

2021-24 American Rescue Plan

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund

53D Lake Wales Charter Schools ARP ESSER Plan,

Application and Assurances

**Lake Wales Charter Schools – 53D**

**Purpose**

Florida must subgrant not less than 90 percent of its total ARP ESSER allocation to local educational agencies (LEAs) (including charter schools that are LEAs) to help meet a wide range of needs arising from the coronavirus pandemic, including reopening schools safely, sustaining their safe operation, and addressing students’ social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs resulting from the pandemic. The State must allocate these funds to LEAs on the basis of their respective shares of funds received under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) in fiscal year (FY) 2020.

The purpose of this document is to guide districts to plan for the continued implementation of reopening and recovery through the utilization of the 2021-24 ARP ESSER and to assure federal requirements are met. Florida utilized the 2020-21 District Reopening Plan and the Spring 2021 Education Plan to respond to and mitigate the impact of the emergency and to promote the health, safety, and welfare of persons connected with Florida’s educational system.

The Department recognizes that the safe return to in-person instruction must be accompanied by a focus on meeting students’ academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs, and by addressing the opportunity gaps that existed before – and were exacerbated by – the pandemic. In this document, districts will describe how they will support the development of high-quality plans for the use of ARP ESSER funds to achieve these objectives for the following student groups: students from low-income families, from each racial or ethnic background, by gender, English Language Learners, students with disabilities, experiencing homelessness, in foster care, migratory students and other student groups.

**Directions**

Districts shall submit its ARP ESSER application to the Office of Grants Management via ShareFile **on or before November 12, 2021**. ShareFile access has been established for the ARP ESSER Lump Sum program for each LEA. The complete application shall include:

* LEA ARP ESSER Plan, Application and Assurances utilizing this template;
* DOE 100A Project Application Form; and
* DOE 101 Budget Narrative Form.

Each LEA developed and made publicly available on the LEA’s website a plan for the safe return of in-person learning in the Fall of 2020. This was before the enactment of the ARP Act. This plan must be updated to address the requirements of the U.S. Department of Education’s Interim Final Rule, 88 FR 21195. The requirements of the Interim Final Rule are summarized in Appendix A. Each LEA shall seek public comment on the updated plan and take such comments into account prior to the submission of the final plan to the Department. Updated plans must comply with state law, including any applicable executive order, any agency emergency action, or any agency regulation or rule. No later than 60 days from receipt of its DOE 200, Project Award Notice, each LEA shall email its updated final plan to recoveryplan@fldoe.org. The subject line of the email must include district name and Plan for the Safe Return of In-person Instruction. Upon the Department’s approval, the LEA shall post this plan on the LEA’s website within 90 days of the award.

**Part I: Implementation Plan**

**The LEA will submit an implementation plan, outlining planned activities for each of the following uses of funds under section 2001(e) of the ARP Act. The description must be adequate to ascertain that the proposed use of funds is necessary to prevent, prepare for, or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, including its impact on the social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs of students.**

**Activities should be numbered consecutively. If the LEA does not plan any activities for one or more authorized uses, please indicate that there are no planned activities. School district LEAs shall include the activities identified for charter schools within the LEA, aggregated at the district/LEA level.**

**Activity 1**: **Addressing Learning Loss (at least 20% of total allocation).** Of the total amount allocated to an LEA, the LEA must reserve at least 20 percent of funds 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, and ensure that those interventions respond to students’ social, emotional, and academic needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups (each major racial and ethnic group, children from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, gender, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care). Each of the seven school locations will have ten tutors to tutor two hours two days a week for twelve weeks. Transportation will be provided for tutoring and summer enrichment.

Lake Wales Charter Schools will exceed the required 20% allocation to address learning loss by the use of additional staff members identified to service specific academic needs for each school location as well as adding additional certified teachers and paras to work with students with disabilities, students who are English language learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, students in foster care, and students from low-income families. The LEA will also hire additional Social Workers and attendance paraprofessionals to address the students’ social and emotional needs; additional attendance paras to work with families to address attendance issues that are preventing students from attending school regularly (SB 590 also allows Social Workers to provide mental health services in schools. Lake Wales Charter Schools’ stakeholders offered valuable input through their participation in a survey regarding the mitigation of Covid-19 in our schools and how they felt the LEA could address learning loss. The stakeholders felt that installing air purification systems in the schools would help to mitigate the spread of Covid-19 in our schools. Stakeholders also felt the additional staff would help re-capture learn loss due to Covid-19 as well extending the school year by offering summer school systemwide.

**Activity 2** (**A**) **Any activity authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.**

Lake Wales Charter Schools will offer additional instruction through before, after, and summer school opportunities system-wide. Students will be identified through progress monitoring data to participate. Activity 1 - Parents will be invited to parent informational meetings to gather their input on avenues they feel with assist students with eliminating the achievement gaps. Students will receive additional academic support before and after school with additional opportunities to participate in summer learning. The LEA offered feedback and suggestions from community members, staff members, parents, and business partners on avenues to address learning loss and mitigate the spread of Covid-19. Activity 2 – transportation will be offer to allow more students to participate. The LEA will start with ten (10) certified teachers at each location (total of 70 certified teachers throughout the LEA) offering additional supplemental academic support for at least two afternoons weekly for twenty weeks. Activity 3 – The LEA will also hire Academic Coaches (Interventionist) to work with students during the school day to offer support when students are unable to participate in after school or summer school learning. These individuals will meet with students daily throughout the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years to offer additional support for benchmarks the students are having difficulty with learning during their traditional classes.

**Activity 2** (B) **Any activity authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act**

Lake Wales Charter Schools will continue to employ the three additional ESE certified teachers and at least seven more ESE certified teachers and paras during the 2021-22 and the 2022-23 school years to offer smaller class sizes for ESE students. The additional staff will also allow for ESE students to receive more direct instruction for specific needs. Students will be able to focus on loss learning needs by receiving direct instruction on benchmarks they are lacking. Additional paraprofessionals will also work directly with students on academic needs identified by their IEPs. The additional ESE teachers and paraprofessionals will also offer extended day and summer learning opportunities for students with disabilities. Certified behavioral specialist (Registered Behavioral Technicians - RBTs) position will be included to provide additional support to students in elementary, middle, and high school due to the increased number of behavioral incidents that are occurring due to the pandemic.

**Activity 2** (C) **Any activity authorized by the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act.**

Lake Wales Charter Schools will not utilize any of the ARP ESSER 3 funds for this activity.

**Activity 2** (D) **Any activity authorized by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006.**

Lake Wales Charter Schools will utilize ARP ESSER 3 funds to address staffing needs for the Early Childhood and Teacher Career Academy and the Design Technology and Innovations Academy. There is a need to have an additional teaching unit in each academy to allow for additional students to participate as well as increase the direct instruction for the students who are enrolled in these two academies. Additional supplies will also be purchased to allow the students more hands-on experiences.

**Activity 2** (E) **Coordination of preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies with State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments, and other relevant agencies, to improve coordinated responses among such entities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.**

Activity 1 - Lake Wales Charter Schools will partner with the local health department to ensure direct instruction in following the CDC guidelines on each school campus and school buses. The LEA will also promote transparency with parents and community stakeholders through direct communication with healthcare professionals, the LEA websites, and Connect-ED calling system to parents. Activity 2 - The LEA will offer face-to face learning five days a week brick and mortar, where students will receive direct instruction from state certified teachers. During times of school closures, the LEA will offer digital learning through prescribed district approved platforms where certified teachers will lead digital learning until the schools are re-opened. These closures can be due to covid-19 outbreaks situations where traveling to schools are deemed unsafe.

**Activity 2** (F) **Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth, including how outreach and service delivery will meet the needs of each population.**

Activity 1 - The LEA will provide Chromebook or digital devices as well as internet connectivity, as needed to low-income students, students who are experiencing homelessness, foster care youth, ethnic minorities, ELLs, and students with disabilities. Activity 2 - Lake Wales Charter Schools will continue the employment of 19 certified teachers to serve as Interventionists. These teachers will work specifically to address learning loss due to the pandemic. The Interventionist will pull students during the school day for small group instruction to assist with tailoring academic lessons to ensure students are allowed to learn or in some cases re-learn benchmarks that they are struggling to learn. Activity 3 - The LEA will hire three additional certified ESE teachers to provide innovative lessons to students who have Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) which offers students an additional direct teacher to lower the teacher/student ratio. Activity 4 - The LEA will also hire three additional certified teachers to lower class size. Activity 5 - ELL students, students experiencing homelessness and foster care, students with disabilities, and low socio-economic students will be offered additional face to face tutoring when necessary before school, during school, after school as well as during the summer. Activity 6 - The LEA will offer transportation as needed to ensure the students will be allowed to attend.

**Activity 2** (G) **Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies.**

Activity 1 - Lake Wales Charter Schools will update the websites for all locations to mainstream communication for parents and community members. The LEA will partner with Khan Academy as well as using the Schoology platform to offer additional support for online and distance learning when needed due to school closures for covid-19. The LEA will also partner with sponsor district to ensure a seamless line of communication for parents and community members. Activity 2 – Teachers and staff members will participate in professional development with all digital platforms being used in case of school closure due to Covid-19.

**Activity 2** (H) **Training and professional development for staff of the local educational agency on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.**

Activity 1 - The LEA will partner with the local health department to acquire trainings for staff and students on airborne pathogens. Professional development will be offered to all cleaning staff and the LEA’s Health Director through the local health department on cleaning as well as how to establish ongoing and environmental cleaning for high touch and traffic areas. The LEA’s Health Director will offer all staff professional development on environmental cleaning for their areas and departments. Under the guidance of the local health department, the LEA will respond to confirmed or suspected cases of covid-19 based on the CDC guidelines.

**Activity 2** (I) **Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a local educational agency, including buildings operated by such agency.**

Activity 1 - Lake Wales Charter Schools will provide each school location and school buses with sanitation supplies to include disinfection foggers, disinfectants, hand sanitizers, protective materials, and additional cleaning supplies. Activity 2 - Lake Wales Charter Schools will contract with a sanitation and cleaning company to offer deep cleaning for schools before school starts as well as in the event of an outbreak at the school locations. The system-wide cleaning company will be certified in hazardous cleaning and sanitation to head up the sanitation and cleaning of each school location. Activity 3 - The LEA will provide reusable masks for staff and students as needed (approximately 5,450 students and 580 staff members which includes our transportation department. Activity 4 – The LEA will offer additional hours to bus drivers to clean and sanitize the buses daily after their final routes have been completed for the day

**Activity 2** **(J**) **Planning for, coordinating, and implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students, providing technology for online learning to all students, providing guidance for carrying out requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and ensuring other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all Federal, State,**

**and local requirements.**

Activity 1 - In the event of school closure, Lake Wales Charter Schools will utilize the transportation department to cover school routes to deliver meals and technology to locations within the school zones (pocket stops) where students who are from low socioeconomic families reside. The buses will run five days a week to offer lunch for the current day and breakfast for the following day. On Fridays, students will be issued food for weekend meals as well as the meal for Friday. Activity 2 - School locations will have devices that have been assigned to students on the bus routes to be handed out. The buses will be staffed with a minimum of three transportation staff to ensure the effectiveness of the deliveries. Activity 3 - Students who prefer paper pencil packets for distance learning will also receive their assignments from their bus locations. Activity 4 - Students with IEPs will interact with their classroom teachers as well as three additional certified ESE teachers to enhance services aligned with their IEPs to assist with learning loss and credit recovery. Home visits will be made as needed ensuring that the CDC guidelines are followed, for all students as well as students who are experiencing homelessness, have an IEP, are ELLs, foster care youth, and to students that have mental health needs. Activity 6 - Students in need of extended or more defined mental health needs, will be given a referral for assistance with the community’s local mental health counselors.

**Activity 2(K) Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the local educational agency 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.**

Activity 1 - The LEA will provide Chromebook or digital devices as well as internet connectivity, as needed to students. Activity 2 - The LEA will provide innovative online learning through the use of digital platforms that the students are already familiar with using allowing students to have a direct to their teachers and resource instructions as if the students were sitting in the classrooms. Activity 3 - The LEA will offer additional face to face and online tutoring when necessary. Students will be allowed to participate in before school tutoring, after school tutoring as well as summer tutoring to minimize loss of learning and close achievement gaps.

**Activity 2(L) Providing mental health services and supports, including through the implementation of evidence-based full-service community schools.**

Activity 1 - Lake Wales Charter Schools will add an additional three social workers and three attendance paraprofessionals to the current nine social workers system-wide for two years to assist students with social and emotional health needs and supports. The LEA will utilize the additional social workers to focus on students experiencing homelessness, migrant students, ESE students, and students in foster care. The LEA will utilize the attendance paraprofessionals to work closely with the schools’ social workers and guidance teams to address attendance issues removing barriers to the students’ academic success. The LEA currently has school based mental health staff such as social workers and guidance counselors to assist with a variety of concerns including, but not limited to, depression, anxiety, relationship difficulties, grief and loss, interpersonal skill development, and more. A parent’s or legal guardian’s signed permission is needed for ongoing services. School based mental health staff will contact students needing services weekly. When needed, referrals will be made for students to visit either face-to-face or online with mental health facilities in the area. The additional social workers will ensure all students who need social and emotional assistance have more time with trained staff to assist their needs. Activity 2 - In addition, classroom presentations on character education, anti-bullying, problem solving, suicide prevention, and social skill development are provided by social workers, guidance counselors, and school psychologist who are a part of the LEA staff. All staff provide individual emotional support, group and individual skill building, crisis support, parent conflict resolution, and youth and parent support groups. Activity 3 – The LEA will purchase additional components of the students’ SIS system (FOCUS) – not given to them by their sponsor district – to track social and emotional concerns of students. These components are vital to ensure that as students move through the district, their social and emotional needs can be addressed at each grade span. Lake Wales Charter Schools has many students who have been affected by Covid-19 so it is extremely important that the students social and emotional needs are made available to each grade so that their needs can also be a part of their focus.

**Activity 2(M) Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs, including providing classroom instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care.**

Activity 1 - The LEA will extend the learning by offering before school, after school, and summer enrichment tutors to all students including providing classroom instruction during the summer months to address needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care. Before school, after school and summer school/tutoring will be offered based on the students' academic needs aligned with removing any achievement gaps due to the closure of schools during the pandemic or because of increment weather. Each student at risk or academically needy will be invited to participate in the face to face tutoring conducted by the students' schools of origin. Activity 2 - Each student will participate in pre- and post- assessments to ensure the academic needs are addressed. Before and after school tutoring programs will be available through the entire school year as needed by the students offering up to 7 additional hours of additional academic instruction weekly. Activity 3 - Teachers will be offered special activity pay to conduct tutoring. Activity 4 – Teachers and staff members will participate in professional development opportunities to ensure they are prepared to offer additional academic support to students who are experiencing homelessness, ESOL, migrant, foster care, or ESE. These professional development opportunities will include trainings in reading and math interventions as well as tiered support.

**Activity 2(N) 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 by—**

**(i) administering and using high-quality assessments that are valid and reliable, to accurately assess students’ academic progress and assist educators in meeting students’ academic needs, including through differentiating instruction;**

**(ii) implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students;**

**(iii) providing information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment; and**

**(iv) tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education.**

Activity 1 - Lake Wales Charter Schools has brought on 15 additional certified teachers to work as academic interventionist with ESSER 2 funds and will keep them in the Interventionist positions and bring on an additional seven Interventionist positions continue the address learning loss among ESE, ELL, students experiencing homelessness, and migrant students. These teachers will work closely within each grade level with the classroom teachers to address learning loss and academic acceleration. Activity 2 - The interventionist will offer small group instruction with students who are struggling to meet grade level and graduation requirements. Student will be ability-grouped to ensure remediation is tailored to their specific needs. Activity 3 - Interventionist will work to ensure ELL students, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care students are offered additional support to meet grade level promotion requirements and graduation requirements. Activity 4 - The LEA has placed an additional social worker and instructional teacher along with an interventionist teacher at the LEA’s highest poverty school location, Janie Howard Wilson (100% Free/Reduced Lunch) to support learning loss, unregistered students, mental health needs, attendance concerns, and academic acceleration. Activity 5 - The LEA also placed additional staff to include an additional Certified ESE teacher, and interventionist teacher Polk Avenue Elementary school who also has a 100% poverty rate. Janie Howard Wilson Elementary school and Polk Avenue Elementary School have high populations of migrant students, ELL students and students with disability.

(i) Activity 1 - Lake Wales Charter Schools will utilize FSA data from the 2020-21 school year when available, along with progress monitoring through MAPs which is used for progress monitoring three times annually for each school location. Students participate in progress monitoring annually in August, December, and April. Activity 2 - The results of FSA and progress monitoring will be used as benchmarks for teachers to address learning loss and academic acceleration needs. These programs are funded through local and other federal funds along with private donations.

(ii) Activity 1 - Students in grades K-2 will participate in evidenced based vocabulary curriculum funded by the High-Quality Reading Grant. Activity 2 - Students in grades 3-12 will participate in evidence-based Khan Academy strategies to address academic needs and acceleration. These activities will be assessed quarterly to ensure academic needs are being met. Activity 3 - Students will also be offered additional tutoring opportunities before school, after school, and during the summer.

(iii) Activity 1 - Lake Wales Charter Schools have implemented digital devices for all students and update the teachers’ devices as needed. The teacher devices will be updated to be compatible with the digital platforms used to address continued academics during times of school closures due to Covid-19. During times of closure, schools will be able to continue the educational process through the use of digital devices and prescribed academic platforms such Schoology (4,800 students @ $5.80 each K-12th grade), iStation (2,400 elementary students @ $4.95 each), Ready Gen (2,400 elementary students @ $15.52 each), Edgenuity (2,750 middle/high students @ $18.71 each), Naviance (2,750 middle/high students @ $ 5.61 each), Blocksi (2,750 middle/high students @ $5.57 each), Swank ($750 per school for 7 schools), Screencastity ($1,000 per school for 7 schools), Peardeck ($4,019 for 1,550 high school students @ $2.59 each) , Managebac (Faria services) (5,150 students K-12th grade @ $1.82 each), Kognity (1,550 high school students at @ $3.03 each), BrainPOP (2,400 elementary students @ $2.14 each), USA Test Prep (2,400 elementary students @ $1.50 each), Generation Genius (2,400 elementary students @ $4.13 each), Follett Software (2,400 elementary students @ $7.35 each), Renaissance Learning (2,400 elementary students @ 5.85 each), and Top Score Write ($2,000 for each of the four elementary schools), Advent for ELLs (400 students K-12 @ $7.25 each), Renaissance Learning (4,900 students K-12th grade @ $5.15each), These programs are used in daily classroom academics and vital for the continuation of learning during school closures due to covid-19 or increment weather to support 2,400 elementary students, 1,200 middle school students, and 1,550 high school students.

(iv) Activity 1 – Lake Wales Charter Schools will utilize the FOCUS SIS system to track student attendance data as well as student demographic information. This system will allow for all student to be housed in a centralized location to be used by the MIS to report data to FDOE for Survey periods. All school locations will be open five days a week with no option for E-learning during the 2021-22 school year unless the schools are closed e to a natural disaster. Activity 2 - Lake Wales Charter Schools will have social workers and attendance paraprofessionals assigned to each school to assist with attendance issue that may arise. Social workers and attendance paraprofessionals will utilize FOCUS, the student data housing system to run reports on student attendance with triggers to notify parents if their student is absent. SEL staff members will work closely with the schools’ leadership teams to communicate with parents when students have been absent for three days with additional alerts if students are absent for five days. The LEA will form a truancy procedure manual to address habitual absence issues to include social workers, principals, district leaders, and local authorities.

**Activity 2(O) School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.**

Activity 1 - Lake Wales Charter Schools will purchase and install plexiglass barriers, and floor signage to promote social distancing for all locations. Activity 2 - Filtration systems to attach to the air conditioning units in all locations and air filtration machines will be available for all locations to use. Activity 3 - The LEA will ensure that all classrooms and office have hand sanitizing stations, disinfectant wipes and sprays. Activity 4 - Lake Wales Charter Schools will also contract with one cleaning service to ensure continuity in cleaning all school locations. Activity 5 - Day porters are assigned to each location to ensure cleaning of high traffic areas will be conducted throughout the day allowing for the system-wide cleaning company to conduct deep cleaning of the facilities every night. Activity 6 - Ionic foggers will be used to spray high traffic areas and school buses daily.

**Activity 2(P) Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and nonmechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door repair and replacement.**

Activity 1 - Lake Wales Charter Schools will advertise a Request for Proposal to invest in air filtration systems for each school location to ensure purification and air cleaning. Activity 2 - Facilities will replace air filters for air conditioning units more frequently. In auditoriums and cafeterias, ceiling fans will be running during usage. Activity 3 - School buses will change air filters bi-weekly as well as use windows for additional ventilation.

**Activity 2(Q) Developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent possible and not inconsistent with state law, policies in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff.**

Lake Wales Charter Schools will work closely with the Polk County Health Department and local medical doctors to revise their re-opening plan for the LEA. To ensure continuity of cleaning of the school facilities, the LEA will contract with one sanitation company to clean and sanitize the school facilities.

**Activity 2(R) Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in local educational agencies and continuing to employ existing staff of the local educational agency.**

Activity 1 - Lake Wales Charter Schools will partner with the local health department for contact tracing. Each school location and school bus will have seating charts at all times. Activity 2 - The LEA will allow teacher movement as much as possible verses students changing classes when possible. Activity 3 - Additional outdoor activities will be made available to allow for students to be outdoors verses in classrooms. Activity 4 – Additional picnic benches will be installed on campuses to allow for outdoor classroom settings when possible. Activity 5 - The LEA’s health director will be in constant contact with the local health department and sponsor district, Polk County Schools to ensure protocols are in place and being followed as new information is released regarding covid-19 and in situations of incremental weather. Activity 6 – With Covid it has become increasingly difficult to hire certified teachers so it is vital to keep those you have. The LEA will offer retention bonuses to all staff over the next three years. Activity 7 – The LEA will hire an additional middle school principal due to the pandemic over the next three years. Oftentimes, the district is scrambling for administrative coverage for the approximately 1,200 middle school students due to the school administrators being out due to Covid-19. Activity 8 – Reimburse the Covid trust – spend for testing and claims with Covid-19 diagnosis.

**Activity 2 (S) Administration. LEAs may take reasonable and necessary administrative costs, to include direct and indirect costs. Indirect costs may be taken up to the negotiated, unrestricted indirect cost rate. However, to ensure that the total administrative costs are reasonable, the total direct and indirect costs may not exceed five percent (5%) of the LEA’s total award.**

Activity 1 - Lake Wales Charter Schools will include indirect cost at the approved rate of 2.3% for the administrative cost of administering ARP ESSER.

**Part II: Ensuring Effectiveness of Interventions**

**Please describe how the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act 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 and youth in foster care, and migratory students.** **In your response, please include a description of interventions and strategies that are aligned to the LEA’s data (disaggregated by subgroup), and describe how the LEA will measure the effectiveness of the selected interventions.**

Lake Wales Charter Schools professional learning committees at each school will meet monthly with each grade levels and departments to discuss the students academic progress data. Students will participate in Florida’s standardized testing as well as progress monitoring. Progress monitoring will occur three times annually – beginning of the school year (September); middle of the school year (January), and at the end of the school year (May) to track the students’ academic growth. Bi-weekly each department head will meet with school leadership and the superintendent to discuss academics, school needs, as well as student data. Quarterly each school meets together (Data Days) to address the students’ academic progress ensure that students are assigned to the areas that need additional focus. Each student will receive a report card every nine weeks of school to be distributed to parents via the student backpacks. This information is also available through the student’s data housing software (FOCUS) where parents are given a secure password to review their student’s academic progress regularly. Parents are encouraged through notices sent home, schools ‘social media sites, and the LEA’s call out system (ConnectEd) to review their student’s academic data. Quarterly each school will evaluate the students’ academic performance and revise as needed.

**Part III LEA Plan for Safe Return of In-Person Instruction**

Each LEA developed and made publicly available on the LEA’s website a plan for the safe return of in-person learning in the Fall of 2020. This was before the enactment of the ARP Act. This plan must be updated to address the requirements of the U.S. Department of Education’s Interim Final Rule, 88 FR 21195. The Interim Final Rule “does not mandate that an LEA adopt the CDC guidance, but only requires that the LEA describe in its plan the extent to which it has adopted the key prevention and mitigation strategies identified in the guidance.” 88 FR at 21200. Any updated LEA plan must be consistent with state law, including any applicable executive order, any agency emergency order, or any agency regulation or rule. Note specifically that LEA policies must comply with section 381.00316, Florida Statutes, and that any policies implemented after August 9, 2021 must comply with Florida Department of Health Rule 64DER21 -12, F.A.C., and any policies implemented after September 22, 2021 must comply with Florida Department of Health Rule 64DER21-15, F.A.C.

Each LEA must seek public comment on the plan and take such comments into account prior to submission of the final plan to the Department within 60 days of the award. Upon the Department’s approval, the LEA shall post this updated plan on the LEA’s website within 90 days of the award.

[x] By checking this box, the LEA acknowledges the requirement that each LEA shall update its Plan for Safe Return of In-Person Instruction to reflect the requirements stated above, shall seek public comment on the updated plan and take such comments into account prior to the submission of the final plan to the Department within 60 days of the award. Upon the Department’s approval, the LEA shall post this updated plan on the LEA’s website within 90 days of the award.

**Part IV: Assurances**

 **The district must agree to ALL of the assurances by checking the corresponding boxes.**

[x]  **Assurance 1: LEA Periodic Plan Update with Public Comment.**  As required in the U.S. Department of Education’s Interim Final Rule, 88 FR 21195, the LEA must regularly, but no less frequently than every six months, review and as appropriate, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. In determining whether revisions are necessary, and in making any revisions, the LEA must seek public input and take such input into account. If at the time the LEA revises its plan the CDC has updated its guidance on reopening schools, the revised plan must address the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies, and describe any policies, for each of the updated safety recommendations. Significantly, the Interim Final Rule “does not mandate that an LEA adopt the CDC guidance, but only requires that the LEA describe in its plan the extent to which it has adopted the key prevention and mitigation strategies identified in the guidance.” 88 FR at 21200. Any updated LEA plan must be consistent with state law, including any applicable executive order, any agency emergency order, or any agency regulation or rule. Specifically, LEA policies must comply with section 381.00316, Florida Statutes, and any policies implemented after August 9, 2021 must comply with Florida Department of Health Rule 64DER21 -12, F.A.C., and any policies implemented after September 22, 2021 must comply with Florida Department of Health Rule 64DER21-15, F.A.C.

[x]  **Assurance 2: Continue progress monitoring and interventions.** The district agrees to provide robust progress monitoring and requisite interventions must be extended to all students with tiered support for students who are performing below grade level and are not making adequate progress. Students who are receiving instruction through innovative teaching methods must transition to another teaching method if they fail to make adequate progress. The district agrees to provide monthly progress monitoring reports to parent/guardians for students identified as performing below grade level and/or demonstrating decline on the district’s progress monitoring system.

[x]  **Assurance 3: Allowable Uses of Funds.** The LEA will use funds for activities allowable under section 2001(e) of the CRRSA Act.

[x]  **Assurance 4: Maintenance of Equity.** The LEA will comply with all requirements relating to Maintenance of Equity, in accordance with section 2004(c) of the ARP Act.

[x]  **Assurance 5: Reporting.** The LEA will comply with all reporting requirements, and submit required reports to the Florida Department of Education at such time and in such manner and containing such information as the department may subsequently require.

[x]  **Assurance 6: Audits, Inspections or Examinations.** The LEA will cooperate with any examination of records with respect to such funds by making records available for inspection, production, and examination, and authorized individuals available for interview and examination, upon the request of (i) the Florida Department of Education, the Florida Auditor General; (ii) the Department and/or its Inspector General; or (iii) any other federal or state agency, commission, or department in the lawful exercise of its jurisdiction and authority.

**Acknowledgement**

Local Educational Agency Chief Executive Officer or Authorized Representative

Alricky Smith – Superintendent & CFO

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| **Name and title of person responsible for completion and submission**  |
| Angela Heyward – Director of Federal Programs |
| **Contact information: email, phone number** |
| angela.heyward@lwcharterschools.com, 863-679-6560 ext. 1236 |
| **Superintendent signature (or authorized representative)** |
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