

USE OF FUNDS PLAN – ARP/ESSER III

RE-3 ALLOCATION: \$223,458

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress passed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) adding funds to the Elementary and Secondary Education Relief (ESSER) fund in emergency pandemic aid. ESSER III funds must be spent to address the impacts of COVID-19 and Districts are required to use at least 20% of funding for addressing the learning impacts of the pandemic.

Branson School District will ensure that ARP - ESSER III funds will be used for purposes that are reasonable, necessary, and allocable under the ARP Act. Branson Schools will use ESSER III funds for technology purchases to allow students and staff to connect at any time whether remote or in the classroom. Teacher recruitment and retention is an increased concern due to COVID-19. Continual professional development training is necessary for teachers, paraprofessionals, and instructional staff on technology improvements, instructional methods, and social/emotional needs.

Instructional learning loss will be assessed, and programs developed to address identified learning loss. Branson School District will implement a summer school program to address financial and learning loss for the next two years. The Branson School District summer enrichment program will provide painting, carpentry and custodial skills for economically disadvantaged students to fill in the gaps in the family's lost income due to COVID 19.

Branson School District will construct a new wood shop to allow more space to allow for more social distancing during class time. Branson School District is committed to ensuring that no student or teacher will be denied access or participation based on gender, race, national origin, disability, or age.