

ARP – ESSER III Plan for Use of Funds
Revised Use of Funds FY 2024
Committee Meeting September 6, 2023
Hodgen Public School
Hodgen, Oklahoma

Hodgen Public School has been in meaningful consultation with stakeholders through in-person collaboration to develop a plan for the use of ARP-ESSER III funds. The following plan resulted from the information obtained through the conversations and concerns expressed during those consultations.

Hodgen Public School will use ESSER III funds to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with CDC guidance on reopening schools to safely conduct in-person learning. Hodgen Public School has remained open since the start of the pandemic, but provides management strategies to be utilized in student quarantine situations. Hodgen School will use our local and state health agencies as resources when making the best purchase decisions from ESSER III monies to help prevent closures due to the pandemic. Playground equipment will be purchased by ESSER III funds to complement the outdoor classroom project. The specific playground equipment being targeted by ESSER III funds are playground shades that will cover existing metal playground equipment. The shades will protect students from the heat of the direct sun. This will allow students more options for outdoor social distancing. In addition, two heavy duty seesaws will be installed on the playground to provide additional outdoor exercise experiences. Although we purchase cleaning items with other funds, buses and classrooms are fogged every other day to help prevent the spread of Covid 19. Lastly, we encourage basic hygiene like regular hand washing. A three year old program teacher will be funded with ESSER III funds to help develop school readiness and provide a basic academic footprint for the PreK program. It is our goal to promote school awareness and readiness to meet the needs of students who lost learning time due to Covid 19.

Hodgen Public School has invested 20% of the ESSER III funds to address the impact of lost instructional time. Hodgen Public School has met with students, teachers, community stakeholders and representatives of various groups to gain ideas on how to recover instructional gaps our students experienced due to the pandemic. The suggestions that resulted from the collaboration included hiring additional teachers for smaller class size and to focus on reading skills, as well as purchasing reading books and providing social and emotional support for students. We have split the Pre-K class into two classrooms to target foundational learning. EDFacts State Assessment data in reading indicated that only 5 out of 24 third grade students were proficient or above in reading (20.83%). Classroom teachers will review Star Reading and Star Math Assessment scores (paid for with other funds) monthly to monitor current student academic levels and growth throughout the year. Teachers and principals will meet to review student data and adjust instructional strategies as needed for continued growth toward mastery. Guidance counseling will be provided as the need is presented. Hodgen Public School works hard to make sure students have all of their needs met so they are able to successfully learn at grade level. This would include delivering educational packets and meals to students in quarantine.

Hodgen Public School has spent most of the remaining ARP ESSER III 80% consistent with the allowed use authorized in section 2001(2) of the ARP Act. Hodgen Public School will follow all expenditure guidelines put forth by the State Department of Education. Past expenditures include, technology purchases for classroom use such as laptops, software, printers, and copy paper and toner for educational packets. Additionally, internet access points have been installed for better connectivity throughout the campus. By adding technology equipment and improving connectivity teachers have more options to use as best instructional practices.

Hodgen Public School will ensure that the interventions it implements under section 2001 (1) will respond to the academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, including students from low-income families, students of color, and English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care and migratory students. Hodgen Public School teachers and administrators will review and discuss benchmark data, end of year test scores, 3rd grade reading scores, classroom observations, best instructional practices, IEP referrals, and counselor referrals regularly. If it is determined a student was disproportionately impacted by Covid19, interventions will be implemented immediately. Interventions will be additional time to work with educational software programs, small group instruction, extra reading time, one to one instruction, and individualized lesson plans. The student would be monitored often for academic growth in the subject areas they are struggling to comprehend. In addition, Hodgen Public School will work with the family in an effort to connect them to social services or other community related organizations for assistance, if needed.