# Northwest BOCES
# ESSER I

Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) are an important and vital part of the public educational system in Colorado. BOCES services are those needed by children, their families, and school personnel, which can be more efficiently provided across school districts — examples include services to support special education needs and professional development for educators. Colorado's BOCES (or Educational Services agencies) are unique in that they are an extension of the local member school districts. A BOCES in Colorado exists at the discretion of its members and provides only those programs and services authorized by its members.

## Federal Stimulus Funding for Northwest BOCES

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| **How much funding was allocated to Northwest BOCES?** | **ESSER I Additional Information**<br>**Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2022** |
|---|---|
| **ESSER I (CARES Act): $0.00**<br>**Addressing the immediate crisis**<br>**Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2022** | **ESSER I** funds provided vital resources to districts to address the social and economic disruption caused by the coronavirus outbreak that impacted all school districts starting in March 2020.<br><br>The decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is **inherently and intentionally local** as school communities are best equipped to identify and address their most urgent local needs. **The top uses of ESSER I funds for our district are provided in the explanation below.** |
| **ESSER II (CRRSA Act): $100,064.67**<br>**Providing stability and managing the health crisis**<br>**Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2023** | |
| **ESSER III (ARP Act): $117,601.72**<br>**Recovery and acceleration**<br>**Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2024**<br>**Use of Funds Plan** | |
| **GEER (Other):** | |

**Amounts above include both the BOCES and AU (if applicable), as well as any ESSER supplemental funds provided to BOCES. An acronyms glossary is available below.**

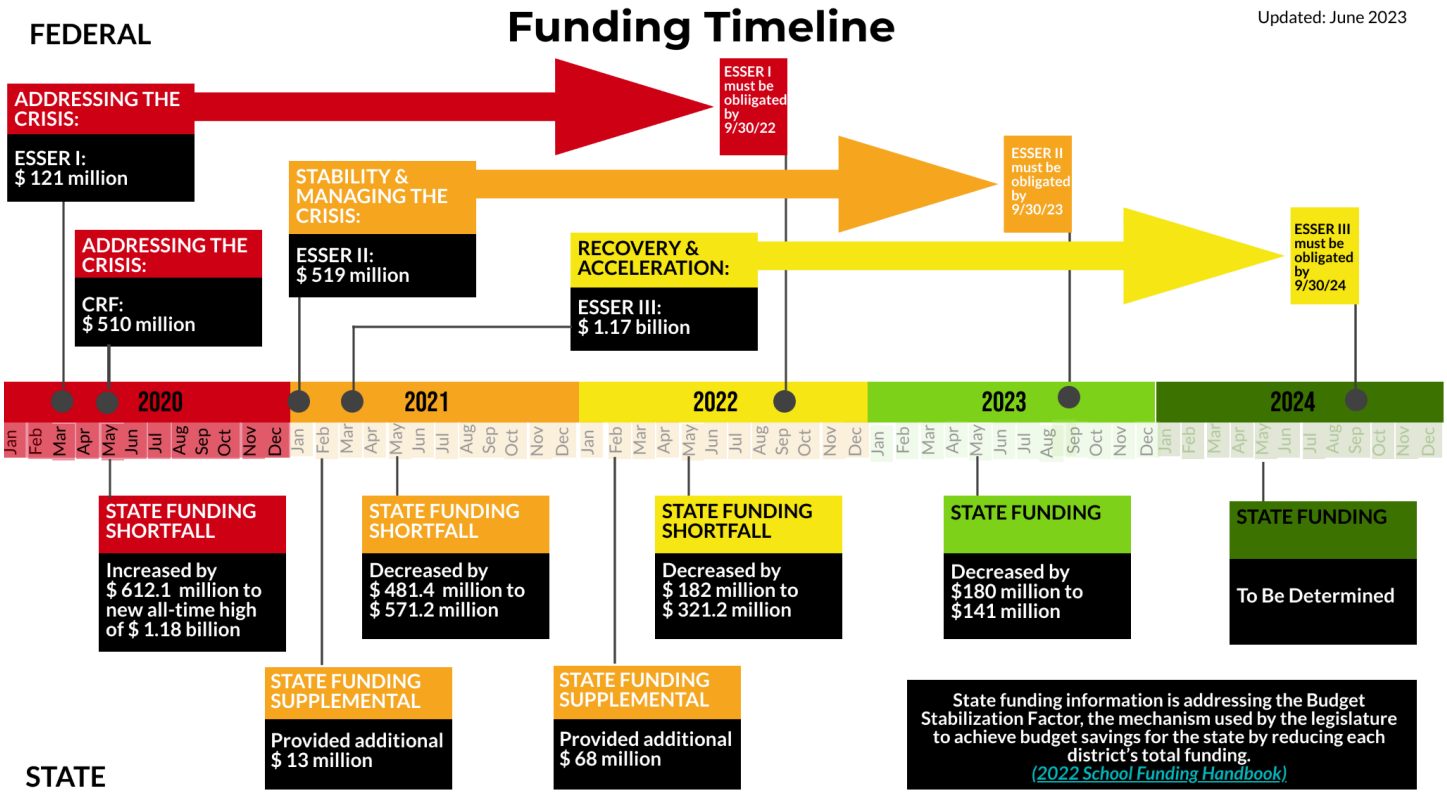
### How are students being supported through the use of federal stimulus dollars?

**The federal stimulus dollars are a once-in-a-generation opportunity to support our students and to address the multi-year effects of the coronavirus pandemic.** The decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is inherently and intentionally local as school communities are best equipped to identify and address their most urgent local needs in order to:

- **Create safe and healthy learning environments**
- **Address lost instructional time**

- **Meet mental health needs of students and staff**
- **Support educators and staff stability and well-being**

In addition to mitigating the effects of the pandemic, the shortfall in state funding to Colorado schools during the 2020-21 school year doubled and the one-time federal stimulus funds helped to temporarily mitigate the significant loss in funding to school districts. As Colorado spends less on education per student than most other states, a teacher shortage existed before the pandemic making it difficult for school districts to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers. **While all the one-time federal stimulus dollars will expire by September 30, 2024, they have supported local students and communities weather the effects of the pandemic.**



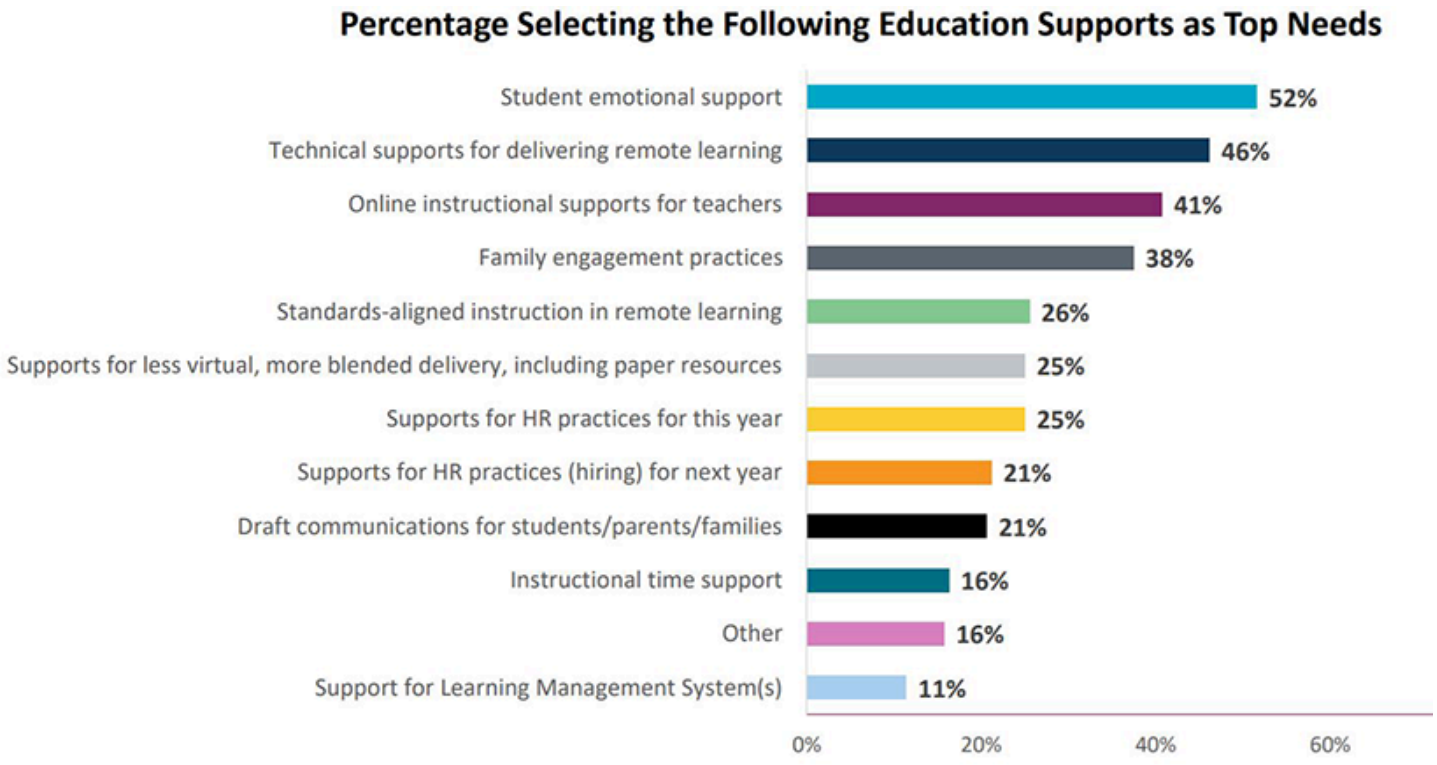

## ESSER I — Addressing the immediate crisis

### Expenditures allowed through Sept. 30, 2022

In March 2020, the CARES Act established the Education Stabilization Fund, which initially provided funding for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) I Fund. **ESSER I Fund dollars were appropriated to states based on the 2019-20 Title I shares with 90% allocated to local education agencies (LEAs) that received a Title I allocation in the most recent fiscal year and the remaining 10% for a state reserve fund.** ESSER I funding for **Northwest BOCES** was based on its **Title I allocation** and an **ESSER I supplemental** made by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). View CDE's Federal COVID Education Funding website for additional details.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, CDE administered the district and charter needs inventory from late March to early April. Statewide, the top four education supports identified as the top priorities across all regions of the state were: student emotional support; technical support for

delivering remote learning; online instructional support for teachers; and family engagement practices. While there was variability in the top community need identified across regions, **internet connectivity** and **food access** were the two community needs that commonly appeared as a top need in most regions across the state.[1] The following chart summarizes the percentages of districts selecting the following education supports as top needs during March and April 2020.




Source: Colorado School District Needs Inventory, April 17, 2020

**It is also important to recognize that the decision on how to spend federal pandemic recovery resources is inherently and intentionally local as school communities are best equipped to identify and address their most urgent local needs.**

## Northwest BOCES did not receive ESSER I funding.

***ESSER II and III funding information, as well as other related information, is available on the [Colorado School Finance Project ESSER website](#).***

[1] *Colorado School District Needs Inventory*, April 17, 2020

## Additional Information on Northwest BOCES

**NW BOCES is committed to offering professional learning that is meaningful, flexible, personalized, and effective to meet the needs of the educators in our member districts. The NW BOCES believes high-quality professional learning directly impacts student learning and growth.**

**Services Provided:** Special Education; Professional Learning; Alternative Licensure; Induction; Gifted Education

**Member Districts:** East Grand; West Grand; North Park; Steamboat Springs; Hayden; South Routt; Moffat County RE No 1

**Students served by member districts:** 7,385

## Other Funding Facts

**Since 2009-10, the state has not been able to fully meet its constitutional obligation to equalize funding for school districts and the loss in state share has been tracked by the Budget Stabilization Factor (formerly known as the Negative Factor).**

- **Loss in state share for the 2020-21 school year: -$8,949,841.00**
- **Loss in state share for the 2021-22 school year: -$4,385,586.00**
- **Cumulative loss in state share since 2009-10: -$85,330,515.00**

**Learn more at the Northwest BOCES website: https://www.nwboces.org/**

**ACRONYMS GLOSSARY**

| Acronym | Description |
|---|---|
| **ARP** | American Rescue Plan Act |
| **CARES** | Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act |
| **CRF** | Coronavirus Relief Fund |
| **CRRSA** | Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act |
| **EANS** | Emergency Aid for Non-public Schools |
| **ESSER** | Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund |
| **GEER** | Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund |
| **HCY** | Homeless Children and Youth |
| **IDEA** | Individuals with Disabilities Education Act |
| **LEAs** | Local Education Agencies |
| **LSTA** | Library Services & Technology Act |



## Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)

The CARES Act established the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) to support states with expenses due to the public health emergency with respect to the COVID–19 incurred from March 1, 2020, to Dec. 30, 2020. In May 2020, Gov. Polis directed the transfer of $510 million from the State of Colorado's CARES Act CRF to CDE to be awarded to school districts, the Charter School Institute, the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind and facility schools on a per pupil basis. Additionally, each BOCES in the state received $25,000.

## Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)

The CARES Act included $3 billion for a Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund. Colorado was allocated more than $44 million from the GEER fund. The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2020 added $4.05 billion for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund. GEER II included $2.75 billion for emergency assistance to nonpublic schools through the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) grants of which $28,433,931 has been allocated to Colorado.