

Union Grove Elementary School

ESSER III Plan

As required by the U.S. Department of Education, the Jt School Dist No 1 Union Grove, commonly known as Union Grove Elementary School (UGES) has created an ESSER III plan, and is seeking input from all stakeholders.

Important Information about ESSER Funds

What are ESSER funds/grants?

Funds are **provided to State educational agencies and school districts** to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on student learning.

How are ESSER funds distributed?

States must **distribute at least 90 percent of funds to local education agencies (schools)** based on their proportional share of ESEA Title I-A funding formula.

How many rounds of ESSER funding are there?

To date, there have been three rounds of grant funding; they include ESSER I, ESSER II, and ESSER III.

How much money is UGES expected to receive and when do the funds have to be spent?

ESSER Grant	Funding Allocation	Deadline to spend funds
ESSER I	\$56,735	September 30, 2022
ESSER II	\$435,520 *	September 30, 2023
ESSER III	\$540,144 **	September 30, 2024

*UGES received additional funds of \$195,180 for meeting specific criteria, such as providing in-person instruction in 20-21.

**UGES is anticipating additional funding in ESSER III; the Department of Instruction has allocated 90% of the funding and is withholding 10% pending approval from the US Department of Education.

Is there criteria of how the funds can be spent?

ESSER funds are aimed at addressing learning loss for students, improving technology equipment and resources for students and staff, preparing schools for reopening (and/or staying open), and meeting the social emotional needs of students. Funds may also be used for supplies necessary to maintain school operations during and after the COVID-19 pandemic as well as repairs and upgrades to equipment that will improve air quality in the school building.

[DPI list of allowable expenses](#)

Was all of the money issued to UGES already?

UGES has been awarded ESSER I and II funds, and is awaiting approval of ESSER III funds later this year.

Has UGES spent the ESSER funds already?

UGES has spent the ESSER I funds; the funds were used for expenditures in 2020-21 to upgrade the HVAC infrastructure with purification and ionization systems in order to keep students in the classroom. ESSER II and III funds will be spent through the 2023-24 school year.

UGES's ESSER II and III Plan

UGES has developed a plan that will make use of the grant funds to positively impact the learning and physical environment of our students.

The details of the plan are below:

- **Technology resources** for students and classroom learning such as refreshing older technological resources to ensure technology devices are accessible to all students at UGES and providing a Technology Aide so the classrooms are able to support individual devices without taking away from classroom learning.
- **Reduce class sizes** by adding a 3rd Grade teacher. By lowering class size, increased individual attention will be provided to students to close achievement gaps.
- **Social and Emotional programming** and inclusion resources for students. UGES plans on installing new playground equipment, including a sensory play space, which will be available for all student abilities to participate and bring equity to play.
- **Instructional Systems** such as new guided reading and Lego Learning Systems to address the lost instructional time with evidence-based improvement strategies (EBIS)
- **Heating and air conditioning upgrades** throughout the building that will provide improved air circulation and sanitation.
- **Building Upgrades** in the response to COVID-19 including building a storage shed to convert existing storage spaces in UGES to instructional areas, and security camera upgrades to ensure the safety of students, teachers, and other community members.
- Additional funds used to purchase any mitigation/prevention materials recommended by the CDC (i.e., HVAC updates, filters, and the assurance of other health safety measures such as handwashing stations, masks, sanitizer, ample bathroom supplies, signage, and cleaning supplies to combat COVID-19).

[Click here for the proposed UGES Plan for the ESSER III funds.](#)

District Administrator Brenda Stevenson is presenting this revised plan at the regular Board meeting on February 21, 2022.

The district is soliciting feedback on this plan. Opportunities to provide feedback include:

1. Email Ms. Stevenson at bstevenson@uges.k12.wi.us or Mr. Johnson at tjohnson@uges.k12.wi.us
2. Call Ms. Stevenson at 262-878-2015, extension 2005 or Mr. Johnson at 262-878-2015, extension 2001.
3. Set up an appointment with school officials to discuss the plan and offer feedback.
4. Attend the February 21, 2022 Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. During the meeting, the Board will welcome feedback to the proposed plan.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Respectfully,

Brenda Stevenson
District Administrator
bstevenson@uges.k12.wi.us

Thomas Johnson
Principal
Tjohnson@uges.k12.wi.us