

Casman Alternative Academy - 51903

1. Please describe the extent to which and how the 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, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning:

The Academy will continue to provide masks for anyone entering the building and encourage the wearing of such inside. Physical distancing will continue to be promoted, and applied to classrooms. This will reduce the number of students able to join a class, and could expand the class offering to more than one section, which may require the hiring of additional staff. Ventilation will be addressed to improve the quality of air, and air flow, inside the school building. Hand washing and coughing etiquette will continue to be addressed throughout the school with multiple opportunities built into the schedule for frequent breaks to accommodate additional hand washing. The Academy will continue to follow guidance on staying home when sick, being tested as needed, and providing contact tracing and quarantine as needed for all people involved with the school and the district. This could lead to needing more substitute teachers in the building, or the need to move to remote learning for some or all of the school. The Academy will continue to use an electrostatic sprayer, in unison with other cleaning methods, to provide the highest quality of germ fighting available. This will include maintenance on the sprayer and the continuation of purchasing the sanitation supplies, as well as, additional staffing hours to maintain the high quality of disinfecting.

2. Please describe how the LEA will use the funds it reserves under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act (see below) to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year:

The Academy will implement evidenced-based interventions for social emotional learning, through the purchase, training, and implementation of a SEL program for schools. The Academy will also provide high-quality tutoring to students through a recognized program by partnering with a regional university, and will be available free of cost to all students attending the Academy. All sessions will be offered in one hour increments and will focus on math and/or reading as priority subjects. The Academy will also provide enrichment learning during the school year, to support each of the subjects. Enrichment may include experiential learning and/or leadership opportunities for all students. The Academy will provide a summer enrichment program, alongside of their credit recovery program to encourage students to attend both sessions, and to not only gain credit recovery options, but also participate in other programs that will enlighten and increase the social emotional wellbeing of the student.

3. Please describe how the LEA will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act:

The Academy surveyed stakeholders, and the results consisted of adding a college and career advisor to help students with necessary steps to meet the demands of life after high school, and set students off on a positive foot well prepared to journey forward. The results of the survey also indicated the installation of a social emotion learning program school-wide, that would include curriculum and be consistent from classroom to classroom. The survey also indicated adding in enrichment extra-curricular type of activities into the regular school year to provide additional participation opportunities for students. Finally the survey indicated an increase in facility resources indicating an improvement in the air quality, and windows throughout the building.

4. Please describe how the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions implemented under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act (see below) 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.

The Academy will partner with families, make all programs free, inclusive, and supportive for all. The Academy will work to offer tangible benefit for students, especially those who are off track of graduating with their peers, or behind academically from their peer group. Focus on relatability, relationships, and community building will impact all of the programming offered. The Academy will also have frequent assessments and evaluations of the programs offered that will impact change and future offerings.