**ESSER III PLAN**

**FOR NORTH STAR CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**

**AND**

**ARIZONA PREPARATORY ACADEMY**

**AS OF JULY 23, 2021**

As part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, North Star Charter School, Inc has been awarded $324,802.05 in the form of ESSER III funds. North Star Charter School, Inc is eligible to apply for the funds in the form of a grant through completing an online application in ADE Grants Management system.

ESSER III requires that 20% of the funds must be reserved to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs.

To meet the requirements of the 20% set aside, Arizona Preparatory Academy (APA) offers summer school to all students. All of the core courses are available with an emphasis on ELA and Math. Students are able to utilize this opportunity to make up for lost time or get ahead.

Teachers are available to assist students with any challenges they are having in a course. Teachers and staff are there from 7am-2pm, Monday-Friday and students attend 9am-2pm, Monday-Thursday.

APA teachers incorporate social and emotional learning and culturally responsive teaching as part of their lesson plans. The goals are to provide the key components of social emotional learning which provides students and teachers an understanding of their social and emotional needs. Culturally responsive teaching will allow the teacher to create lessons and project-based activities that are inclusive.

APA will ensure that the teachers use individual learning plans (ILP’s) which will identify areas of critical learning needs. Once the needs have been identified, the teachers will provide tutoring to the students daily and structure their lessons to include standards-based content for the school year that will incorporate the critical learning needs from the previous year. Social and emotional needs will be incorporated weekly during classroom lessons. Students with mental health needs will be able to talk to the school’s counselor and additional resources will be provided to students who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

APA will utilize the 80% remaining funds to provide the resources and assistance to all students which includes minorities and students who are economically-disadvantaged. APA has teachers and staff that will provide a social and emotional learning environment and culturally responsive teaching through classroom instruction and student lead activities. The curriculum uses a project-based model, and the funding will assist with the resources needed in the classrooms. The project-based model has been proven to improve student engagement and academic success. Also, teachers and staff will utilize the resources, and continue building a stronger relationship with families and the community.

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Teachers and staff will be updated with the latest CDC guidance and State of Arizona law changes. Our updated in-person learning plan will be communicated to teachers, staff, students and parents as updates are made.

The spending plan includes summer school for July 2021 and 2022 and retaining quality teachers and staff to accomplish the above objectives.

The spending plan outline is as follows:

Salaries and benefits for six teachers, one paraprofessional, a school resource officer and an academic advisor, and an instructional leader and counselor. All core subjects will be covered.

Total cost of salaries for the four weeks in July 2021 is $28,384.60 and benefits cost is $7,724.63 for a total summer school cost in July 2021 of $36,109.23. The balance of our 20% set aside will be reserved for summer school in July 2022 in the amount of $28,851.18.

The 80% remainder will be spent as follows during the school year ending June 30, 2022:

Salaries and benefits for three teachers, one paraprofessional, and an instructional leader and counselor. Approximately 25% of our cleaner’s salary will be included for the additional costs of cleaning and sanitizing the facilities. Total cost of salaries for the school year ending June 30, 2022 for the included positions is $188,025 and benefits cost is $37,016.43 for a total cost to be reimbursed from the grant in the amount $225,041.43.

There is $34,800.21 to be used toward school indirect cost including grant compliance.

This plan is being presented by the grant’s manager, site director, CEO and well as our instructional leader on this 23rd day of July 2021.