

McCool Junction Public Schools



Safe Return to School Plan 2021-2022

McCool Junction Public School will be open in the fall of 2021-2022 for in-person teaching and learning. We will continue to work closely with the Four Corners Health Department and state officials if an outbreak of COVID-19 occurs within our school. We will utilize only the needed protocols that were put into place from our 2020-2021 reopening plan.

COVID-19 Vaccination

McCool Junction Public School is an active community partner with the Four Corners Health Department and other public health leaders to promote COVID-19 vaccination. The summary below represents the strategies we will continue to use to support the overall public health message and strategy to vaccinate individuals against COVID-19

- ➔ Regular parent, staff, and student updates which will include factual information regarding the safety and efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccine. This will include sharing public health recommendations to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 for both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.
- ➔ Regular coordination with the Four Corners Health Department and our local hospitals and clinics to assist with planning, coordinating, and communicating information related to community COVID-19 vaccine clinics
- ➔ Provide flexibility to staff and students who may need to miss work/school to gain access to the COVID-19 vaccine or in response to its short-term side effects.

COVID-19 Mitigation Protocols

- Continue to request that students and staff self screen daily for COVID-19 symptoms using the self screening protocol
- Encourage and enable students and staff to frequently wash and/or sanitize their hands
- Promote appropriate coughing and sneezing etiquette
- Utilize targeted enhanced cleaning protocols on high touch surfaces throughout the school and in transportation vehicles
- Continue to ensure that students and staff who are sick stay home from school
- Require anyone testing positive for COVID-19 to isolate away from school in accordance with public health guidelines and requirements is needed
- Continue to assist local health departments with contact tracing as necessary for COVID-19 exposures that occur on site or at school activities and events
- Follow directives from the local health department for someone who has been exposed to COVID-19 (potential quarantine, self-monitor, etc.)
- Recommend anyone unvaccinated to wear a face covering following the Universal and Correct Wearing procedure when indoors in settings where physical distancing is not possible
- Increase fresh air mixture into HVAC systems throughout the school

- Students with special needs will have access to all safety protocols discussed above as well as safety measures agreed to in their IEP or 504 Plan
- Continuity of services will be provided for academic, mental health, health, and food services in the 2020-2021 Reopening Plan Document should the district find itself in the high risk category for COVID-19 spread
- Promote social distancing by students and staff and provide physical social distancing measures as needed through local health department guidance

A link to our 2020-2021 Safety Protocols can also be found on our website using the following link: [2020-21 Reopening Plan](#)

ESSER(Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) III Funds

Below you will find more information about ESSER III funds being provided to school districts across the nation. The list below is the allowable expenditure categories. McCool Junction Public School has been allocated \$281,000 and has until the fall of 2024 to expend these funds. The goal of these funds is to help support students without having recurring costs to the district after the ESSER III funds are gone. If you have any suggestions regarding the use of these funds, please contact Dade McDonald, Superintendent McCool Junction Public School, at dade.mcdonald@mcjmustangs.org.

ESSER, passed as Section 18003 of the CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act in March 2020; ESSER II, passed as Section 313 of the CRRSA (Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations) Act in December 2020; and ARP ESSER (ESSER III), included in Section 2001 of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, H.R. 1319, provides billions in funding for state and local education agencies to spend on allowable activities to respond to COVID-19. ESSER is its own, separate flexible program intended to assist with the COVID-19 response. *ESSER I, ESSER II, and ESSER III funds must be tracked separately.*

The ESSER III funding has the same allowable activities as the ESSER I and ESSER II funds; however a LEA (Local Educational Agency) must reserve no less the 20% of its total ESSER III allocation to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive after school programs, or an extended school year program, and ensure that such interventions respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups.

LEAs may use their ESSER III funding on the following allowable activities under the ARP Act:

- Administration - 10% administrative cap, includes indirect cost rate charged against direct cost.
- Any activity authorized by the ESEA of 1965, IDEA, AEFLA, and Perkins. NOTE: McKinney-Vento was not included as an allowable use under ESSER III.
- Coordination of preparedness and response efforts
- Providing principals and other school leaders with resources necessary to address the needs of their individual schools. NOTE: Not included in ESSER III.
- Activities to address the unique needs of low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities
- Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of LEAs
- Training and professional development for LEA staff on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases

- Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a LEA, including buildings operated by such agencies
- Planning, coordinating, and implementing activities during long-term closures
- Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the LEA that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and children with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment
- Providing mental health services and supports
- Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental after school programs
- *New during ESSER II* - Addressing learning loss among students, including low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care, of the local educational agency, including:
 - ◆ Administering and using high-quality assessments that are valid and reliable, to accurately assess academic progress and assist educators in meeting students' academic needs, including differentiating instruction
 - ◆ Implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students
 - ◆ Providing information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment
 - ◆ Tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education.
- *New during ESSER II* - School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce the risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.
- *New during ESSER II* - Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities.
- *New ESSER III* - Development of strategies and implementation of public health protocols that align with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance on reopening and operating school facilities to maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff. CDC Guidance can be found by searching [CDC Operational Strategy for K-12 School](#)
- Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation and continuity of services in LEAs and continuing to employ existing staff of the LEA. Any entity that receives funds under the Education Stabilization Fund shall, to the greatest extent practicable, continue to pay its employees and contractors during the period of any disruptions or closures related to COVID-19