**Dawson Springs Independent Schools**

**LEA ARP ESSER Plan**

ARP ESSER funds will be used for expenses occurring within the district due to the COVID pandemic. After consulting with district stakeholders, such as board members, staff, parents and community members, through surveys and meetings, the district has created a plan to spend ARP ESSER funds. The plan assigns funds to implement prevention strategies, address student needs due to lost instructional time, and continue to promote the health and safety for all stakeholders within the district.

With the possibility of a resurgence of the COVID pandemic, the district will reinforce COVID protocol to continue to provide high quality services for all students. As approved by KDE with project BG#21-285, funds will be used to improve indoor air quality with the renovation of a current HVAC system. New equipment and repairs will increase air filtration and purification to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. This will also implement safe environments for students and staff that will help district facilities to reopen and operate normally. Funding will also include replacing and updating the exterior door entrance for the elementary school and high school as included with BG#21-285. Replacements of the exterior door entrance will help utilize the updated HVAC system and increase air filtration and purification. Funding will also be used to purchase supplies to clean and sanitize district facilities to help decrease the potential spread of infectious diseases. Other supplies will include the purchase of masks for children and adults to provide for anyone on campus to prevent the spread of COVID.

Funding will be dedicated to supplemental instructional programs to address the academic needs of all students and potential learning loss from the prior school year. The district will also provide students with additional instruction to address the learning loss due to lost in-person instructional time. Instructional staff will be provided for students to attend after school tutoring. Opportunities to participate in these programs will be equal toward all students including low-income and students with disabilities. Instructional staff will also be provided with trainings from local educational co-op to address guidance to students with emotional and mental needs due to COVID.

Supplemental materials and virtual instruction will be purchased for students to have access to materials focusing on subject needs such as math, reading, social studies and science. Programs such as i-Ready, IXL and Study Island allow instructors to use curriculum for subjects students are showing needs for additional instruction. These programs not only provide extended curriculum during school hours but also allow school services to be accessed while students are outside the classroom. Students will have access to additional resources while working on general classwork. Materials from Teachers Pay Teachers will also be purchased for teachers to have interactive instructional materials to work with students. High school updated ACT curriculum will also be purchased to provide students with additional instruction in needed areas to help increase ACT testing scores for high school students to be on path for college ready programs.

Educational technology equipment will also be purchased to provide one-on-one devices for all students. Students will each have an assigned Chromebook to use during school hours but will also be able to take home to have access to instructional programs and classroom resources at all times. Instructional devices will also be purchased to provide in each classroom. These devices will allow teachers to use different types of media to present instructional material. Teachers will also have the ability to save notes from classroom instruction to Google Classroom for students to have access to review at any time. Having touchscreens, these devices will also allow for teachers to present instructional materials using interactive applications such as games and quizzes.

Students will also be provided with guidance from professional instructors for emotional and mental needs due to COVID. The district will collaborate with local educational co-ops for professional instructors to come to the campus to work directly with students providing activities for emotional and mental support. Professional instructors will also include training to district instructional staff to identify and assist students with emotional and mental needs.

To promote the health and safety for students, students will be able to properly social distance while being transported to school. Adding a new bus to the current fleet will help to keep routes normal while students social distance. This will prevent having to run one route twice, bringing students to campus earlier than usual or possibly, later which would affect the normal start time for instruction due to limited seats on the bus due to social distancing.

The district is seeking to promote the best strategies possible to reopen facilities as normal operations while implementing COVID protocols to effectively maintain the health and safety for all within the district. The use of ARP ESSER funds will be beneficial to all students as the district seeks to promote the health, safety and education of all students.