

ESSER Funds Use Plan

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER), part of the CARES Act, provides additional funding to public school districts to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools across the Nation.

The ESSER Fund provides schools with considerable flexibility in determining how best to use ESSER funds, however, the main use of the funds need to be maintaining a safe learning environment for in-person learning and addressing any learning loss due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Allocations of ESSER funding is based on Title I (low income/at risk) student population per school district. Union Ridge has 48% low-income, which is average for school districts throughout Illinois. Union Ridge SD 86's total funding is \$1,348,663.

Families and students were engaged by holding a public hearing on August 12, 2021 via Zoom and completing surveys sent by the district. Teachers, Administrators, Special Education staff, English Language Teachers and Social Workers all met to provide input into the expenditure of funds.

ESSER FUNDS	ALLOCATION & AMOUNT	USE OF FUNDS
ESSER I	\$104,758	\$80,350 iPads, Chromebooks & WiFi hot spots for student use \$5,703 PPE supplies for students and staff \$18,705 for sanitizing equipment and air purifiers
ESSER II	\$374,060	\$374,060 for HVAC replacement/upgrade
ESSER III	\$869,845 20% must be reserved for learning loss	\$621,754 allocated to the HVAC project \$202,469 Additional staff – 2.4 additional staff members for class size reduction, teacher retention and interventions \$4,223 Summer Program \$4,223 Extended day Program \$17,176 Summer Take Home Pack for students \$20,000 Extension of Social Services for students and families outside of the school day using a service to ensure daily privacy and confidentiality.