



DLEACS ARP ESSER Use Funds Plan

The extent to which and how ARP ESSER 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; in accordance to the CDC guidelines and the NJ Road to Reopen Schools, cleaning and sanitizing surfaces are at the core of the tasks to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School funds will be used to purchase materials and for payment for staff and cleaning companies to service the campus. DLEACS has a facility safety plan crafted by PS&S (Paulus Sokolowski & Sartor) a firm offering multi-disciplined, full-service architecture, engineering, design, environmental and surveying consulting services. The facility safety plan identifies a number of items required to prevent the spread of the virus. Among these are desk shields and temperature scans. Additionally, to prevent the spread of the corona virus, we must ensure social distancing. This may include limiting group sizes, creating cohorts, keeping students six feet apart, restricting nonessential visitors, and closing communal spaces. The following procedures will be in place across all our building: Three (3)-sided clear desk partitions will be used on student desks to help maintain social distancing. Signage throughout the campus will be visible to guide student, staff and visitors.

Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School will use the funds it reserves under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act 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;

ARP funds will be used to provide a variety of activities and supports to help improve the achievement of students to address the impact of lost instructional time due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, funds will be used for costs associated with evidence-based approaches to accelerating learning, high-dose tutoring, leveraging technology to provide embedded assessment and differentiated instruction, diagnostic and curriculum-embedded assessments, and extending the school day or year to provide additional time for student learning, enrichment, and support.

These costs will include supplementing the salaries of educators and other qualified personnel to perform additional services. ARP funds may also be used to support the costs associated with hiring additional teachers and teacher aides to provide intensive support to students.

Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act; DLEACS will use ARP funds may further be used to provide professional development to educators on research-based 12/1/21 Funds 2/2 strategies for meeting students' academic, social, emotional, mental health, and future readiness needs, including strategies to accelerate learning without remediation or tracking. DLEACS will also address school facility repairs and improvements, specifically HVAC considerations and window replacements where needed to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.

In an effort to describe how Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions implemented under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act 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. Under this requirement, an LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders and give the public an opportunity to provide input in the development of its plan. Specifically, an LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with students; families; school and district administrators (including special education administrators); and teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions.

To this end, Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions implemented under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act 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.

Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School encourages its families, teachers, school administrators, support staff, and community members to complete a survey that takes fewer than five minutes to submit and their voice be heard. The school safe return plan will be updated every six months, and with the update, stakeholders will have a repeated survey and opportunity to discuss the needs of our school and its students. All survey responses are anonymous. Additionally, **Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School** encourages all of its stakeholders to comment on both original and updated plan via a dedicated email address established for this purpose. Our stakeholders include parents, teachers, and others. Public comments will be considered as Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School finalizes this plan.

Regarding the additional notes regarding the requirement that an LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with each of the following, to the extent present in or served by the LEA: Tribes; civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); and stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students.

Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School encourages its families, teachers, school administrators, support staff, and community members to complete a survey that takes fewer than five minutes to submit and their voice be heard. All survey responses are anonymous. Additionally, Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School encourages all of its stakeholders to comment on the plan via the email address established for this purpose. Our stakeholders include parents, teachers, and others. Public comments will be considered as Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School finalizes and carries out its strategic plan.