their time at MCHS. The purpose of this program is to grow and develop leaders through the use of strength training, athletic development, and focused leadership training. Research has shown that leadership development is a critical need that will address the social and emotional well being of the students who are engaged in the program. Scheduling for this course has been highly successful at Meade County High School with all courses already being filled. Both males and females have been highly interested in the course. To implement this program effectively, we will need to purchase equipment and supplies that include leadership development curriculum, weight lifting equipment, and various training/conditioning supplies that will enable our student athletes to grow and develop in this essential area.
9. **Substitute Scheduling Software:** The COVID-19 pandemic has created a challenge in maintaining an adequate supply of substitute workers in all areas of our workforce. Quarantines, isolations, COVID-19 cases, child care, and generalized fear have all contributed to this challenge. The district has already been contracting with Frontline Education to streamline applications and employment processes. Adding the second layer of Substitute Calling and Scheduling will greatly help the district to keep our doors open for student learning with a more efficient method of notifying and scheduling substitute teachers, assistants, secretaries, custodians, drivers, and a variety of other job classifications that will impact our ability to effectively educate our students.
10. **Grant Accountant:** The Federal and State governments have channeled money to school districts through a variety of grant programs. Our goal is to use these grant funds to maximise student achievement and learning gap reduction while at the same time keeping an accurate record of monies spent through these additional funds. Hiring this accountant will be critical to the successful transition to full time face-to-face instruction for our students and the elimination of COVID-19 related learning deficits.

### **How the LEA will ensure that interventions address the academic impact of lost instructional time and respond to the academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of all students.**

1. **Co-Teaching Rooms:** Research has shown that effective co-teaching models can effectively shrink learning gaps. The LEA will invest in technology to equip multiple classrooms with equipment that will increase the effectiveness of co-teaching strategies within the district. This technology will make small group instruction more effective. In most classrooms, only one form of technology exists in the room. If teachers utilize technology in small groups, only one of the groups will be able to experience it firsthand. The district believes that some of our classrooms should have multiple pieces of technology to ensure that all of the small groups are able to operate with the same technology.

2. **Leadership Retreat:** To fully prepare our district leaders for a safe and successful return to in-person instruction this fall, MCS leaders will need to spend many hours together before the students and staff arrive. The district intends to have district leaders together for multiple days to focus the work to meet the needs of the academic impact from the pandemic. It is critical to the district to ensure our students receive the same effective return to school experience, regardless of the school they attend. We also believe we will need to be tightly aligned with the specific and targeted interventions that we plan to implement if we are to most effectively identify and reduce these COVID-19 learning gaps. Many of our district leaders are in their first or second year in their position, making this work even more important.
3. **District Strategic Planning Assistance:** The Meade County Schools will contract with Studor Education to help identify strategic priorities for the district. This work is timely as the transition to more face-to-face full time instruction in Meade County will require both a keen focus on strategic priorities and much communication with our community stakeholders. Already the district has identified student and family needs that have been magnified during this pandemic. The Meade County Schools must be the leader in this community to support students and families as they struggle out of the pandemic. Research tells us focusing on a few tightly aligned strategies and measuring their progress is the most effective way to implement initiatives. Studor has research based strategies to ensure the Meade County Schools are leading this community through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Citations (Mark)

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Process, Inc.

ESSER Project List - updated 5/3

What	Why	ESSER I/II/III	When	Exit Strategy
<b>Equipment/supplies/things/trainings</b>				
School Bus purchase	Additional buses will allow for increased social distancing on our buses Additional buses will help MC Schools catch up on an aging fleet		8 buses Spring 2021 8 buses Spring 2022 5 buses Spring 2023	Return to the normal purchase strategy in spring of 2024
MAP - K-10	MAP is a research based tool to help determine progress in learning for students. The district is using MAP to identify learning gaps that need to be reduced. Adding MAP for grade levels 9-10 will help with this process.		2021/2022 2022/2023 2023/2024	The district will return to the current funding of MAP in 2024. The district will determine if MAP has been effective at the high school level and continue or discontinue.
Co-Teaching Rooms	Special Education will be critical in COVID related gap reduction. Best practices in Co-Teaching modalities will require additional technology and classroom modifications to ensure that that these gaps are effectively narrowed.		2021/2022	The district will return to its normal classroom/building maintenance schedule through the LPC process. Principals will update technology with school funding sources.
FPS PK	Moving one Preschool classroom to the Flaherty campus will reduce travel time for the Flaherty students and increase instructional time for these students. Making this happen would require: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Classroom upgrades;</li> <li>● Playground upgrades</li> </ul>		2021/2022	Preschool will continue to operate in the Flaherty Primary School as long as numbers support it.
Chromebooks	MC Schools provide 1:1 learning		2022/2023	This would likely take care

	through chromebooks in grades 6-12 currently. The purchase of 2500 additional chromebooks would ensure that the 1:1 learning opportunities continue			of the 1:1 6-12 initiative until the 2028/2029 school year.
MCHS textbooks	The district has not purchased new textbooks for many years. New textbooks would ensure a viable and current curriculum for many years.	REMOVE - in ESSER II	2021/2022	The district would return to the normal textbook purchasing schedule.
4-8 Social Studies textbooks	The district has not purchased new textbooks for many years. New textbooks would ensure a viable and current curriculum for many years. Simple Solutions was purchased as a consumable for the 21/22 school year.	REMOVE - in ESSER II	2021/2022	The district would return to the normal textbook purchasing schedule.
K-8 science textbooks	The district has not purchased new textbooks for many years. New textbooks would ensure a viable and current curriculum for many years.	REMOVE - in ESSER II	2021/2022	The district would return to the normal textbook purchasing schedule.
Leadership Retreat	Time for district/school leaders to plan for return to school and gap reduction is essential. Staff will participate in a 2-day training/planning retreat each summer to prepare.		2021/2022 2022/2023 2023/2024	The district will determine the merits of such time and determine if the work should continue or not in its current form.
Edgenuity	Edgenuity is the curriculum platform that the district uses for virtual learning. It is essential to the online learning during the pandemic	REMOVE - in ESSER II	2021/2022 2022/2023 2023/2024	District will determine if edgenuity is beneficial for student learning up to grades 6 to determine the need once funding ceases. District will continue to fund Edgenuity for grades -12 through

				general fund
MCHS Media Center update	Re-design the MCHS Media Center to make group learning projects more productive. Teachers will be able to identify groups of students who will benefit from working on specific recovery projects.		2021/2022	This is a one time expense of approx 10,000. Added by ba 5/3
<b>Additional STAFF</b>				
School Resource Officers	1-2 additional School Resource Officers would help the district meet the emotional learning needs of the students in our district, and help the DARE program be more efficient. It would also put an additional safety support system in the schools furthest from the central office		2021/2022	Reduce to normal SRO staff; OR Incorporate staff costs into district general fund budget
School Nurses	1-2 additional nursing staff on the Flaherty/Ekron campus would allow our nursing staff to provide services to students AND provide COVID support to the district.	1 in ESSER II	2021/2022	Reduce to normal nursing staff; OR Incorporate staff costs into district general fund budget
COVID teachers	6 Elementary COVID teachers will help each elementary school identify and reduce learning gaps associated with COVID-19.		2021/2022 2022/2023	MAY-retain COVID teachers for 2023/2024 OR Staff members return to the teaching classroom in 2023
Social Emotional Learning				
New technology staff member	The district has brought hundreds of new devices online due to		2021/2022	

	COVID-19. An additional technology support staff would ensure that virtual learning would be constant.			
Elementary Art teacher	This position will help the district: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop equity in the elementary special area programs;</li> <li>• Develop vertical alignment K-12 in the arts;</li> </ul>	ESSER II - Remove	2021/2022	Through attrition, the district will establish an equitable hiring strategy of PE, Media Specialist, Music, and Art in the elementary programming.
Health Coordinator	The Health Coordinator position will enable the district to keep current with COVID protocols, contact tracing, and potential student vaccinations	ESSER II - Remove	2021/2022	HC will return to the teaching classroom in 2022/2023
MyMeadeOnline staff	To support virtual learning, the district will provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 MMO certified teachers</li> <li>• 1 MMO classified support</li> <li>• 1 MMO administrative support</li> </ul>	ESSER II - Remove	2021/2022 2022/2023 2023/2024	The district will monitor the numbers of students participating in MMO and the state funding formula for virtual students to determine if MMO continues or not.
Weight Room Equipment				
Substitute Calling Software				
Grant Accountant				
Studer -- 3 years				

