



# ESSER III Stakeholder Input Session

Shelli Reilly, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

January, 2022

## Why We're Reaching Out

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, the third federal COVID-19 relief law, passed in March 2021, provides one-time funds for our district through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III grant program.

Through this presentation we will share information about the grant and invite you to:

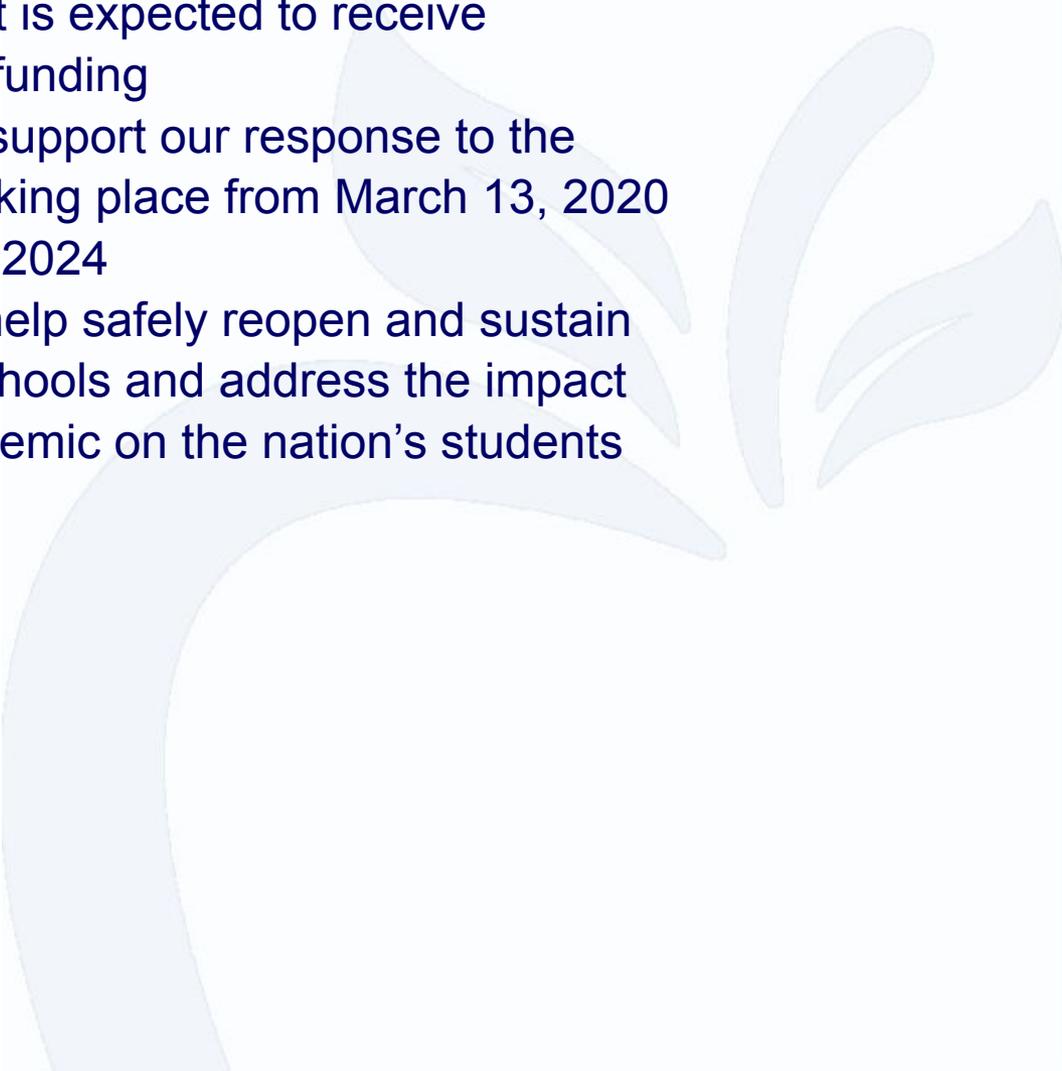
- Tell us about the needs of local students and families who were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic
- Help identify community assets (individuals, organizations, businesses, programs, etc.) and potential partners
- Share your ideas and priorities for using the funds

## Our Planning Committee

The committee drafting and finalizing our plans related to ESSER III includes the following people:

- Dr. Paul Mielke, District Administrator
  - Cathy Drago, Supervisor of Instructional Services
  - John Peterson, Supervisor of Special Services
  - John Roubik, Director of Human Resources and Organizational Development
  - Shelli Reilly, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
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## ESSER III Grant Basics

- Hamilton School District is expected to receive \$731,417 in ESSER III funding
  - Funds may be used to support our response to the COVID-19 pandemic taking place from March 13, 2020 through September 30, 2024
  - Funds are intended to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students
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## What is This Money For?

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) must use a minimum of 20% of the Title I Part A per-pupil allocation to implement evidence-based interventions to address learning loss. Some examples from the Department of Education are:

- summer learning or summer enrichment
- extended day
- comprehensive after school programs
- extended school year programs



## Disproportionately Impacted Student Groups

LEAs must ensure that interventions respond to students' social, emotional, and academic needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups.

Underrepresented subgroups specifically mentioned in USDE guidance as likely to have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19:

- each major racial and ethnic group
- children from low-income families
- children with disabilities
- English learners
- gender
- migrant students
- students experiencing homelessness
- children and youth in foster care

## What Else Can These Funds be Used For?

ESSER funds must be used to prevent, prepare for, or respond to COVID-19. Examples include:

### **Preparedness and Response**

- Personal protective equipment (PPE); hand sanitizer; infrastructures to promote physical distancing; improving indoor air quality; establishing a team to develop guidelines for infection control practices, etc.

### **Addressing Long-term School Closure**

- Additional staff to support virtual instruction; providing/delivering school meals; etc.

## What Else Can These Funds be Used For?

### **Outreach and Services for Special Populations**

- Professional development for staff to serve English Learners remotely; paying staff to teach parents of students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) technology and software; etc.

### **Mental Health Services and Supports**

- Additional school based mental health staff (school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, etc.); Peer to Peer suicide prevention and mental health literacy such as Sources of Strength and Hope Squad, etc.

### **Education Technology**

- Devices and software for remote instruction; improved cybersecurity; etc.

## **In addition to upcoming ESSER III Funds, how much have we spent on COVID-related purchases so far?**

### **ESSER I - \$68,609**

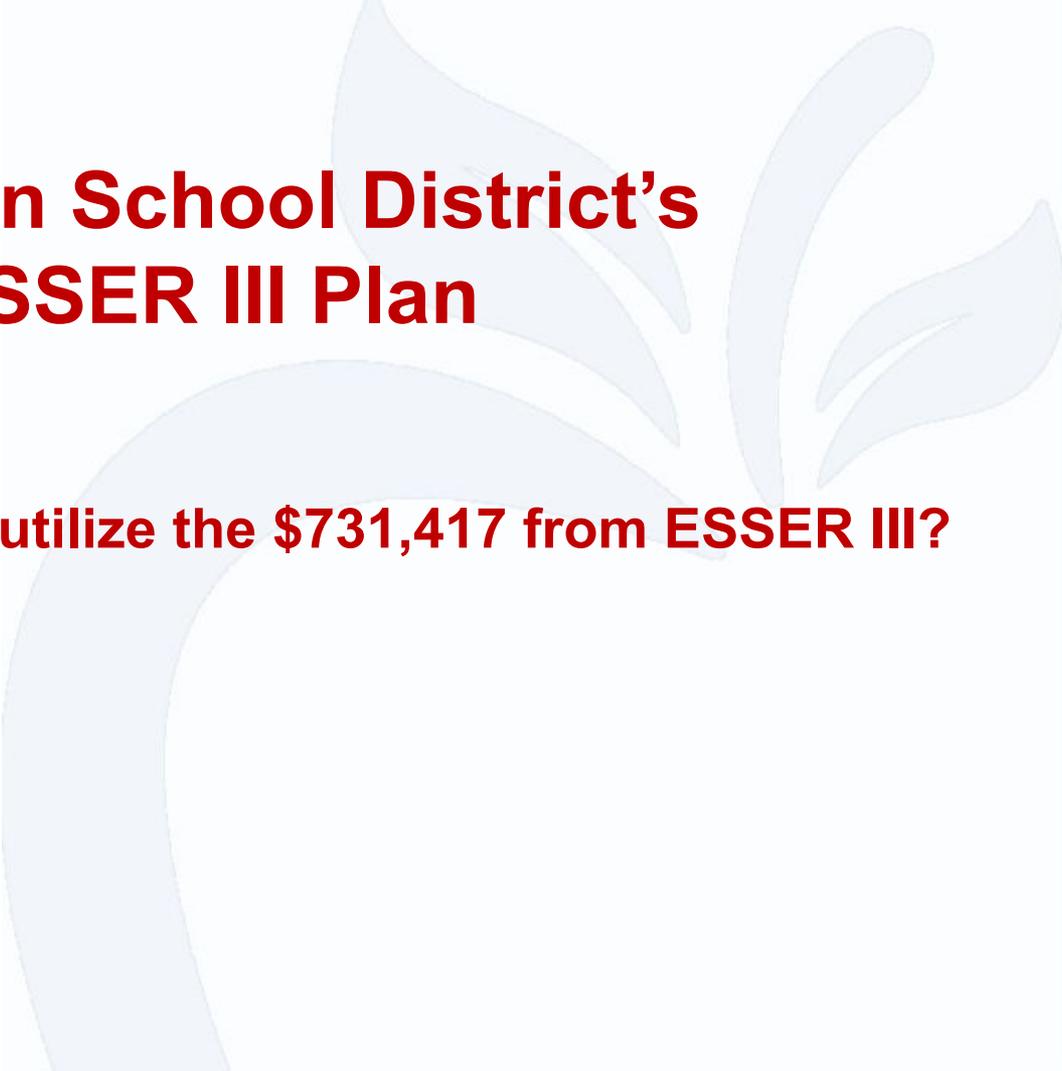
- Used to purchase online curriculum for virtual-choice HS students

### **ESSER II - \$1,496,043**

- Hired additional teachers to support virtual-choice students and to maintain intervention staffing for all students
- Hired additional support staff to assist with technology needs and contact tracing
- Technology purchases

### **Other additional COVID-related expenses not covered by federal funds:**

- Additional staff for virtual environment, nursing services, cleaners, and tutoring; educational technology, PPE, sanitization supplies and equipment; online instruction services and materials; staff technology training extra pay; additional substitutes hours for COVID-related leave



# **Hamilton School District's ESSER III Plan**

**How will the district utilize the \$731,417 from ESSER III?**

## Snapshot of Hamilton School District's Ongoing Needs

### Who is being disproportionately affected by COVID-19 in our district:

- Historically low-performing student groups
- Students with disabilities

### What we are seeing:

- The growth value-added scores in ELA and Math on the 20-21 [State Report Card](#) were less than 3.0 (average growth) for students with disabilities and students who were not proficient last year.

### How are we addressing this:

- Increasing coaching and interventionist support in the areas of English/Language Arts and Math

## **Addressing Needs: Proposed Priorities for Addressing Learning Loss**

Percent of initial ESSER III funding we propose to use to address learning loss: 100% (or \$731,417)

What we propose to focus those funds on:

- **ELA and Math Instructional Staff**
  - **Training teachers to improve in-classroom interventions**
  - **Training literacy and math interventionists who work with small student groups**
  - **Working directly with highest-need learners**

## **Addressing Needs: Proposed Priorities for Addressing Learning Loss**

In the event Hamilton receives additional funding through ESSER III (more than \$731,417):

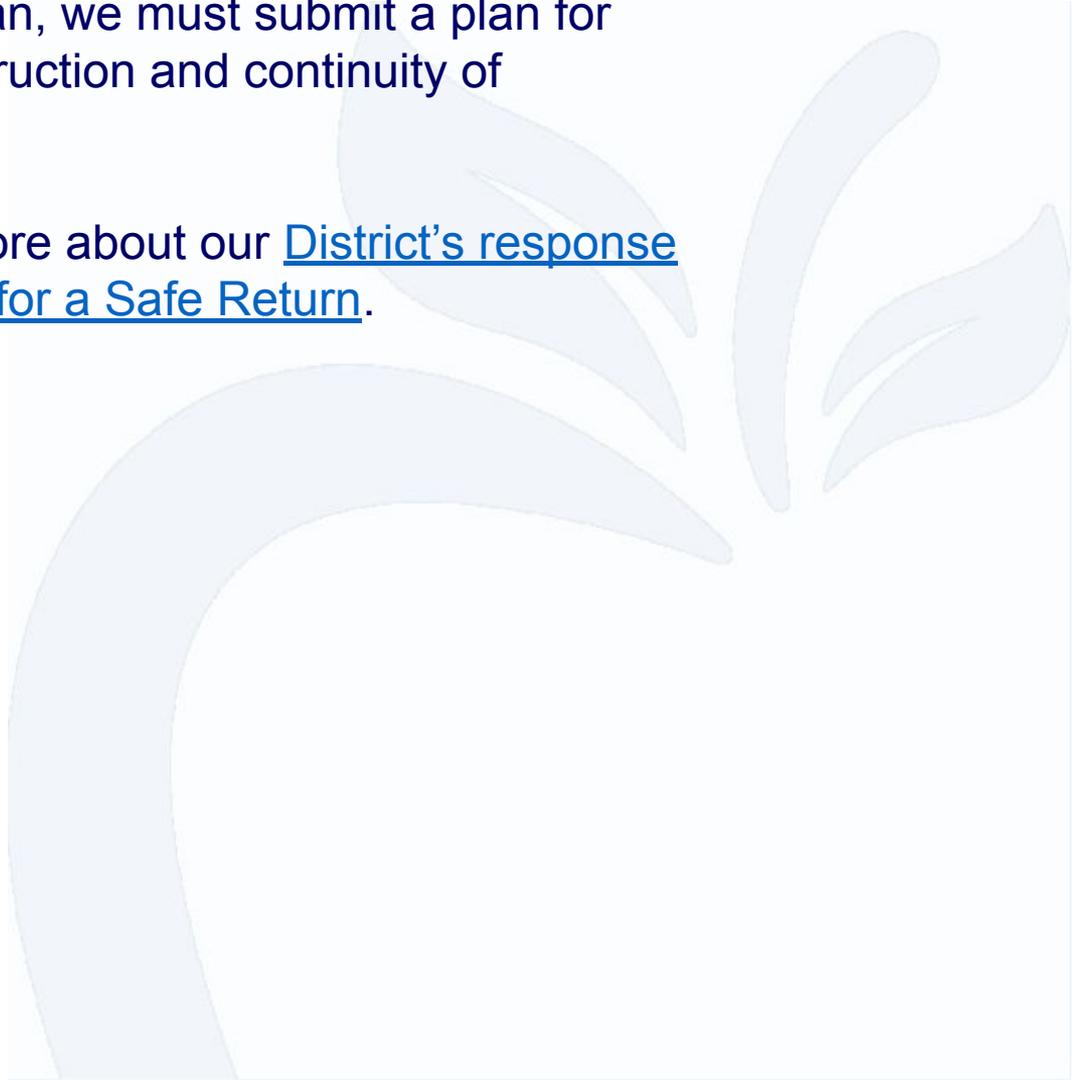
What we propose to focus those funds on:

- **ELA and Math Intervention Staff**
- **Non-Instructional Staff (Counselors, Nursing, Paraprofessionals, Technology)**
- **Teacher training and curriculum development**
- **After-school and summer school programs**
- **Technology, Software, and Instructional Material Purchases**

## Our Plan for Safe Return

Alongside our ESSER III plan, we must submit a plan for safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.

Visit our website to learn more about our [District's response to COVID-19](#) and our [Plan for a Safe Return](#).



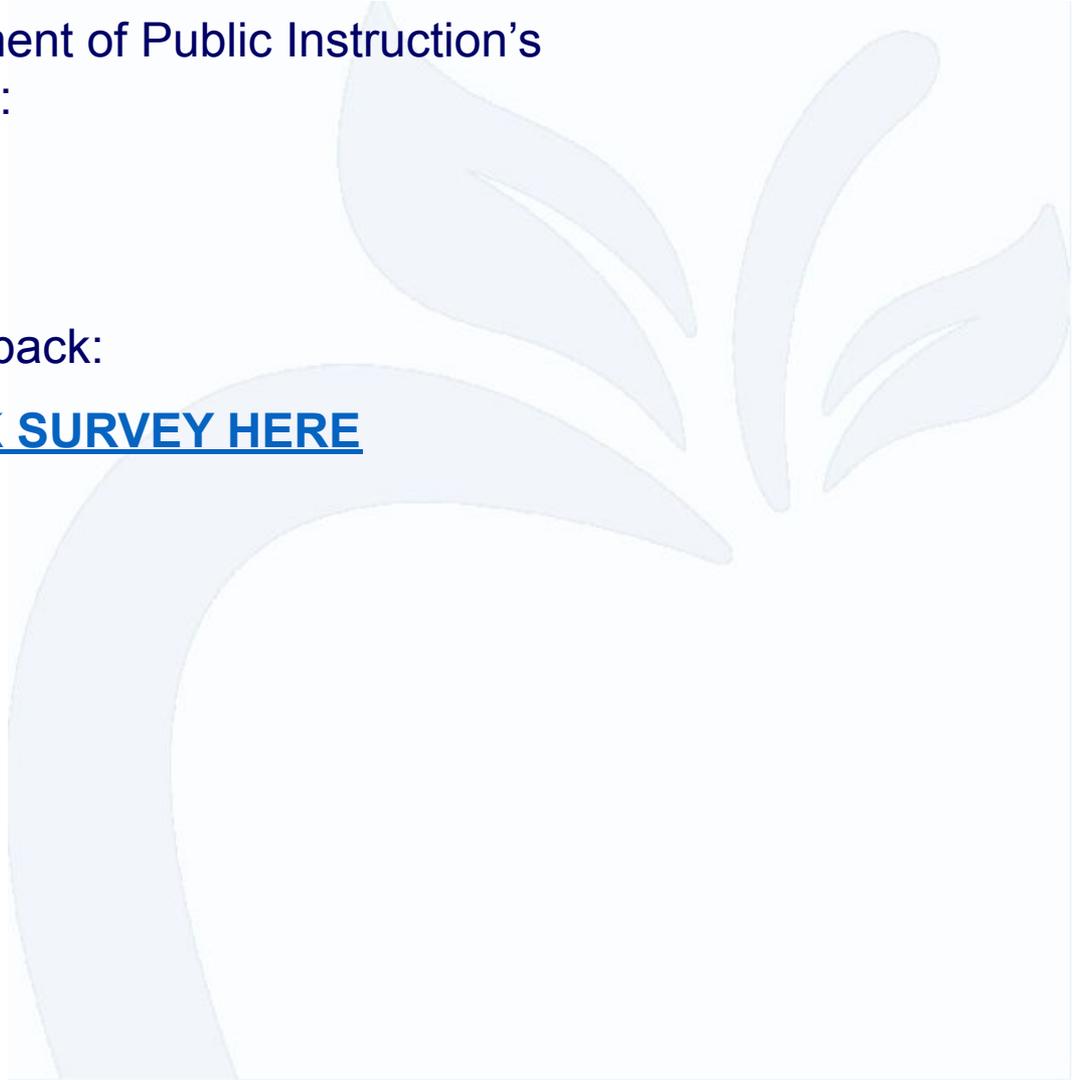
## For More Information or to Provide Feedback to Us

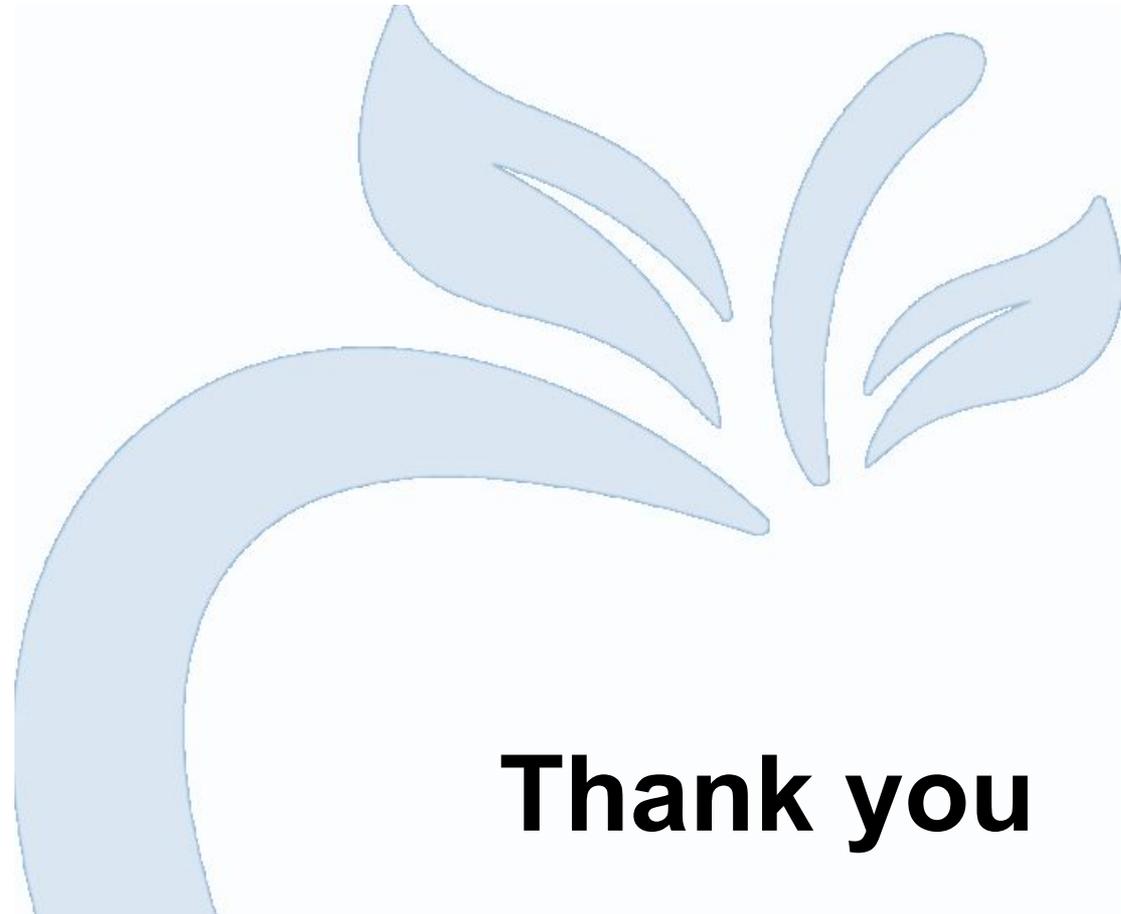
Visit the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's website for ESSER III funds:

[dpi.wi.gov/arp/esser-iii](https://dpi.wi.gov/arp/esser-iii)

Hamilton Stakeholder Feedback:

[\*\*RESPOND TO FEEDBACK SURVEY HERE\*\*](#)





**Thank you**

**ESSER III Stakeholder Input  
Session**

**January 5, 2022**