

Brownsville Independent School District



Presentation to the School Board

June 16, 2020

COVID-19

Updates from the
Business & Operations Department



Dr. Rene Gutierrez, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Nellie Cantu, Deputy Superintendent for Business and Operations

Today's Agenda

Business & Finance

- I. Review of Funding Sources
- II. Description of Funding Sources
- III. Updates on Expenditures/Savings
- IV. Update on Business Office Requests

Operations

- V. Hot Spots on Buses
- VI. Meal Distribution Update
- VII. Maintenance Dept. Updates
- VIII. Facilities Dept. Updates
- IX. Employee Benefits/Risk Management Dept.
- X. Public Information Dept. Updates
- XI. Next Steps

Four Buckets of Funding Sources

Multiple fund sources for K-12 Education are available at the federal and state level:



Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)



Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)



Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)



Texas Department of Agriculture



Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)



- We recommend that you track ALL costs related to COVID-19, including staff time, such as:
 - Cleaning and sanitizing schools;
 - Labor and Equipment;
 - Communication and public information costs;
 - Curriculum development;
 - Supplies for paper distance learning packets and delivery costs (where online learning is not feasible);
 - Expenses to continue food assistance program services.
 - **Not Eligible** - Distance learning expenses, including purchasing electronic devices and communications infrastructure
- Not all expenses will be covered by FEMA, but other funding streams may be created through the CARES Act and other future funding allocations. It is best to track and document costs now, then to do so months after the fact.
- The federal cost share is 75%, and 25% district share.

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)

- ✓ Eligible Expense
 - Cleaning and sanitizing schools;
 - Labor and Equipment;
 - Communication and public information costs;
 - Curriculum development;
 - Supplies for paper distance learning packets and delivery costs (where online learning is not feasible);
 - Expenses to continue food assistance program services.
 - Distance learning expenses, including purchasing electronic devices and communications infrastructure
- ✓ TEA will use CARES Act money from the ESSER Fund **to replace state funding.**
- ✓ TEA will use ESSER funds as a method of finance for the cost of the foundation school program.
- ✓ Districts will have to apply for funding and grant application will be **released in June.**
- ✓ Extra **reporting requirements and spending restrictions**
- ✓ TEA will **reduce each district's ADA** by an amount that results in a funding loss equivalent to the district's CARES Act grant award.



Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)



- ✓ U.S. Department of Treasury for statewide purposes
- ✓ Federal source of funds administered the **Texas Education Agency** and is designated as **supplemental**.
- ✓ BISD is expected to receive **\$4.7 million**
- ✓ Reimbursement amount = **75%** and 25% district share.
- ✓ Additive expenses incurred from **March 1 – May 20, 2020**
- ✓ Funds are supplemental and meet the following requirements:
 1. Incurred due to COVID-19 pandemic;
 2. Not be accounted for in the most recently approved budget as of March 27, 2020 and
- ✓ Applications will open or around on **July 20, 2020** and closes on **September 15, 2020**.
- ✓ Once applications are received and the application window is closed, TEA will **calculate the amount eligible for reimbursement** for all LEAs across the state who submitted applications.

Description of Funding Sources

	FEMA	ESSER Fund 266	CRF	TDA Grants
Budget Reimbursement	Dependent on what is submitted	\$19.7 million less Private Non-Profit allocation Estimated = \$17 million SUPPLANTING	\$4.7 million (BISD will receive \$250 per SCE student). SUPPLEMENTAL – not reimbursed by FEMA	Dependent on # of meals served
Reimbursement	The federal cost is 75% , and the district share is 25%.	100%	75% of expenses with a 25% match from the district.	Texas Department of Agriculture rates

Description of Funding Sources

	FEMA	ESSER	CRF	TDA Grants
Timeframe for Expenditures	<u>Opened Jan. 20, 2020.</u> Request accepted <u>30 days after the end of the declaration of the Public Health Emergency.</u>	<u>March 13, 2020</u> through <u>June 30, 2021</u> with 12 additional carryover – <u>Sept. 30, 2022</u>	Expenses incurred <u>March 1, 2020</u> through <u>May 20, 2020.</u> The application will open on or around <u>July 20, 2020</u> – <u>Sept. 15, 2020.</u>	Credits to specific co. No expiration date.
Expenses Include	Labor, Equipment, Materials, Rental and Contracts	Allowable: Coordination of preparedness to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. Includes devices, internet, hotspots, and payroll	Incurred during pandemic, not accounted for in the most recent approved budget. Includes distance learning, devices, and payroll.	Equipment, canopies and personal protective equipment
Requirements	Keep detailed documentation	Submit application. Additional reporting requirements. Board approval required.	TEA <u>creating a reimbursement application process,</u> similar to FEMA. TEA will calculate amount eligible.	Submitted Application

Expenditures/Savings

As of 6/9/2020

Item	Description	Budget Expenditures	Budget Expenditures	Approx. Savings
EXPENDITURES				
Salaries	Time and ½ pay for essential staff and classified staff	\$0.00	\$1,232,162.50	-\$1,232,162.50
Supplies	Cleaning supplies, masks, gloves, hand sanitizer	\$0.00	\$1,131,783.09	-\$1,131,783.09
Equipment	Clorax 360 (includes 2 add'l orders)	\$0.00	\$501,410.00	-\$501,410.00
Tech. Supplies	Expand Band Width		\$97,498.00	-\$97,498.00
Tech. Supplies	Hot Spots for Buses		\$29,197.40	-\$29,197.40
Tech. Supplies	Chromebooks (11,000) – Phase I		\$3,025,000.00	-\$3,025,000.00
Summer Reading Books	State Compensatory (reimbursement)		\$147,212.40	-\$147,212.40
Internet Use (Teachers)	Wi-Fi Incentive	\$0.00	\$578,406.95	-\$578,406.95
TOTAL		\$0.00	\$6,742,670.34	-\$6,742,670.34
SAVINGS				
Fuel Costs	Daily transportation	\$934,836.28	\$583,103.48	\$351,732.80
Transp. Department	Overtime (no field trips)	2,651,171.59	\$1,872,064.77	\$779,106.82
Field Trips	Cancelled for this year	\$0.00	\$462,946.00	\$462,946.00
Travel	Staff	\$0.00	\$38,099.00	\$38,099.00
Travel	Students	\$350,000.00	\$0.00	\$350,000.00
TOTAL		\$3,936,007.87	\$2,956,213.25	\$1,981,884.62
Net Difference				-\$4,760,785.72

Update on Business Office Requests

Item	Description	Update
1	Demographic Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Approved Feb. 12th • ARC Bridge Consultants • Preliminary Presentation for June 16th
2	Energy and Water Savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included in Feb. 16th Board meeting • Ranking completed • Recommendation: Bob Driggers • Recommendation to Board June 16th
3	OCR Accessibility Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opened RFP on May 12th • Ranking May 26th • Recommendation: Active Internet Technologies (Finalsite) • Recommendation to Board June 16th
4	Linebarger/Perdue Fact Check	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received initial information from previous presentation from both Firms May 26th • 90% of confirmation of amounts on presentation complete • Requested assistance from Moak, Casey and Associates with project and forwarded e-mails and other correspondence on May 28th • By May 29th, Moak, Casey determined unable to assist with the project

Hot Spots on Buses



- Ordered hot spots for buses
- Awaiting activation
- Currently working on identifying “high-need” areas
- Collaborating with Technology and Transportation Department
- Scheduled to be stationed in community effective July 1st

Meal Distribution Updates

Providing meals for our students!



Date	June Daily Totals				
	Lunch		Breakfast		Highest Enrollment
	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	
1	2,063	-	3,851	-	3,851
2	3,118	-	2,063	-	3,118
3	2,623	-	3,118	-	3,118
4	3,530	-	2,623	-	3,530
5	3,530	-	3,530	-	3,530
6	-	-	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	-	-
8	3,156	-	3,530	-	3,530
9	3,962	-	3,369	-	3,962
10	-	-	3,749	-	3,749



Maintenance Department Updates

Always available... addressing 100% emergency work orders!



- **Grounds Scheduled** developed to maintain facilities during COVID-19 closures.
- **Soap dispensers** - Purchased & installed new touchless dispensers district-wide affording the district a cost savings in the amount of \$37,875.00 annually.
- **360 Clorox Electrostatic Disinfectant Sprayer Machines** - Disinfectant equipment purchased in an effort to minimize absences and improve the average daily attendance district wide. In addition to covering up to 300 sq. ft. per minute, this saves up to 75% of time as well as 65% on product and labor costs. This is more efficient than traditional trigger type sprayers providing superior coverage due to it's electrostatic technology.
- **Additional \$3.5M Projects** – Ongoing projects impacted with this funding include: HVAC, Plumbing, Electrical, General Maintenance, Fencing and Masonry.
- **Completed 100%** of emergency work during closure (plumbing, electrical, and flooring, etc.)

Facilities Department Updates

Construction never stopped!

Continued construction of **on-going projects** with little to slight delays during closures such as:

- Continued construction of Hanna Gym
- Continued paperwork processes, received and awarded bids
- Finished installation HVAC at the Aquatic Center
- Continued Rivera ECHS Roof Repairs
- Continued FNS Dept. Roof Repairs
- Continued Roofing projects district-wide
- Received bids on paint booth for CTE (submitted for board approval June 16th)
- Received bids on canopies and Canales Elem. parking, completed ranking and prepared for June recommendation to the board.



Employee Benefits/Risk Management

Always available... addressing 100% of staff calls regarding COVID-19

- Improved systems in the BISD Health Insurance Fund resulting in a **positive savings \$8.7 million dollars to date.**
- Saved \$25,000-\$30,000 in Workers Compensation Insurance due to procedure/operational changes within the Employee Benefits Department.
- Reinforced procedures and processes for Employee Benefits Department to **improve “customer service”** to all employee of BISD.
- **Increased communication and education** to BISD employees to clarify benefits
- Due to Health Plan Savings and the changes in the Employee Benefits Department, the finance department **reallocated approximately \$2.6 million** from the employer contribution to general fund



Public Information Office

Keeping everyone informed!

- Increased e COVID-19 Updates to all stakeholders
- Continuously updated the district website and social media sites to keep stakeholders informed
- Increased various methods to distribute information including, but not limited to, local newspapers.
- Posted timely Superintendent Updates on district website.
- Collaborated with City and County officials to enforce precautionary measures to address COVID-19



Next Steps

- Continue to **collect detailed documentation** and will apply for funds when applications are available
- Continue to collaborate with **FEMA/CARES Task Force Committee**
 1. Rachel Ayala, Elementary Principal
 2. Dr. Nellie Cantu
 3. Mary Garza, Finance Dept.
 4. Diego Gonzalez, Jr., Finance Dept.
 5. Rosario Pena, Purchasing Dept.
 6. Julie Pedraza, Technology Dept.
 7. David Robledo, CFO
 8. Luis Segura, Secondary Principal
 9. Mary Tolman, Special Services
 10. Conrado Vega, Finance Dept.
- Collaborate with finance staff to ensure **proper coding** of COVID-19 expenditures
- Collaborate with *Active Internet Technologies* on district and campus website
- Identify **high need location** for buses with hot spots
- Continue **meal distribution** until July 31, 2020 (dependent on Guidance from TEA and CDC)
- Continue **Maintenance and Facilities projects** as permitted by local and state agencies.
- Continue to provide the **best customer service** to staff needing COVID-19 health guidance from the Employee Benefits Dept.
- Continue to **communicate COVID-19 updates** to all stakeholders via our district website and social media outlets.

Questions?

- *Significant **uncertainty remains**, regarding*
 - Impact of state revenue picture on future school funding
 - Impact of COVID-19 concerns and closures on continued absences in the 2020-2021 school year
 - Details regarding potential changes to attendance accounting for 2020-2021
 - Details of protocols for safely bringing students back to school

THANKS!