

ESSER III PLAN

Return to In-Person Instruction, Continuity of Services and Funding Plan

INTRODUCTION

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plans (ARP) Act was signed into law. In it, the U.S. Department of Education is providing an additional \$121.9 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III Fund). This legislation will award grants to state educational agencies (SEAs) for providing local educational agencies (LEAs) with emergency relief funds to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools across the nation.

Prairie Crossing Charter School will receive \$236,760 in ESSER III funds from the Act. This amount is determined in proportion to the amount of Title I, Part A funds they received in summer 2020 from funds under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The remaining funds will be used for state-level activities to address issues caused by COVID-19.

The plans listed below provide an overview of how Prairie Crossing Charter School will provide the safe return to in-person instruction, continuity of services for in-person learning and the fund plan. This plan complies with all reporting requirements of the ARP Act (Public Law 117-2), the ESSER III grant terms, conditions, and assurances (CFDA Number 84.425U), and the interim final rule established by the U.S. Department of Education, 86 FR 21195.

PLANS

Return To School Plan Phases 4B, 4C

Return To School Plan Phase 5

CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

Prairie Crossing Charter School began the 2020-2021 school year in Phase 4A with all students in remote learning. The school transitioned to Phase 4B on February 8th, 2021 and began Phase 4C on April 12th, 2021 through the end of the school year. During Phase 4B and 4C of the 2020–2021 school year, students had the option to continue remote learning.

USE OF FUNDS

Prairie Crossing Charter School plans to use the ARP-ESSER III funds in these 3 major areas:

- Academic Supports
- Social Emotional Supports
- Health & Safety

PERIODIC UPDATES

Prior to transitioning between the phases of the Return To School Plan, the district's team met to review the implementation plans and consider any needed adjustments. The task force considered input received from employees, parents and medical professionals when making adjustments to the plan.

In July and August of 2021, district administrators will review the latest guidance from the CDC and IDPH and recommend changes to district practices and procedures based on any changes in the guidance. As provided during the development of the initial Return To School Plan, stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide public input prior to finalization of health and safety procedures for the 2021–2022 school year during town hall meetings as well as sending comments and questions by email. During the period of the ARP ESSER award (until September 2024), PCCS will periodically review and, as needed, revise its ESSER plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. The plan will be reviewed at least every six months, and PCCS will continue to seek and take into account public input during the review process through town halls, public comment, and e-mail communication. Plan revisions will address updated CDC and IDPH guidance on safely reopening schools, if any are issued.

PUBLIC INPUT

Prairie Crossing Charter School and its stakeholders were charged with assessing the potential challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic in order to make recommendations for the safe return of students and employees.

Multiple parent/guardian surveys were administered between June 2020-April 2021 for comment and questions on the plans for returning to in person instruction.

[Parent Survey 4B summer](#)

[Parent Survey 4B fall](#)

[Parent Survey 4C winter](#)

[Parent Survey 4C spring](#)

In addition to the surveys, Prairie Crossing Charter School schedules virtual Town Halls for Public Participation. Comments and questions were able to be submitted online prior to the Town Hall meetings and were read and responded to during the live meetings. All Town Hall meetings were recorded for parents and employees to view if they were unable to attend the live meetings.

Town Hall meetings were held or will be held on the following dates:

August 10th, 2020

August 11th, 2020

November 2nd, 2020

January 25th, 2021

January 26th, 2021

March 29th, 2021

August 10th, 2021

Stakeholders have been able to provide their input during public comment at all board meetings that have fallen within the planning for return to school time frame and will continue to have the opportunity to provide their input during public comment in future meetings.

During July and August 2021, PCCS administration will review the latest guidance from the CDC and IDPH and communicate with stakeholders any changes to district practices and procedures based on any changes in the guidance. As provided during the development of the initial return to school plan, stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide their public input prior to finalization of health and safety procedures for the 2021–2022 school year and during the periodic review process of the ESSER III plan through September 2024.