

**TO:** Christian County Board of Education

**FROM:** Jessica Darnell, Director of Business

**DATE:** June 13, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Application for Extension of ARP ESSER Funds

Christian County Public Schools was awarded \$31,953,616 in federal ARP ESSER Funds as the third round of stimulus funding in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. When these funds were awarded, KDE required the Districts to allocate at least 20% of the award for Learning Loss and provide an ARP ESSER spending plan, reopening and continuation of services plan, and budget. All documents were approved by the Board and placed on the CCPS website in accordance with KDE requirements.

Since that time, CCPS has utilized the 20% Learning Loss allocation of ARP ESSER funds for freshmen seminar teachers, guidance counselors, summer learning opportunities, Camp Kinder, and various other education initiatives, including technology software and hardware. The remaining 80% of the ARP ESSER allocation was budgeted for use in the new Christian County High School construction project.

Since there was such an influx of federal funding during the pandemic, many districts have been trying to spend funds in order to meet federal deadlines. The deadline for ARP ESSER funding is September 30, 2024. This means that all expenditures for the grant would have to be paid by this date. However, many districts have struggled in meeting this deadline. Therefore, the KDE has initiated an application for extension of the deadline for spending funds. At this time, approximately 40 districts intend to apply for an extension and many of those districts are also using ARP ESSER funds for construction projects.

We are requesting board approval for extension of \$15,558,291 of ARP ESSER funding to a new deadline of January 31, 2026. The attached document is the required application from KDE which outlines the calculation of the amount of ARP ESSER funds to be extended to the new deadline.