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THOMAS Application Sections

Applicant: EDISON ENERGYSMART

American Rescue Plan Consolidated

Printer-Friendly

- Somerset

American Project

Application: Rescue Plan -Period: ESSER - 00-3/13/2020

Cycle: Original

9/30/2024 Application

LEA Plan for Use Of Funds

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- 1. The extent to which and how the funds will be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent CDC guidance on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning; ([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)

TEECS will use the funds in accordance with the CDC's guidance on reopening schools which includes but is not limited to upgrades to the facility, upgrades to the HVAC system, and periodic cleaning and sanitizing school building. Funds will also be allocated to before and after school, weekend, and summer school 1 on 1 tutoring for low-income students, special ed students, and ESL students and for the necessary technology for those students and their instructors.

2. How the LEA will use the funds it reserves under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year; ([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)

We are planning to offer 1 on 1 tutoring program for struggling students, low-income family students, and English learners. This program will be offered throughout the year after school hours and weekends and over the summer. All of our Academic enrichment programs will be aligned to the NJSLS.

3. How the LEA will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act; and ([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)

TEECS will use remaining funds consistent with the section of the ARP Act via the following methods: Activities authorized

under ESSER, ESSEA, and IDEA; We will purchase additional educational technology, which includes hardware, software, and assessments to identify growth and skill; Continuing to address the academic impact of lost instructional time; Responding to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students; maintaining and updating all safety measures to mitigate risks; keeping adequate supplies on hand for cleaning and safety, given the potential for shortages; maintaining and purchasing additional materials to remain in compliance with distancing guidelines and keep our system in place to mitigate contact; hiring additional personal for social, emotional, and academic support.

4. How the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions implemented under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act to address the academic impact of lost instructional time, 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. Under this requirement, an LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders and give the public an opportunity to provide input in the development of its plan. Specifically, an LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with students; families; school and district administrators (including special education administrators); and teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions.

([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)

TEECS is providing 5 days of in-person academic instruction for the school year 2021- 2022. There will be no synchronous remote instruction. Asynchronous instruction will be available for students who need to quarantine. TEECS does not have any student who does not have access to an internet connection from home. Quarantined students in remote learning are required to follow their full daily schedule, 8 hours, Monday through Friday. TEECS has instituted the program Peekapak for students' social, emotional, and mental health. It is a blended learning program designed to help students demonstrate and practice SEL skills while strengthening academic performance around literacy skills. The topics covered in Peekapak's program include self-regulation, respect, gratitude, kindness, honesty, and optimism. Read aloud feature original stories for every unit that correspond with the unit's social-emotional learning concept. Communication & Inquiry-based learning activities are designed so students can collaborate with others to achieve a common goal, which helps strengthen a child's communication skills. Peekapak also supports teachers and staff with respect to their Social-emotional Wellness. Peekapak provides staff with 15 mins activities once a month to address their needs. Students are encouraged to use access to free lunch and breakfast during the school day.

5. Additionally, an LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with each of the following, to the extent present in or served by the LEA: Tribes; civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); and stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students. ([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)

Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School has requested parents' and students' input in developing the reopening plan. Surveys were sent out to obtain parent input. In the 2020-2021 academic year, we had to constantly change our instructional mode in accordance with the local infection rates as they increased and decreased. At times, we switched from total virtual instruction to hybrid (synchronous) instruction. TEECS made every attempt to meet the needs of parents and the student community at all times. In the 2021-2022 academic year, as per Executive Order 175 calling for remote learning to be rescinded, TEECS transitioned to provide full-day, in-person instruction, as we were prior to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. Rather than our 4 -day Hybrid model from the 2020-21 academic year, TEECS implemented a full day 5 days in-person instruction with an option of remote instruction as needed (quarantine, etc) for the 2021-22 academic year. The safe reopening plan was presented to the board, and was well attended by the board members, school personnel and is open to the public.