



Moving Forward:
**Our Plan to Emerge
Stronger**

ESSER Funding Plan

January 18, 2022

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 will provide Pennsylvania with **\$4.9 billion in emergency funds** to **support the long-term work of education recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic**. Of the \$4.9 billion, at least 90 percent of the funds will flow to eligible public school district and charter schools.

The Williamsport Area School District is scheduled to receive about **\$32 million** in total ESSER funding from a variety of sources.



Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds

HOW FUNDS MUST BE USED

Funds from this grant **may be utilized for various allowable expenses**, as outlined in the grant, **dating back to March 13, 2020, through Sept. 30, 2024.**

The **state's priorities** of this grant:

- Return to In-Person Learning
- Safely Reopening Schools and Sustaining Safe Operations
- Addressing the Academic and Other Impacts of Lost Instructional Time
- Investing in Summer Learning and Expanded After-School Programs



◀ Where We've Been: Initial Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

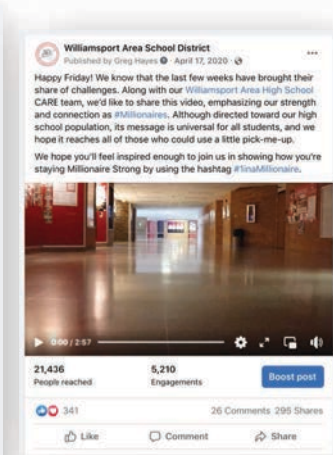
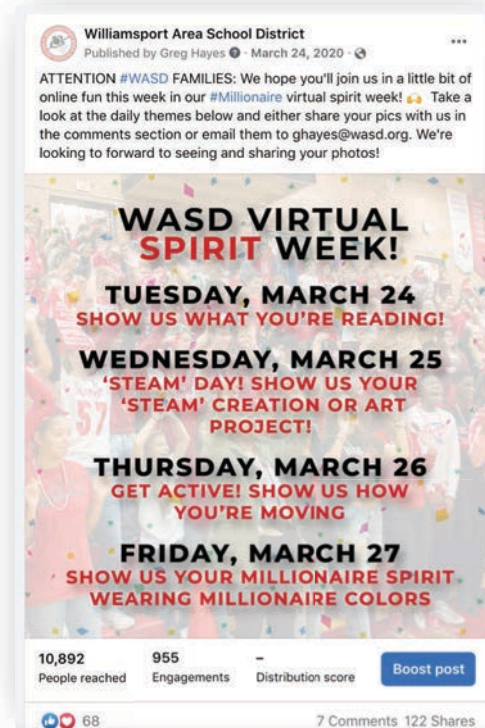


REMAINED CONNECTED TO STUDENTS & FAMILIES

- Provided **37,404 free meals to students** through the district's free meal program from mid-March to early June 2020.
- Curriculum team **curated lists of online learning enrichment materials and resources** to keep students engaged in virtual learning.
- Conducted a mass distribution of iPads and Chromebooks to households that needed access to devices.

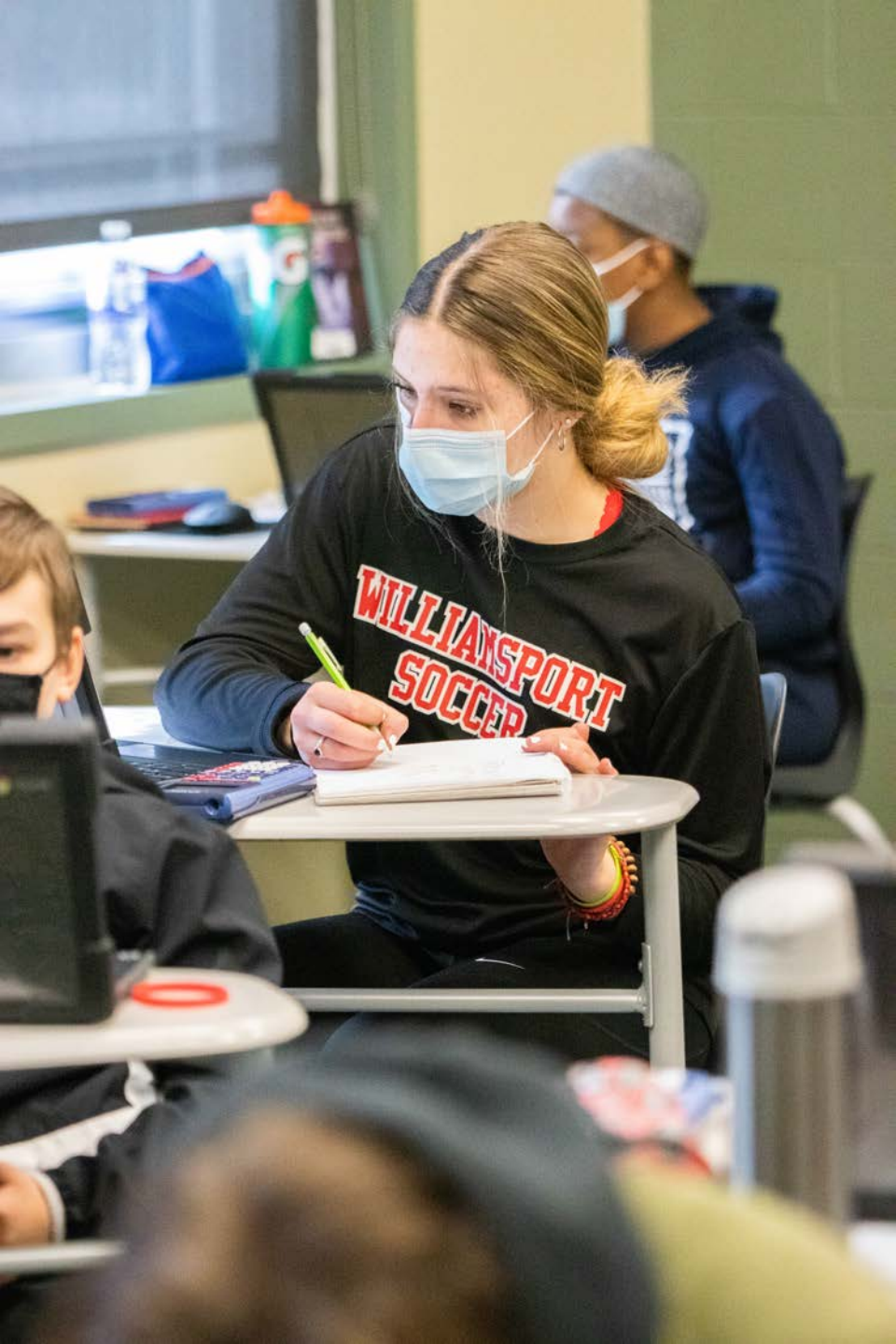


◀ Where We've Been: Initial Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic



REMAINED CONNECTED TO STUDENTS & FAMILIES

- Community organizations and businesses provided locations for students and families to access free Wi-Fi and meals.
- Kept families, community and students engaged through social media with post interaction and videos.
- Celebrated a drive-through graduation ceremony for the Class of 2020.



◀ Where We've Been: Returning to School Safely

REIMAGINING EDUCATION

- 1:1 Chromebook ratios *for the first time*.
- Implemented Schoology, the district's **online learning management system**, for remote and in-person learning.
- Moved from hybrid model to full-day, in-person instruction.
- Delivered professional development for teachers to learn and deepen their skills in delivering virtual/21st-century instruction.
- Purchased personal protective equipment (PPE), health screening devices, cleaning and sanitation supplies, etc.



REIMAGINING EDUCATION

- Provided **live, online teacher help** in the evenings for remote learners.
- **Improved air quality and ventilation** in school buildings.
- **Provided extended schoolyear and credit recovery** opportunities to help close learning gaps.
- **Used social media channels** to live-stream sports, celebrations, concerts and other events while social restrictions were in place.
- Continued **providing free meals and meal bundles** to all students.
- **Celebrated traditional style graduation** for the Class of 2021.





← Where We've Been: Returning to School Safely

TAKING STEPS FORWARD

- Returned to school for **full-day, in-person instruction** at the start of the 2021-2022 school year.
- Began expansion of mental health/trauma services for students.
- Continued use of Schoology and Chromebooks daily.
- Extra-curricular and athletic activities returned to normal.
- Feasibility study committees reconvened to discuss future plans for more secure, efficient and healthy district facilities.
- Curtin Intermediate undergoing construction for a secure vestibule/entrance as part of the first phase of the feasibility study.





Looking Ahead: Making an Investment in a Stronger WASD

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ESSER FUNDING

\$622K

Health and Safety of Students and Staff

\$3M

Innovative Technology and Learning

\$23M

Facilities and Grounds: Upgrades and Overall Building Health

\$3.8M

Addressing Learning Loss and Recovery

\$932K

Social-Emotional Health

\$568K

Extended Schoolyear Learning Opportunities

We invite feedback on our funding plan. To access, visit www.wasd.org and click on "ESSER Plan" along the main navigation of our website.



WILLIAMSPORT
AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

QUESTIONS?



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