



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Catherine Truitt, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

www.dpi.nc.gov

March 19, 2024

Mr. Aaron Greene, Superintendent
Polk County Schools

Dear Mr. Aaron Greene:

On March 19, 2024, the Office of Federal Programs concluded the ESSER-GEER Monitoring Review of the use of federal COVID funds by Polk County Schools. The programs that were reviewed include the following, as applicable to your:

- CARES Act, ESSER I and GEER: PRCs 163, 164, 165, 166, 168, 169, 170;
- CRRSA Act, ESSER II: PRCs 171, 172, 173, 174, 176, 177, 178;
- ARP Act, ESSER III: PRCs 181 and 182; 188; 189 and
- Other federal relief funds: PRCs 191, 192, 193, 202, 203, 205, 206 and other PRCs as developed.

We are pleased to announce that Polk County Schools met all programmatic requirements for the use of these federal COVID funds. Please see the attached ESSER-GEER Monitoring Report for Polk County Schools. On behalf of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, we would like to express our gratitude to you and your staff for assisting in this review and for your service to the children of North Carolina.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Charles".

Alex Charles
Senior Director

AC: rt

c: Jan Crump, Federal Program Director
Timothy Dryman, NCDPI Section Chief Consolidated Programs
Julie Higdon, Lead Federal Program Administrator

OFFICE OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

6307 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6307 | (984) 236-2786 | Fax (984) 236-2099

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PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Catherine Truitt, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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ESSER Final Monitoring Report

An instrument to monitor grant programs authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act

Office of Federal Programs
Revised March 2023

FEDERAL PROGRAM MONITORING AND SUPPORT

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**Office of Federal Programs
ESSER Monitoring Report**

Summary	Programs Monitored		
	ESSER I	ESSER II	ESSER III
PSU Code: 750	[X] PRC 163	[X] PRC 171	[X] PRC 181
PSU Contact: Jan Crump	[] PRC 164	[] PRC 172	[] PRC 182
NCDPI Contact: Julie Higdon	[X] PRC 165	[X] PRC 173	[] PRC 188
Lead PA: Documents 3/13/2024	[] PRC 166	[X] PRC 174	[] PRC 189
Due Date: Monitoring 3/19/2024	[] PRC 168	[X] PRC 176	[] PRC 191
Date: Report 3/19/2024	[X] PRC 169	[X] PRC 177	[X] PRC 192
Date: Findings: 0	[X] PRC 170	[] PRC 178	[X] PRC 193
Recommendations: 0			[] PRC 197
			[] PRC 202
			[X] PRC 203
			[X] PRC 205
			[] PRC 206

The ESSER-GEER monitoring event summarized in this report is based on an examination of program files and an interview with the administration of the Public-School Unit (PSU). The review's purpose was to evaluate compliance with up to four performance elements for each accepted program listed above. Details about these procedures are explained in the *ESSER-GEER Overview and Monitoring Instrument* which the PSU staff received from the Office of Federal Programs at the beginning of the process and is available on the website.

Each of the elements applicable to the PSU have been rated according to the following rubric:

A rating of Meets Requirement will be issued if the following are True:

- Compliance Element is 100% met and supported by all required evidence.
- All required documents are provided and support compliance.
- Interviews are consistent with documentation and indicate proper processes and implementation.
- Compliance is consistent at the PSU level and throughout the schools.

A rating of Meets Requirement with Recommendations will be issued if:

- Basic compliance requirements are met.
- Compliance and/or documentation could be strengthened with reasonable measures.

A Finding will be issued if either of the following is true:

- Evidence or lack of evidence shows compliance element has not been met.
- Documentation is incomplete or lacking.
- Interviews do not support documentation.
- Interviews reveal a lack of understanding of processes or implementation.
- Compliance is inconsistent at the PSU level or at the schools

The following pages present detailed results of this monitoring review. For each element rated with a finding, a narrative provides details and indicates corrective action required of the PSU. Recommendations are also described in narratives but require no corrective actions. A chart listing all elements and their ratings is also provided.

In accordance with department policy, no NCDPI staff member who contributed to this report's contents has any affiliation or interests that would compromise an impartial review.

**Office of Federal Programs
ESSER Monitoring Report**

ESSER I, GEER I

PRC		Element s	Rating	Narrative
16 3	K-12 Emergency Relief Fund	1	Meets Requirement	
		2	Meets Requirement	
		3	Meets Requirement	
		4 (districts only)		
16 4	K-12 Emergency Relief Fund (Supplementary for charter schools)	1	Not Applicable	
		2	Not Applicable	
		3	Not Applicable	
		4 (districts only)		
16 5	Digital Curricula	1	Meets Requirement	
		2	Meets Requirement	
		3	Meets Requirement	
		4 (districts only)		
16 6	Learning Management Systems	1	Not Applicable	
		2	Not Applicable	
		3	Not Applicable	
		4 (districts only)		
16 8	Innovative Childcare and Remote Extended Support (ICARES)	1	Not Applicable	
		2	Not Applicable	
		3	Not Applicable	
		4 (districts only)		
16 9	Specialized Instructional Support	1	Meets Requirement	
		2	Meets Requirement	

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	Personnel	3	Meets Requirement
		4	
		(districts only)	
		1	Meets Requirement
17 0	Supplemental Instructional Services	2	Meets Requirement
		3	Meets Requirement
		4	
		(districts only)	

ESSER II

PRC		Elements	Rating	Narrative
171	K-12 Emergency Relief Fund	1	Meets Requirement	
		2	Meets Requirement	
		3	Meets Requirement	
172	K-12 Emergency Relief Fund (Supplementary for Charter Schools)	1	Not Applicable	
		2	Not Applicable	
		3	Not Applicable	
173	Supplemental Contracted Instructional Support Funding	1	Meets Requirement	
		2	Meets Requirement	
		3	Meets Requirement	
174	School Nutrition COVID Support	1	Meets Requirement	
		2	Meets Requirement	
		3	Meets Requirement	
176	Learning Loss Funding	1	Meets Requirement	
		2	Meets Requirement	
		3	Meets Requirement	
177	Summer Career Accelerator	1	Meets Requirement	
		2	Meets Requirement	
		3	Meets Requirement	
178	Competency-Based Assessment	1	Meets Requirement	
		2	Meets Requirement	

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	3	Meets Requirement
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ESSER III

	PRC	Elements	Rating	Narrative
181	K-12 Emergency Relief Fund	1 2 3	Meets Requirement Meets Requirement Meets Requirement	
182	K-12 Emergency Relief Fund (Supplementary for Charter Schools)	1 2 3	Not Applicable Not Applicable Not Applicable	
188	Summer Career Accelerator	1 2 3	Not Applicable Not Applicable Not Applicable	
189	Math Enrichment Programs	1 2 3	Not Applicable Not Applicable Not Applicable	
191	Identification and Location of Missing Students	1 2 3	Not Applicable Not Applicable Not Applicable	
192	Cyberbullying & Suicide Prevention	1 2 3	Meets Requirement Meets Requirement Meets Requirement	
193	Gaggle Grant	1 2 3	Meets Requirement Meets Requirement Meets Requirement	
197	Middle School Reading	1 2 3	Not Applicable Not Applicable Not Applicable	
20	COVID-19	1	Not Applicable	

**Office of Federal Programs
ESSER Monitoring Report**

2	Student Enrollment Increase	2	Not Applicable	
		3	Not Applicable	
203	State Teacher Bonuses	1	Meets Requirement	
		2	Meets Requirement	
		3	Meets Requirement	
205	Drivers Ed/Training	1	Meets Requirement	
		2	Meets Requirement	
		3	Meets Requirement	
206	Principal Supplement Bonus	1	Not Applicable	
		2	Not Applicable	
		3	Not Applicable	