

Pegasus School of Liberal Arts and Sciences

1222 Commerce St. Suite 100 Dallas, TX 75201



**American Rescue Plan Act
Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund (ESSER)
Pegasus School of Liberal Arts Plan**

Background on ESSER

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) signed into law on March 11, 2021 provided nearly \$122 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund (ESSER). ARP ESSER funds are provided to State educational agencies in the same proportion as each State received under Title I-A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) in fiscal year (FY) 2020. An SEA must allocate at least 90 percent of its ARP ESSER grant funds to its local educational agencies (LEAs) in the same proportion that the LEAs received under Title I-A of ESEA in FY 2020. LEAs must reserve at least 20 percent of their total ARP ESSER allocation to address the academic impact of lost instructional time on all students, through the implementation of evidence-based interventions.

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) published Interim Final Requirements (IFR) on April 22, 2021 requiring LEAs receiving ARP ESSER funds to submit an LEA ARP ESSER Plan and an LEA Plan for the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services. If an LEA had already developed a plan for safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services prior to the enactment of ARP that meets the statutory requirements of section 2001(i) but did not address all of the requirements in the IFR, the LEA must revise and post its plan no later than six months after receiving its ARP ESSER funds. This applies even if an LEA has been operating full-time in-person instruction but does not apply to fully virtual schools and LEAs.

The IFR and ARP statute, along with other helpful resources, are located here:

- April 2021 Interim Final Requirements: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-04-22/pdf/2021-08359.pdf>
- ED Fact Sheet American Result Plan Act: https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/03/FINAL_ARP-ESSER-FACT-SHEET.pdf
- The American Rescue Plan Act: <https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr1319/BILLS-117hr1319enr.pdf>
- CDC COVID-19 School Operation Guidance: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html#anchor_1616080023247
- ED COVID-19 Handbook Volume I: <https://www2.ed.gov/documents/coronavirus/reopening.pdf>
- ED COVID-19 Handbook Volume II: <https://www2.ed.gov/documents/coronavirus/reopening-2.pdf>
- ESEA Evidence-Based Guidance: <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/07/guidanceuseinvestment.pdf>
- TEA ARP ESSER III Guidance: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/publish?EQBCT=f4b5d82938764f1f81573845021e58ed>

Pegasus School of Liberal Arts and Sciences Use of Funds Plan

1. The Pegasus School of Liberal Arts and Sciences will ensure that its ARP Funds meet all the required elements and are spent in an allowable manner.
2. ARP ESSER funds will be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent CDC guidance on reopening schools, to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning.

Pegasus School of Liberal Arts and Sciences continues to prioritize the prevention and mitigation of COVID-19 by adhering to the Center for Disease Control also known as CDC safety recommendations. During 2021-22 school year, Pegasus School will implement, to the extent possible, the following CDC safety recommendations:

- Encourage universal and correct wearing of masks.
 - Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing when possible.
 - Handwashing etiquette.
 - Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities.
 - Efforts to provide information and guidance to vaccination sites.
 - Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.
3. The district will address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, to the greatest extent practicable, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day or comprehensive after school programs.

Pegasus School is addressing the academic impact of loss of instructional time through a set of evidence-based activities and input received from our stakeholders after meaningful consultation with them.

The 20% set aside will be utilized during the following academic school years of 2021-23 by the implementation of the following evidence-based activities:

- Remediation pull-outs by interventionists in identified core subject areas such as Reading, Math, Science and Social Studies
 - These Interventionists will be working in coordination with the teacher of record to provide individualized and accelerated instruction.
- Small Group Intervention

- Class size will be reduced through the implementation of the use of interventionists in identified core classes.
 - Additionally class size in K-5 will be reduced through the use of Fine Arts teachers who will conduct classes simultaneously with core classes to allow targeted teaching.
 - Academic Saturday Schools and Accelerated Instruction
 - EOC Remediation
 - Schedule modifications have been implemented to allow extra time for additional focused instruction.
 - Before and after school tutoring
 - Additional online programs for at home use that will support students' academic needs.
4. The district will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act.

Pegasus School of Liberal Arts and Sciences plans to spend the remaining ARP ESSER III funds that were not designated to address the academic impact of lost instructional time in the following activities that are consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act.

- Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of the local educational agency, including buildings operated by such agencies.
- Purchasing educational technology (hardware, software, and connectivity) for students that aids in regular/substantive educational interaction between students and instructors, including low-income students, and students with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment.
- Planning and implementing activities such as small size class instruction, supplemental afterschool programs, or online learning programs addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care.
- Implement projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, through such activities as deep cleaning, and air filtering and purification systems.

5. The District will ensure that any implemented interventions, including those implemented under ARP section 2002(e)(1) to address the academic impact of lost instructional time, will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students.

Pegasus will ensure its interventions and other activities are responding to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of students disproportionately impacted by COVID-19:

- Students will be locally tested every 6 weeks or as needed to determine their academic's progress. After identifying the students' academic needs, small group instruction, before and /or after school tutoring will be assigned to specifically target the students' academic needs.
 - Students will be rotated and assigned to the interventionists and/or other activities as needed.
 - Extended learning endeavors (ELE) opportunities will be provided to the students with outside of school experiences.
 - Project Wild will allow hands-on activities that will allow students to experience hands-on activities and promote critical thinking.
 - Afterschool Art Clubs, Music Clubs and Sports will be reinstated to address student's physical and mental wellness.
6. The District plan is available to the public with an opportunity for continuous feedback.

Surveys and focus groups provided stakeholders with an opportunity to provide comments and feedback. The activities in this plan represent the feedback stakeholders provided and the allowable activities described in ARP Act. The District plan is available to the public with an opportunity for continuous feedback through a survey posted on the school's webpage.

7. The District engaged in timely and meaningful consultation with students, families, school and district administrators (including special education administrators), teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff and their unions, tribes, civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); and stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students.

Pegasus School of Liberal Arts and Sciences engaged in meaningful consultation with stakeholders that included but was not limited to parents, students, teachers, administrators, YMCA administrators, El Centro Community Members, members of special population groups and others. This consultation consisted of two parts. Initially, stakeholders completed a survey in which they provided initial feedback and consultation through several questions that include open ended questions, about the use of ARP ESSER III funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time on all students, through the implementation of evidence-based interventions. These surveys were available on May 17th, 2021. After the initial consultation was concluded, focus groups with stakeholders were held.

In addition, Pegasus School of Liberal Arts and Sciences provides the following assurances:

- The District engaged in meaningful consultation with the following groups:
 - a. Students, families, school, and district administrators (including special education administrators), teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions.
- The District engaged in meaningful consultation with each of the following groups, to the extent present in or served by the LEA:
 - b. Tribes, civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); and stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students.
- The District has created its plan in an understandable and uniform format.
- The District's plan is, to the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand, or if not practicable, orally translated.
- The District will, upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, provide the plan in an alternative format accessible to that parent.
- The District provided the public an opportunity to provide input on its plan and took such input into account.
- The District has made its plan publicly available on its website.
 - The link to the plan is here: <https://www.pegasuscharter.org/>

Pegasus School of Liberal Arts and Sciences Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

The Pegasus School of Liberal Arts and Sciences has developed a plan for ensuring safe in-person instruction and continuity of services.

1. The District has a plan that is already compliant and will review it every six months. See [Appendix 1](#).
2. The LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and LEA staff, and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the CDC's safety recommendations, including: universal and correct wearing of masks; modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing; handwashing and respiratory etiquette; cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation; contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments; diagnostic and screening testing; efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities; appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and coordination with State and local health officials. See Appendix 1.
3. The LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

The district will ensure continuity of services in case isolation, quarantine or future school closures are required by:

- Maintaining a 1:1 student computer ratio and adopting the virtual learning option.
 - Continue the use of computers, digital books and Classlink during in-person instruction to maintain continuity in the case of a required school closure.
 - Adopt Google classroom.
 - School and teachers will continue to provide any required accommodations to students' IEPs.
 - ESL Coordinators and ESL aides will continue to join classes and provide academic support to EL's.
4. The District sought public comments in the development of its plan and took those comments into account in the development of its plan.

Surveys and focus groups provided stakeholders with an opportunity to provide comments and feedback. All the activities that are presented in this plan line up

accordingly with the feedback stakeholders provided and the allowable activities described in ARP Act.

In addition, Pegasus School of Liberal Arts and Sciences provides the following assurances:

- The District made its plan publicly available no later than 30 days after receiving its ARP ESSER allocation.
 - The link to the plan is here: <https://www.pegasuscharter.org/>
- The District sought public comment in the development of its plan and took those public comments into account in the development of its plan.
- The District will periodically review and revise its plan, at least every six months.
- The District will seek public comment in determining whether to revise its plan and, if it determines revisions are necessary, on the revisions it makes to the plan.
- If the District revises its plan, it will ensure its revised plan addresses each of the aspects of safety currently recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), or if the CDC has revised its guidance, the updated safety recommendations at the time the LEA is revising its plan.
- The District has created its plan in an understandable and uniform format.
- The District's plan is, to the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand, or if not practicable, orally translated.
- The District will, upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, provide the plan in an alternative format accessible to that parent.

APPENDIX 1

Pegasus School of Liberal Arts and Sciences

www.pegasuscharter.org

1222 Commerce St. Suite 100 Dallas, TX 75201



Also referred as "Pegasus School".

Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services (RIPICS) Plan

Updated August 13, 2021

Pegasus School of Liberal Arts and Sciences commitment to ensure students safety will continue to be our top priority during this ever-changing situation.

Pegasus School return to campus protocols is detailed in this document. Pegasus School may need to change protocols at any time to address specific needs and circumstances to protect the health and safety of students, employees, and the community.

Health guidance cannot anticipate every situation. Pegasus will continue to consult available guidance through government agencies and will remain compliant with applicable federal, state, and local laws, mandates and policies that enhance and ensure safety standards.

Continuity of Service Plan

The district will ensure continuity of services in case isolation, quarantine or future school closures are required by:

- Maintaining a 1:1 student computer ratio and adopting the virtual learning option.
- Continue the use of computers, digital books and Classlink during in-person instruction to maintain continuity in the case of a required school closure.
- Adopt Google classroom as the learning management system.
- School and teachers will continue to provide any required accommodations to students' IEPs.
- ESL Coordinators and ESL aides will continue to join classes and provide academic support to EL's.

On Campus Face-to-Face Instruction Protocols and Procedures

Campus Screening Protocols:

Pegasus School faculty and staff will complete a self-screening for COVID-19 symptoms each day before entering our campus. Our campus entrance has two facial thermometers which are required to be used every time staff, students and visitors enter our campus.

- Employees who exhibit symptoms will be isolated from others and sent home.
- Parents and Guardians are required to screen their children for possible COVID-19 symptoms daily prior to sending their children to school.
- Students who present any symptoms should not be sent to school.
- Students with a temperature of 100.2⁰F or above, parents will be contacted and asked to pick up their children immediately.

Classroom Procedures

Classroom protocols and procedures will include:

- School supplies will not be shared to the maximum extent possible.
- Social distancing will be required as per CDC guidelines.
- Large group work will be limited.
- Hand washing and/or sanitizing will be promoted upon entering and leaving the classroom.
- Teachers will have access to disinfectant wipes to sanitize high-touch and working surfaces as well as shared objects.
- Face masks will either be encouraged, or if mandated, required.

Lunch Procedures

Based on building capacity and student enrollment, administrators will determine areas that may be utilized during lunch.

- Depending upon capacity, social distancing protocols will be encouraged.
- Hand washing and/or sanitizing will be promoted upon entering and leaving the classroom.
- Face masks will either be encouraged, or if mandated, required, while not eating or drinking.

Transitions Procedures

Movement will be staggered, when possible, to limit the number of students and staff present at a specific location at the same time. Traffic patterns will be established to separate individuals to the greatest extent possible.

Visitors on Campus Procedures

Campus visitors will be limited.

- Visitors are expected to comply with Pegasus School Campus Screening Protocols and must follow Pegasus School Procedures detailed in this document.

Water Fountain Procedures

Pegasus School will not allow students to utilize on-campus water fountains.

- Each classroom will be equipped with a water dispenser.
- Students can bring their own clear container to be refilled with water when needed or use Pegasus' disposable cups.

Beyond the Classroom

PE/Recess

- Proper social distancing will be monitored by teachers and support staff.
- Face masks will either be encouraged, or if mandated, required.
- The number of students in PE will be dependent on enrollment and staffing.

Music and Art Classes

- Proper social distancing will be monitored by teachers.
- Shared music instruments will be sanitized appropriately.
- The sharing of art supplies will be limited as much as possible.