

American Rescue Plan 2021

Swartz Creek Community Schools - 25180

1. Please describe 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:

Swartz Creek will use funds to purchase air handling systems, doors, and windows in an effort to improve air flow and air quality for staff and students in our seven buildings. As buildings move closer to being full capacity, the air quality and flow is important to mitigating and preventing the spread of COVID-19. The district will also purchase temporal scanners to help detect fevers and high temperature in staff and students. This will quickly detect possible illness and remove sick individuals from the building structure. In addition to their regular cleaning schedule, we will also be supporting our custodial cleaning service department with more hours and supplies as they continue to sanitize spaces to prevent the spread of disease. Finally, we will invest in having additional PPE supplies for students and staff will ensure we do not have shortages when the need arises.

2. Please describe how the LEA will use the funds it reserves under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act (see below) 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:

Swartz Creek will be using funds for both extended day and summer learning opportunities. With extended day opportunities students will be able to get help with academic achievement and the gaps that have created learning loss. Monies will be spent on staff who will be available afterschool to provide those opportunities to our students. The summer learning programs will happen at four levels: K-2, 3-4, 6-8, and 9-12. Monies will provide materials and staff for the programing. The program will run 4-6 weeks during the months of July and August. Classrooms will be filled with 15-20 students. Each classroom will have a certified teacher and a paraprofessional staffed. We will provide transportation, food, and other support services to coincide with the learning enrichment opportunities. We project between 400-500 students to take advantage of the summer opportunities. Lastly, we will invest in significant technology support to ensure that our students maintain their connectivity throughout the year. Our technology department will ensure proper server and hardware infrastructure is adequate for learning in and out of a pandemic.

3. Please describe how the LEA will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act:

The rest of the funds will be used on literacy curriculum, staff retentions, social emotional programming, and medical servicing. With such learning loss, students have not had access and repetition with reading books on level and of interest to them. Swartz Creek will be purchasing robust libraries for each classroom at the k-2 and 3-5 levels, along with robust libraries for the English and social studies departments at our 6-8 and 9-12 buildings. We have found that staff retention is one of the most difficult problem areas we currently face. Incentive based solutions will be put in place to retain staff. SEL (Social Emotional Learning) programing will be used to help students learn how to regulate through their own emotional responses to the pandemic. These programing best practices will help students with the feelings of isolation and anxiety that the pandemic has intensifies. We will also create and hire nursing positions that can help with the mental, emotional, and physical well being of all our students. Based on the research around flexible seating, we will invest in furniture for classrooms that support learning in classrooms while also being built with materials that respond well in to antimicrobial agents for safety. Finally, we will support our research-based SEL and character education initiative, The Positivity Project, across the entire district.

4. Please describe 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 (see below) 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.

Swartz Creek has always had a strong and robust MTSS system. Our district team will help facilitate all our interventions: math, reading, mental wellness, behavioral, social, and emotional. We use data to pinpoint groups needing extra support and intervention, and move resources to these students of need. The data also allows us to check in on our commonly disproportionately impacted students: low SES, disabled, ELL, homeless, migratory, foster care, and other minority students. Buildings progress monitor monthly, and the district takes a look at high level data three times a year: fall, winter, and spring. The data from these meetings also drives our MiCiP process, so that our improvement of systems lines up with filling the needs of our greatest concerns.