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# Return to Instruction Plan

— Geist Montessori Academy —  
2021-2022

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# ESSER III

The American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund provides schools with federal funding to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students.

Geist Montessori Academy qualifies for this funding and submitted the application to receive it this summer.

This document provides stakeholders with a brief overview of the application and plan to utilize this funding.

# 20% set-aside

LEAs (Local Education Agencies) are required to set aside 20% of the total allocation amount to specifically address learning loss related to the pandemic.

# Plan to address pandemic related learning loss at GMA

- Invest in resources that can be used both in-person and virtually to support students in Math & Reading/ELA.
    - IXL - licenses will be provided to all students
    - Lexia - Reading program will be used for struggling readers
  - Support students' social-emotional wellness
    - A new system to build community across the school will be implemented this year
  - Funds will be set aside to support at-risk students in Math & Reading/ELA
  - School-wide focus on Math instruction using EngageNY curriculum
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# Health & Safety Plan

- GMA will closely monitor the impact of COVID-19 at the state and local level.
- Our Health & Safety Committee adopted a [leveled approach](#) to COVID-19 protocols based on the combined staff/student absentee rate due to illness.
- Enhanced professional cleaning of high-touch surfaces during the school day
- Funds set aside to supplement the salary for a Health Clinic Lead
- Water fountain bubblers will be replaced with bottle filling stations
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building
- Hand-washing signage will be posted at all restrooms
- Option for families to participate in virtual learning

# School-wide Initiatives from Kindergarten through Middle School

- Instructional technology will be equitably distributed and age-appropriate in all classrooms
- Enhanced approach to kindergarten skills assessments and community building
  - Streamlined assessments with data tracking
  - “Kindergarten Adventure” event during enrollment process
  - Take-home resources provided to all kindergarten families
    - Books
    - Math games
    - Sensory activities
- Supporting social-emotional wellness for staff and students through intentional community building efforts and events
  - Family Engagement Coordinator
  - Quarterly Family Events
- Professional development courses for teachers seeking Montessori certification