

# **ESSER 3 (ARP) Spending Plan for Spruce Mountain School Department**

September 3, 2021

The American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund provides funding to support schools in safely reopening and sustaining safe operations while meeting the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, particularly underserved student groups.

Below is a summary of how Spruce Mountain School Department plans to spend \$4,440,756 of ESSER 3 funds over the course of the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years, based on 3 top identified priorities.

## **1. Addressing Learning Loss (Student Supports)**

The pandemic has had a disparate impact on students impacted by poverty. Spruce Mountain School Department will address this issue by:

- Lowering class size at the primary level through hiring a classroom teacher
- Hiring a Special Ed. Teacher and Ed Tech III for RSU73
- Hiring Interventionists and Ed Tech positions at all schools to support RTI (Response to Intervention) strategies for student success
- Redesigned summer enrichment programs designed to address learning loss.
- Fund a staff development committee to research trainings for learning loss, etc.

## **2. Creating safe and healthy learning facilities**

- Adding two additional classrooms at Spruce Mountain Elementary School to avoid overcrowding and follow CDC guidelines.
- Additional cleaning and disinfecting at all schools
- Additional custodial staff to ensure all areas are adequately cleaned.
- HVAC system upgrades where needed.
- Ensuring the outside classroom and playground areas are kept available year-round.
- Purchasing equipment for students to experience hands-on, real-world activities.

## **3. Addressing social, emotional, mental health and academic needs resulting from the pandemic**

- Addressing the needs of low-income families and students experiencing homelessness as follows:
  - Hiring additional Social Worker
  - Hiring an additional Registered Nurse
  - Funding a Regional Remote Academy for student who still need to access their education remotely.
  - Funding a district Technology position to work with community needs and to manage the new devices purchased through other funding.
  - Purchase Right Eye Vision System for RSU73.

**We welcome input from all stakeholders on this planned use of funds. Please submit any feedback by Friday, September 24 at the following link:**

<https://forms.gle/oePuHahQvciUoLA86>