



The ABCs of ESSER

making the most of your COVID-19 relief funds

EducationWeek
To inspire and empower.

AASA
THE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

**Johnson
Controls**

Today's Speakers



Cheryl Aquadro

K-12 Vertical
Market Director
Johnson Controls



Noelle Ellerson Ng

Associate Executive
Director, Advocacy and
Governance
*AASA | The School
Superintendents
Association*



LeBaron Moten

Deputy Superintendent
of Operational Supports
and Programs
*Waukegan School District
60, Illinois*



Chad McDaniel

Executive Director of
Finance and Business
Operations
*Dublin City School District,
Georgia*

Poll Question



Where does your District stand on prioritizing the ESSER funds that have been allocated to your District?

- A. Most or all of our ESSER funds are already planned**
- B. We're still considering changes based on shifting priorities**
- C. I'm unsure of the status of my District's spending plans**

Agenda

- » **ESSER Federal Guidance Update**
Noelle Ellerson Ng
- » **Addressing IAQ and deferred maintenance**
LeBaron Moten
- » **Addressing safety and security for occupants**
Chad McDaniel
- » **Panel Discussion & Wrap Up**
Facilitated by Cheryl Aquadro

Please submit
your questions in
the **Q&A tab**
(NOT in the
group chat)



Poll Results



Where does your District stand on prioritizing the ESSER funds that have been allocated to your District?

- A. Most or all of our ESSER funds are already planned*
- B. We're still considering changes based on shifting priorities*
- C. I'm unsure of the status of my District's spending plans*

<results posted here?>

Federal Guidance Update

Noelle Ellerson Ng, AASA



COVID Legislation Recap

COVID 1: H.R. 6074, Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act (3/6/20)

- Small in scope and focus; bolstered capacity to respond to the COVID-19 health emergency.

COVID 2: H.R. 6201, Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) (3/18/20)

- Includes funding adjacent to education: critical flexibility for school nutrition programs and mandate for paid sick/family leave.

COVID 3: H.R. 748, Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) (3/27/20)

- First bill to include dedicated funding for K-12 education (\$13 billion for K-12).

COVID 4: H.R. 266, Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (4/24/20)

- Series of technical changes, along with money for testing, hospitals and PPP.

COVID 5: H.R. 133 Consolidated Appropriations Act / Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CAA/CRRSAA or “CARES 2.0”) (12/27/20)

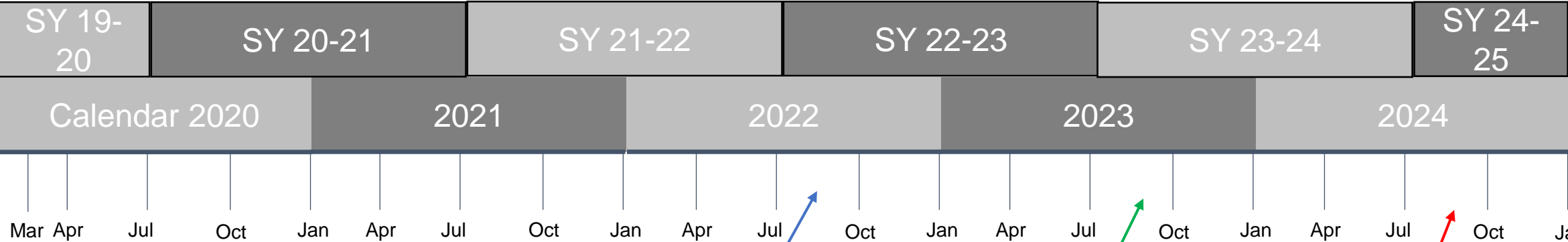
- Massive FY21 spending and COVID-relief package that was months in the making. (\$54 billion for K-12)

COVID 6: H.R. 1319 The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA or ARP) (3/11/21)

- Third round of dedicated funding for K–12 education. (\$110 billion for K-12)

ESSER Spending Timeline

LEAs have until 2024 to Obligate ARP Funds



\$13B CARES ESSER I.
LEAs must obligate by 9/2022 ~\$250/pupil.

\$54B CRRSAA ESSER II.
LEAs must obligate by 9/2023 ~\$1,100/pupil.

\$110B ARP ESSER III.
LEAs must obligate by 9/2024 ~\$2,400/pupil.

Source: Edunomics Lab

American Rescue Plan

Funding for LEAs (Districts) = \$110 billion

How does this compare to other federal COVID-relief funding?

Annual federal Title/IDEA funds per-pupil =	+\$640/student
+ March 2020 CARES Act =	+\$250/student
+ December 2020 CRRSAA/“CARES 2” =	+\$1,100/student
+ March 2021 ARP =	<u>+\$2,400/student</u>

For comparison, the ARP is roughly **10x CARES** or **2.2x CRRSAA**

ARP is being credited for its work to reduce child poverty by half.

American Rescue Plan: Additional Set Asides

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

- \$800 million set aside. Translates into an increase of 8x McKinney-Vento program funding.

IDEA / Special Education

- \$2.5 billion. This is an increase of 20% in IDEA program funding when compared to annual appropriations.
- Be careful! This is one-time funding. Beware of running into MOE issues.

Emergency Connectivity Fund

- \$7.17 billion to address the homework gap helps schools and libraries provide the tools and services their communities need for remote learning during COVID-19.

Education Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS)

- \$2.75 billion in funding for non-public schools.


USED Announcement:

ESSER Liquidation Deadline for Facilities/Construction Projects Extended

- In January 2021, AASA, ASBO, and other education organizations [sent a letter to USED requesting a timeline extension](#) for school districts to spend ARP ESSER funds on school construction and capital projects from Sept 2024 to Dec 2026.
- On May 13, [USED responded](#) noting that while the Department does not have authority to extend the obligation deadline for ARP ESSER (since that is Congress' authority), *USED can provide late liquidation flexibility for spending funds.*
 - *USED will allow states to apply (on behalf of districts) for an additional 18 months to liquidate funding for all ESSER funding (including ARP) for school facility upgrades/HVAC work (and other purposes in extenuating circumstances).*
 - In the context of ARP, if the contracts for these projects are signed by the district by Sept.2024, then the project would not need to be liquidated and the ARP funds completely spent until April 2026. The letter also said longer extensions than 18 months may be considered in extraordinary circumstances.
 - [See this updated USED chart outlining federal award, obligation, and spend deadlines](#) for ESSER I, II, III, GEER, and EANS programs.
- As we wait for more information from USED about how states can apply for the flexibility, districts are encouraged to discuss this letter with their state agencies, contractors, vendors, and auditors to ensure clarity about the circumstances in which goods/services may be delivered beyond the ESSER's obligation and liquidation deadlines.

AASA American Rescue Plan Committee

- National committee to provide guidance for schools and districts receiving ARP funds.
- ARP Tools and Resources
 - [District Checklist: Taking Full Advantage of American Rescue Plan Funds to Identify and Support Students Experiencing Homelessness and Housing Instability \(March 29, 2022\)](#)
 - [Major Strategies Self-Assessment Tool III \(Jan. 24, 2022\)](#)
 - [Priorities & Self-Assessment Tool II \(Dec. 8, 2021\)](#)
 - [AASA Learning Recovery & Redesign Guidance \(Nov. 15, 2021\)](#)



You may access
these links via the
Resource tab on
your console

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Legislative Corps: Our weekly federal update.



The AASA Advocacy App: See *next slide*!

Meet with us in person!



2nd AASA Education Finance Cohort, Fall 2022!

AASA Advocacy Conference: July 12-14 in Washington DC

AASA Advocacy & Governance

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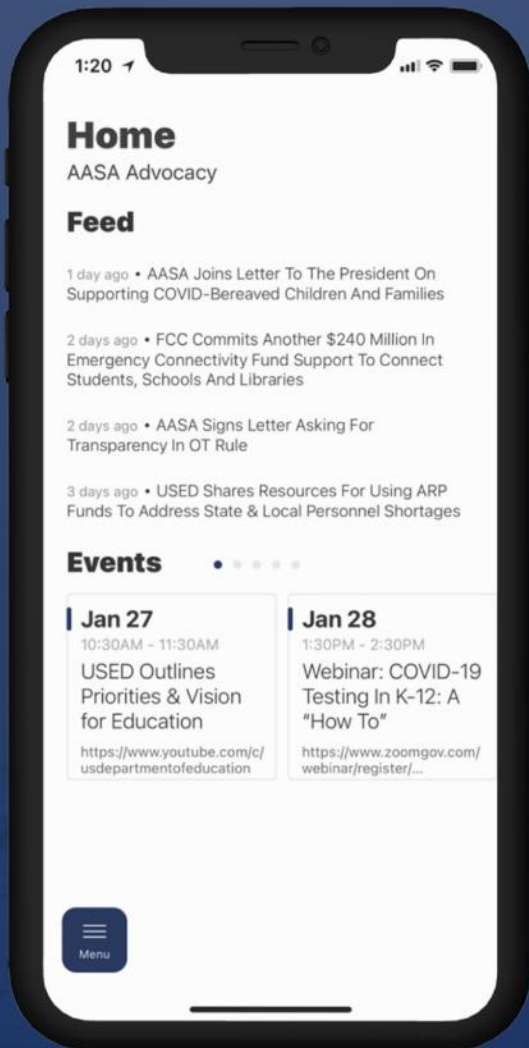
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Addressing IAQ and deferred maintenance issues

LeBaron Moten | Deputy Superintendent of
Operational Supports and Programs

Waukegan School District 60, IL





15,000
students



26
school
buildings

15
elementary
schools

5
middle
schools

3
high school
buildings

1
preschool
partnership sites

The Challenge

Waukegan had numerous deferred mechanical maintenance issues that needed to be addressed

Temperature controls

Improving indoor air quality

**Repairing pipework in classrooms, requiring
miscellaneous asbestos abatement**

Addressing Federal timeline requirements

Completion of the District's common spaces

**Accessibility to minimize disruption to
the educational environment**

Assessing Options: The solution must satisfy:

Procurement

Legal

**Administration and Board desires
to spend the money properly**

Solution

Arriving at the best solution

Procurement: Sourcewell Cooperative Procurement Model, via Illinois Governmental Joint Purchasing Act, 30 ILCS 525

Why: Predictability, Innovation, Risk Transfer, Accelerated Delivery, Asset Preservation, Accountability

Contract Type: Design Build with Guaranteed Maximum

Why: Allow for different project activities at the same time (Engineering, Equipment Lead-Times, Installation Window)

Solution

Implementing the Improvements



Overview of Procurement
process and needs
assessment with School
Board and School
Community



Cross review with the
District's current capital
improvement plan



Equitable approach for
mechanical solutions



Coordination with
School Leadership

Solution

Project Results



Regular communication with the Board of Education on project status



Addressing the school district's deferred maintenance issues and optimizing the District's allocation of Elementary and Secondary Education Relief (ESSER) funding

\$10.6M

in improvements

\$7.4M

funded using ESSER dollars

Addressing safety and security for occupants

Chad McDaniel | Executive Director of
Finance and Business Operations

Dublin City Schools, GA





2,400
students



5
campuses

3
elementary
schools

1
middle
school

2
high
schools

The Challenge

urban school district in a rural county

smaller district competing against a
larger and more funded school district

Suffering from a financial deficit since 2012

Addressing Stakeholder Concerns

contact tracing.

sanitization.

quarantines.

monitor and historically track contacts.

Thought Process for Solution Options

Keeping our schools **safe and secure** was a top
priority based on our Strategic Plan

enhance the
security of our
facilities

the ability to
monitor
incoming and
outgoing traffic

**determine who
went where** and
what contact was
made while on
campus

Solution

Arriving at the best solution

Procurement: Sourcewell

Partner selection

- Long **history** with JCI
- A partner that we could **trust**
- Offered a solution with the **level of scope** that our camera and security systems required
 - Tools to monitor and historically capture contact groups for quarantine
 - Ensure who was going where within our buildings
 - Provide admins the ability to monitor cleanliness and ensure areas throughout buildings were sanitized from their office



Solution

Implementing the Improvements



Entire project completed
**under our projected
timeline.**



With the limited number of
students and staff in our
buildings, we were able to take
advantage of having **larger
install teams** work throughout
our buildings without
interruption.



Because of our history with
JCI systems, **training was
very fluid** with building
administrators and district
leadership.

Solution

Project Results



We are “next” pandemic ready. JCI has put us in a position to address the challenges of security and safety at Dublin City Schools for years to come.

Sourcewell

- Usually satisfies competitive procurement requirements for ESSER
- Eliminates Pricing and T&C concerns
- Reduces costs and accelerates timelines due to lower procurement hurdles within organizations
- Enables value and quality selections
- Avoids potential for low bid, low quality contracts
- Select the trusted vendor you'd prefer to perform the work
- Confidence in the quality and delivery of supplier products and services

HVAC Contract: 070121-JHN
Security Contract: 030421-TIS
Fire Contract: 030421-JHN



Cooperative Purchasing

Sourcewell
Formerly NJPA

Compliant, Competitive, and Convenient

Contracts for government, education, and nonprofits

Accomplish More
As a leader in cooperative purchasing, we are passionate about helping members fulfill their public service missions.
We are building stronger relationships with members and vendors to develop practical solutions together.

Compliant

- Trusted process satisfies bid requirements
- Government agency that works like you
- Achievement of Excellence in Procurement recipient

Competitive

- Buying power of 50,000 members
- Contracts offer ceiling-based pricing, volume discounts

Convenient

- More than 400 trusted brands under contract
- Full catalog of options for a complete solution
- Easy, no-cost membership

Learn how we can serve you. For contract documents and member information, visit:

sourcewell-mn.gov
877-585-9706

Contact your local Johnson Controls sales representative to discuss your cooperative opportunities!

Johnson Controls

Panel Discussion



Thank you!
