

GLENDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

October 12, 2021

ACTION REPORT NO. 2

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Vivian Ekchian, Superintendent

SUBMITTED BY: Stephen Dickinson, Chief Business and Financial Officer

PREPARED BY: Stephen Dickinson, Chief Business and Financial Officer  
Dr. Marine Avagyan, Director, Equity, Access, and Family Engagement

**SUBJECT: Approval of ESSER III Expenditure Plan**

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The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve the ESSER III Expenditure Plan.

The Board of Education, at its meeting on September 28, 2021, reviewed an information item regarding the process followed for developing the ESSER III Expenditure Plan. The Plan addresses the instructional strategies the District will implement to meet student needs and continue to provide safe in-person learning. The final plan is now submitted for Board approval. However, because the spending timeline goes through September 30, 2024, it should be expected that the plan may go through revisions as the needs and costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic continue to change.

As part of the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, which was signed into law on March 11, 2021, local education agencies (LEAs) must complete a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan and the ESSER III Expenditure Plan.

The Plan requires that the District describe how they will use ESSER III funds to address academic, social emotional, and mental health needs of the students. These one-time funds are available to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) through September 30, 2024. On or before October 29, 2021, the governing board of an LEA receiving funds must adopt, at a public meeting, a plan describing the LEA's process meeting the opportunity gaps that existed before and were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Glendale Unified has been allocated \$46,552,069 in funding from this grant.

In developing the plan, the District has the flexibility to include community input and actions included in other planning documents, such as the Local Control and

Accountability Plan (LCAP) and/or the Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Grant Plan.

Grant funds may be used for:

- Strategies for Continuous and Safe In-Person Learning = \$12,000,000  
Provide a description of the action(s) the LEA will implement using ESSER III funds for prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, in line with the most recent CDC guidance, in order to continuously and safely operate schools for in-person learning.
- Addressing the Impact of Lost Instructional Time = \$9,310,414  
Provide a description of the action(s) the LEA will implement using ESSER III funds 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 programs. At least 20 percent of the ESSER III funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time.
- Use of Any Remaining Funds = \$25,241,655  
Provide a description of any additional action(s) the LEA will implement to address students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs, as well as to address opportunity gaps, consistent with the allowable uses.

As part of planning the new Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), the District has engaged stakeholders in a variety of ways throughout the school year. Multiple meetings were held and surveys administered to solicit input on addressing student needs. The meetings included, but were not limited to, Districtwide LCAP Stakeholder Meetings; Superintendent's Parent Advisory Committee (SPAC); District PTA; District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC); parent/guardian forums at schools; student voice panels; school and District administrator meetings; meetings with the bargaining units; SELPA; Board Meetings and Town Halls. The feedback from these forums continue to support the development of the Expanded Learning Opportunity (ELO) Grant, the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), and the ESSER III Expenditure Plan.

To address the areas of identified needs, the District ESSER III Expenditure Plan will provide a combination of District and school services. The District services will include expanded instructional time opportunities during summer, and to support acceleration and early literacy. Funds will be allocated to schools to address school specific needs, focusing on addressing academic achievement and mental health services. Furthermore,

funds will be utilized to ensure that the District continues to meet the health and safety guidelines.

***TO SUPPORT 2021-22 BOARD PRIORITY NO. 1: Maximize Student Achievement – Close the digital and equity gap; offer robust in-person and independent study learning programs; and accelerate learning and improve attendance and engagement.***

***TO SUPPORT 2021-22 BOARD PRIORITY NO. 2: Foster a Positive Culture of Learning – Ensure equitable teaching and learning opportunities led by excellence; support culturally relevant curriculum that emphasizes inclusion; and increase school connectedness for students, parents, and families.***

***TO SUPPORT 2021-22 BOARD PRIORITY NO. 3: Ensure the Health and Safety of Students and Employees – Strengthen mental health support and programs; ensure best practices for safe and healthy learning environments; and support physical, social, and emotional wellbeing.***

***TO SUPPORT 2021-22 BOARD PRIORITY NO. 4: Maintain District Financial Responsibility – Ensure the fiscal health of the District; implement a fiscal plan to preserve the District resources; plan for the District's future educational and facility needs.***