**Proposal for an additional Certified Teacher at Elementary Schools:**

Our proposal is to supply an additional certified teacher to our elementary schools for the 2021-2022 school year in order to service the needs of some of our struggling students who due to the pandemic did not reach the grade level benchmarks required to be ready for the next level of school. Each school will have the autonomy and flexibility to structure this position in the manner in which best suits the needs of that particular school as approved by the central office. For example, if one school believes a pull-out intervention teacher is the best approach for their staff and students that could be the additional teacher for that school. Another option would be a certified teacher to lead a transition room that helps students “catch-up” or “accelerate” on the skills they were to have already mastered while still receiving instruction on the grade level standards. Also with the passing of Senate Bill 128, which creates the Supplemental School Year Program, we may need an additional teacher for any student who wishes to use the 2021-2022 school year as a supplemental year to retake courses the student already has taken. This would be pending board approval as well. Our goal with these positions would be to provide our schools with the appropriate staff that is required to meet the needs of our students as we transition out of the pandemic which caused for several of our kids to receive instruction virtually when in-person instruction is a better route for them. We want to ensure that we provide the necessary supports so that every student in Simpson County is grade level ready and we believe that our greatest asset we can use to achieve our goal is our human resources…our teachers!

These additional certified positions will be funded with ESSER II funds.