

## **Cañon City School District Use of Funds Plan for ESSER III**

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund dollars were appropriated to state education agencies (SEAs) based on the previous year's Title I shares, with 90% allocated to local education agencies that received a Title I allocation in the most recent fiscal year and the remaining 10% reserved for state activities. LEA allocations were calculated using the Title I formula; however, relief funds will not be subject to Title I requirements.

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act was signed into law. The ARP ESSER III funding from the ARP Act provides support for K-12 schools with a total of nearly \$122 billion to States and school districts to help safely open and sustain the safe operations of schools and address the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students. The ARP Act also allocates \$39.6 billion for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, \$450 billion to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and \$2.8 billion for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund. Under ESSER III, Colorado has been allocated \$1,166,328,632.

Although the ARP ESSER III uses of funds are like those for ESSER I and II, there are important distinctions between ARP ESSER III, ESSER II, and ESSER programs, including the period of funds availability, equitable services to non-public schools, maintenance of effort, and a report on efforts to measure and address learning loss. States are instructed to use all remaining ESSER funds before making use of the ESSER II funds, given the shorter remaining period of availability.

The ESSER fund, or the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund, provides support for both public and non-public K-12 schools as part of the Education Stabilization Fund in the CARES Act. The federal government administers the funds to the state education agency (Colorado Department of Education) who then distributes the funds to local school districts.

### **Allowable Uses of ESSER III Funds**

LEAs can use ESSER funds for activities authorized by ESEA, IDEA, the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, the Perkins CTE Act, or the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

In addition to the programs listed above, the LEA can use funds for the following activities:

- Coordination of preparedness and response efforts of LEAs with State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments, and other relevant agencies
- Planning for and coordinating on long-term closures (including on meeting IDEA requirements, how to provide online learning, and how to provide meals to students)
- Staff training and professional development on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious disease; as well as purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean facilities
- Purchasing educational technology (hardware, software, and connectivity) for students, that aids in the regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their instructors, which may include assistive or adaptive technology
- Mental health services and supports
- Summer learning and supplemental after-school programs
- Discretionary funds for school principals to address the needs of their individual schools
- Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation and continuity of services in LEAs and to continuing the employment of their existing staff

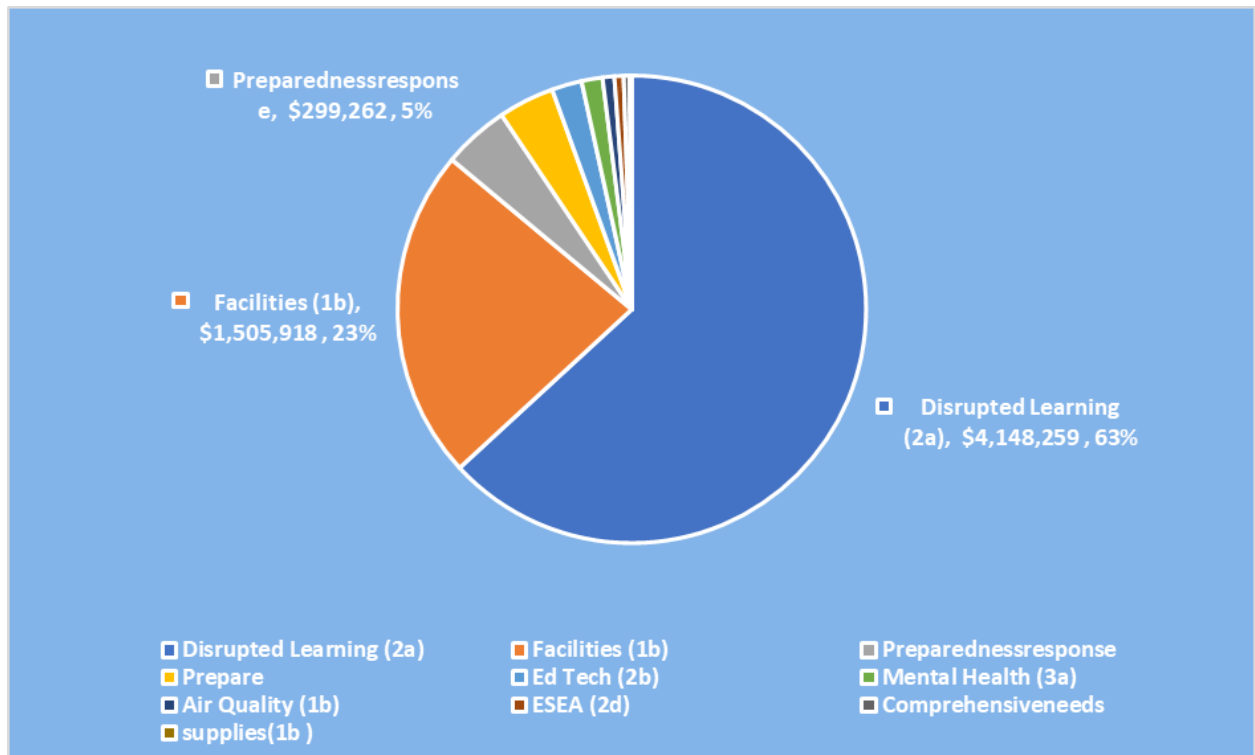
### **Parent and Stakeholder Involvement**

ESSER III protocols require districts to develop and seek public comment on plans for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. The Cañon City School District received public comment and input through the building and district level Accountability Committees along with input from students, staff, and community members through several surveys. Input from administrators and site committees were considered as a beginning point for the committee brainstorming session. Ideas were prioritized by the committee before presenting the information to the Board of Education.

### **Cañon City's ESSER III Use of Funds Plan**

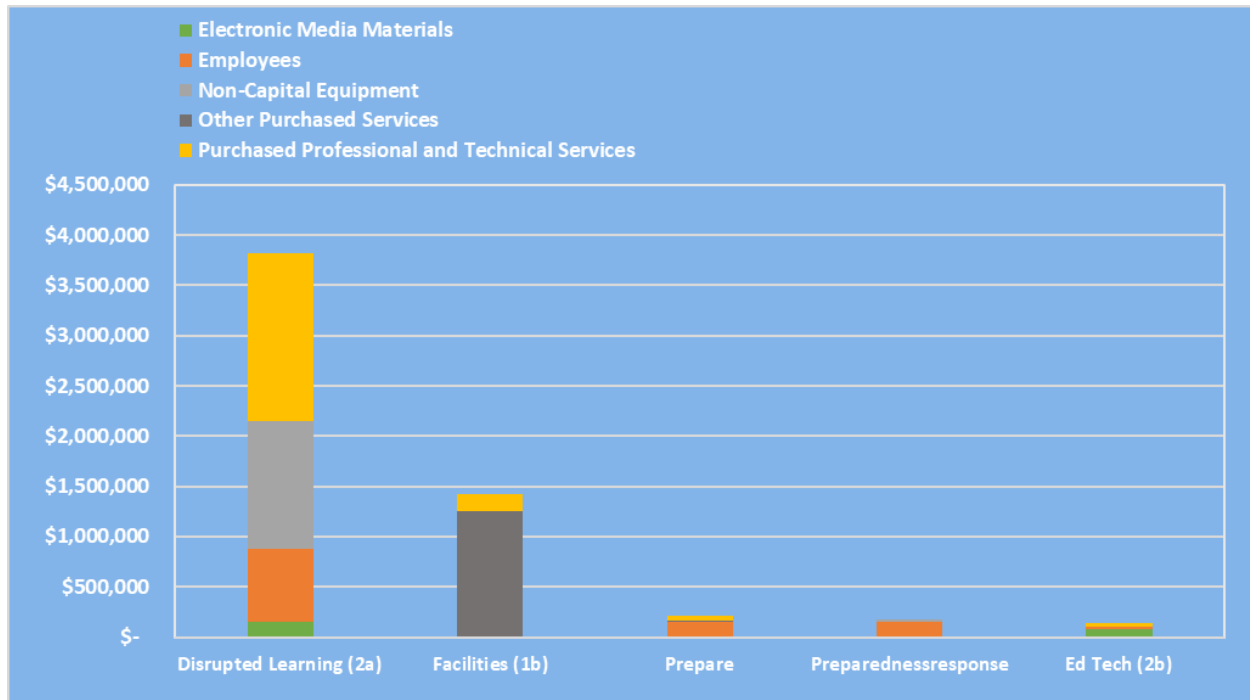
Funds received via ESSER III - **\$7,582,530.00**

Where we invested these dollars:



**Disrupted Learning:** As required, a minimum of 20% of the funding will be utilized for activities, supplies, curriculum materials, tutoring, summer school, staff and other learning opportunities targeted for unfinished learning due to the pandemic. **Cañon City Schools is on track to invest 63% of ESSER III funds on such activities.**

The following chart reflects the makeup of the costs within **Canon City RE-1's** top investment priorities.



Additionally, each school was allocated more than \$300 per student to invest in site specific needs, determined by the building leadership team and school accountability committee, and these links can be followed to find summaries of FY 22 and FY 23 building level expenditures:

Cañon City High School:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/17WEhjya0QBwG6qNn1xnvG-0B9E6jmZuP/view>

Cañon City Middle School:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/130yFPaLc5UtWDMiYHJvCDXE1rlpalknF/view>

Cañon Exploratory School:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/19fjiGOEfO0V0WGWvOoiL3Xnh709eYaD/view>

Harrison K-8: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1c3RbFo4WuFqCfT-wQ-4JkEamnl\\_shQ8X/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1c3RbFo4WuFqCfT-wQ-4JkEamnl_shQ8X/view)

McKinley Elementary School:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1geSTxZfujdUX7NQgUmaWKfeU5myGQhij/view>

Lincoln School of Science and Technology:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Dh38OM\\_WAJYwFZx6oDrKZc5GVynsjiQG/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Dh38OM_WAJYwFZx6oDrKZc5GVynsjiQG/view)

Washington Elementary School:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rh\\_SKNzSWjXgtrBTRwcgabJT74DfbFW5/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rh_SKNzSWjXgtrBTRwcgabJT74DfbFW5/view)