



## **COVID-related Grant Updates**



## **MSBO Business Manager/CPA Workshop June 2023**

**Kevin Walters, MDE**

# TOPICS:

Target is updates and reminders associated with COVID-related funding

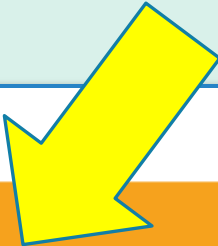
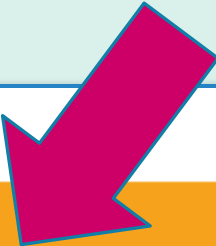
- Timeline Reminders and Late Liquidation for CRRSA (ESSER II)
- Current Snapshot & Transparency
- Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan and LEA Plan for Use of Funds
- The FISCAL CLIFF.....

# **Deadlines and Timeline Reminders**



# ESSER-related Grant Programs

ESSER I	ESSER II	ARP ESSER III
<p><u>(1) ESSER I Formula (90%)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formula Grant</li> <li>• Directly to LEAs/PSAs</li> <li>• Based on Title IA formula</li> </ul>	<p><u>(4) ESSER II Formula (90%)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formula Grant</li> <li>• Directly to LEAs/PSAs</li> <li>• Based on Title IA formula</li> </ul>	<p><u>(9) ESSER III Formula (90%)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formula Grant</li> <li>• Directly to LEAs/PSAs</li> <li>• Based on Title IA formula</li> </ul>
<p><u>(2) ESSER I Equity (9.5%)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Competitive Grant</li> <li>• Awards to LEAs/PSAs</li> <li>• Awards range based on competition</li> </ul>	<p><u>ESSER II Discretionary (9.5%)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (5) Section 23b Summer School</li> <li>• (6) Section 23b Credit Recovery</li> <li>• (7) Section 23b Before/After School Programs</li> <li>• Section 98c Learning Loss</li> </ul>	<p><u>(10) ESSER III Discretionary (9.5%)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 11t Equalization</li> </ul>
<p><u>(3) GEER I (Governor's)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designated Grant</li> <li>• Awards to LEAs/PSAs</li> <li>• Formula based on 50% minimum free/reduced</li> </ul>	<p><u>(8) GEER II (Governor's)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 23c Staff Stipends</li> <li>• Section 98c Learning Loss</li> </ul>	





Name of Grant	ESSER I	ESSER II	ARP ESSER III	Section 11t
Expenditure Period Start	<del>March 13, 2020</del>	March 13, 2020	March 13, 2020	March 13, 2020
Expenditure Period End	<del>September 30, 2021</del>	September 30, 2022	September 30, 2023	September 30, 2023
Tydings Amendment End	<del>September 30, 2022</del>	September 30, 2023	September 30, 2024	September 30, 2024
Liquidation Period End	<del>December 30, 2022</del>	December 30, 2023	December 30, 2024	December 30, 2024
Application Deadline	<del>N/A</del>	N/A	December 15, 2021	June 15, 2022

**Tydings Amendment Period date is the last date to obligate funds for each specific grant**

## ESSER GRANT TIMELINES

# TOPICS:

- **LATE LIQUIDATION  
CRRSA (ESSER II):**
- [Updated-Technical-FAQs-for-Liquidation-Extensions-5.5.23.pdf](#)
- **Up to 14 months (MAXIMUM)**
- **MDE MUST assess Risk of Entity**
- **Needing more time to expend funds is NOT an adequate reason or justification for liquidation extension.  
Examples: Delays related to supply/labor**



# TOPICS:

- **LATE LIQUIDATION CRRSA (ESSER II):**
- [Updated-Technical-FAQs-for-Liquidation-Extensions-5.5.23.pdf](#)
- **PLEASE understand that ONLY LIQUIDATION is eligible for extension request, NOT OBLIGATION.**
- **NOTE: If vendor walks away from job, even if you have a liquidation extension, you cannot obligate those/new funds to another vendor**



**Current Snapshot  
Transparency**





# SNAPSHOT AND TRANSPARENCY



## Current Snapshot

[COVID-19 Spend Dashboard \(michigan.gov\)](https://michigan.gov)

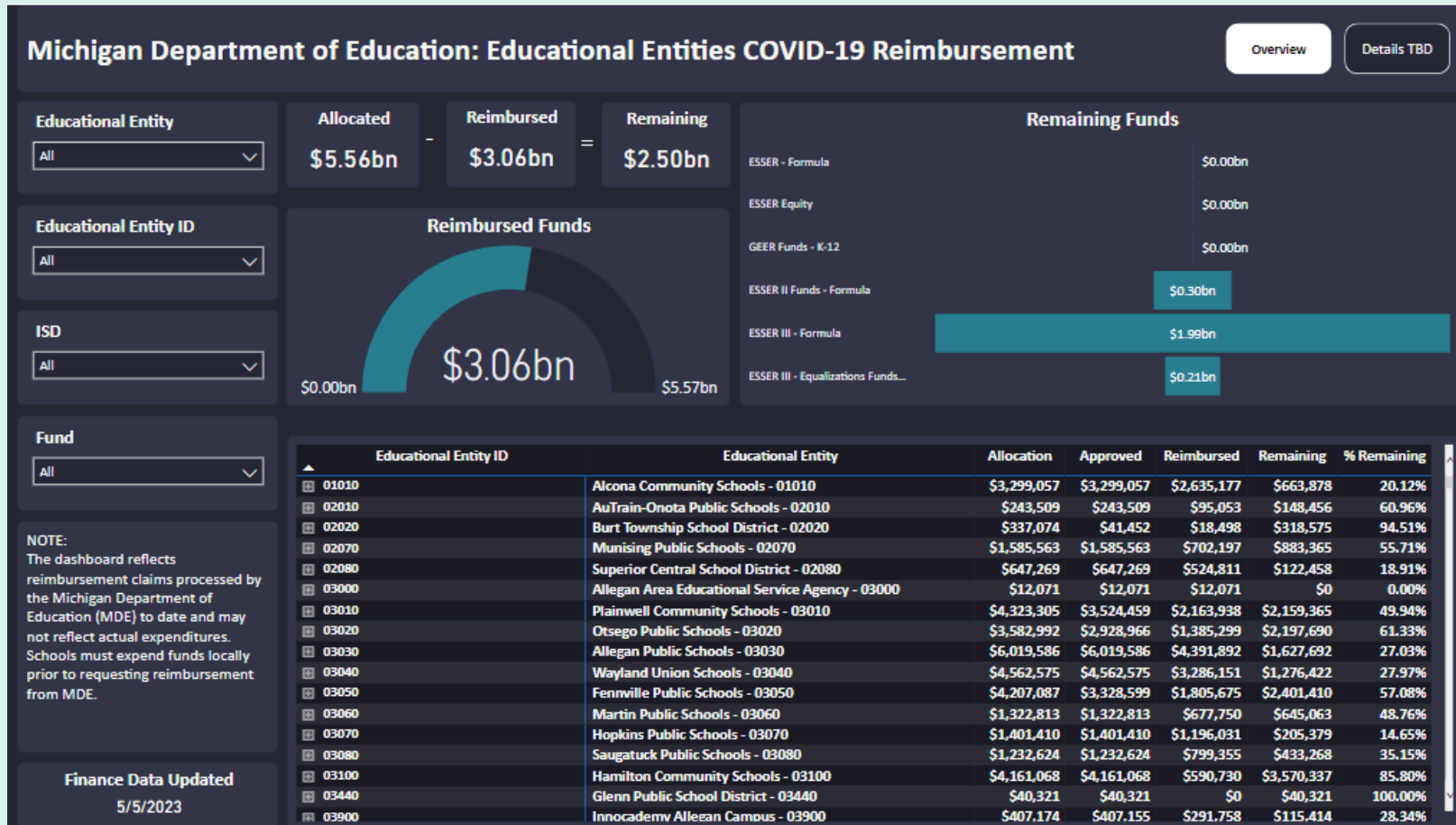
*Dashboard went “Live” March 1, 2023, and Details page went “Live” May 22, 2023*

Title	Information
Total Page Hits (April 1-May 31)	2,274
Average Page Hits per Day	45
Average Time on Page	204.51 (3 minutes, 25 seconds)

# SNAPSHOT AND TRANSPARENCY

## Current Snapshot

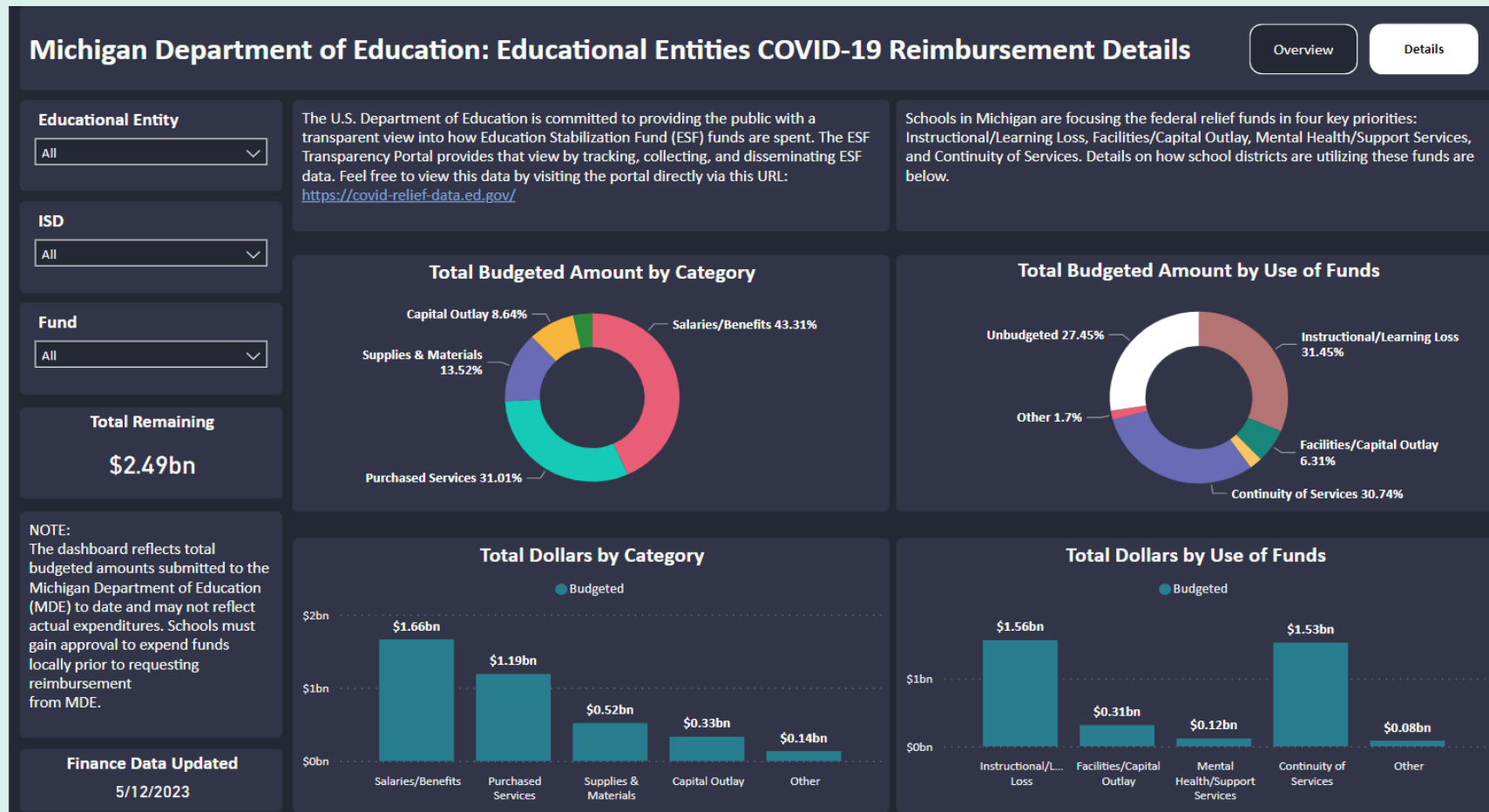
[COVID-19 Spend Dashboard \(michigan.gov\)](https://michigan.gov)



# SNAPSHOT AND TRANSPARENCY

## Current Snapshot

[COVID-19 Spend Dashboard \(michigan.gov\)](https://michigan.gov/covid-19-spend)



# RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN AND LEA PLAN FOR USE OF FUNDS

Required Plan within specific timelines of receipt of funds, which continue periodically throughout the life of the grant, which ends September 30, 2024



## Interim Final Requirements ARP ESSER III

First, the requirement clarifies that an LEA's plan must include how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and LEA staff, and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the CDC's safety recommendations including: Universal and correct wearing of masks; modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (*e.g.*, use of cohorts/podding); handwashing and respiratory etiquette; cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation; contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments; diagnostic and screening testing; efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities; appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and coordination with State and local health officials.

Second, the requirement further clarifies that the plan must describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

Third, the requirement provides that, during the period of the ARP ESSER award established in section 2001(a) of the ARP Act (*i.e.*, until September 30, 2023),<sup>13</sup> an LEA must periodically, but no less frequently than every six months, review and, as appropriate, revise its plan. Consistent with section 2001(i)(2) of the ARP Act, which requires an LEA to seek public comment on the development of its plan, an LEA must seek public input and take such input into account in determining whether to revise its plan and, if it determines revisions are necessary, on the revisions it makes to its plan, *i.e.*, the LEA must seek public input on whether to revise its plan and on any revisions to its plan no less frequently than every six months (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools). The requirement clarifies that, if the LEA revises its plan, the revised plan must address each of the aspects of safety currently recommended by the CDC or, if the CDC has updated its

safety recommendations at the time the LEA is revising its plan, each of the updated safety recommendations. The requirement also clarifies that an LEA that developed a plan prior to enactment of the ARP Act that meets the requirements under section 2001(i)(1) and (2) of the ARP Act but does not address each of the required aspects of safety established in this requirement must, as part of the required periodic review, revise its plan consistent with these requirements no later than six months after it last reviewed its plan.

Fourth, under the requirement, the plans must be: In an understandable and uniform format; to the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable, orally translated; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent.

# LEA PLAN FOR USE OF FUNDS and RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN AMENDMENT TIPS

- Review current **LEA Plan for Use of Funds** closely versus current approved budget
- Review current **LEA Plan for Use of Funds** closely versus current guidance/recommendations
- Moderate to Significant changes to approved budget must be reflected in updated LEA Plan
  
- Review current **Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan** versus **current** LEA situation and local Health Department guidance
- Pay special attention to the instructional components of the Plan and align with Budget and LEA Plan for Use of Funds
- Remember both review and any update require Public Input opportunity

# LEA Plan for Use of Funds

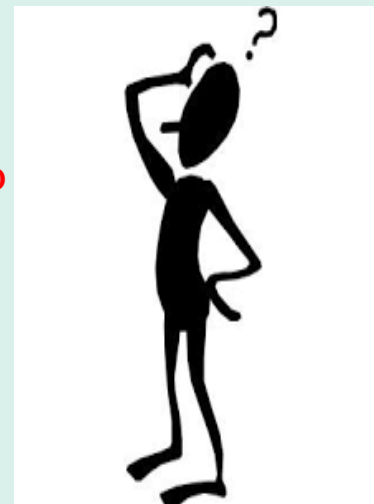
## What do the numbers tell us, you ask?

*807 Total Applications*

Month/Year Range of Last Update to Status	Number	Percentage
December/2021	1	0.0%
January-April/2022	130	16.1%
May-August/2022	178	22.2%
September-December/2022	171	21.2%
January-April/2023	254	31.5%
May-August 2023	73	9.0%
September-December/2023	TBD	TBD



**59.5%**



# LEA PLAN FOR USE OF FUNDS — STILL RELEVANT

## Sustainability and Effectiveness:

- **Sustainability** and **Effectiveness** financially resulting from the use of COVID-related funding
- Staffing and the Fiscal Cliff that awaits.....

Date Time Stamp	Staff FTE	Staff FTE Increase	Percent Change
Pre-Pandemic (Sept 2018)	169,160	N/A	N/A
Mid-Pandemic (Sept 2021)	172,560	3,400	+ 2%
Post-Pandemic (Sept 2022)	177,009	4,449	+3%
TOTALS		7,849	+ 5%



# LEA PLAN FOR USE OF FUNDS — STILL RELEVANT

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES (What is USED looking for?):

- ***How did you utilize funds to:* – ADDITIONAL STAFFING? Red Flag**
  - Impact Physical Health and Safety?
  - Meeting Students Academic, Social, Emotional, and Other Needs (Excluding Mental Health Supports)
  - Mental Health Supports for Students and Staff
  - Operational Continuity and Other Allowed Uses
- Planned Use of Remaining Funds

# LEA PLAN FOR USE OF FUNDS — STILL RELEVANT

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES (What is USED looking for?):

- ***Did the LEA utilize funds to Support the Following Positions: – ADDITIONAL STAFFING? Red Flag***
  - Special Education and Related Personnel
  - Paraprofessionals
  - Bilingual or English as a Second Language Educators
  - School Counselors, School Psychologists, and/or Social Workers
  - Nurses
  - Short Term Contractors
  - Classroom Educators, not previously covered by previous categories
  - Support Personal, not previously covered by previous categories
  - Administrative Staff, not previously covered by previous categories

# LEA PLAN FOR USE OF FUNDS — STILL RELEVANT

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES (What is USED looking for?):

- ***Did the LEA utilize funds to: - Are you prepared for the NEXT pandemic?***
  - Provide Home Internet Access for any Student
  - Mobile Hotspots with Paid Data Plans
  - Internet Connected Devices with Paid Data Plans
  - District pays for Home Internet Subscription for Student
  - District provides Home Internet Access through a District-Managed Wireless Network

# LEA PLAN FOR USE OF FUNDS — STILL RELEVANT

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES (What is USED looking for?):

- ***Did the LEA utilize funds to: - Let's focus on the last two items here.....***
  - Implementing New Curricular Strategies to Improve Student Engagement
  - Offering Credit Recovery and/or Acceleration Strategies
- **Professional Development:** Proceed with Caution.....
  - Aligned with the Pandemic?
  - Reasonable and Necessary?
  - Data to Support?



# THE FISCAL CLIFF.....

Many districts are standing at the Fiscal Cliff they have created

Understand the factors

Take steps to mitigate the cliff



# THE FISCAL CLIFF.....

- ✓ Staff Shortages, Budget and Enrollment, and New Staff:
- ✓ Staffing is the **NUMBER 1 contributor to the upcoming fiscal cliff.....**
- ✓ Supplanted existing salaries/benefits to maintain Continuity of Services
- ✓ Added new salaries/benefits
- ✓ Enrollment still drives the budget, what does the staffing data tell you? (Hint...5% increase)
- ✓ FY24 & FY25 budget is CRITICAL. If you are starting now, it's too late

# THE FISCAL CLIFF.....

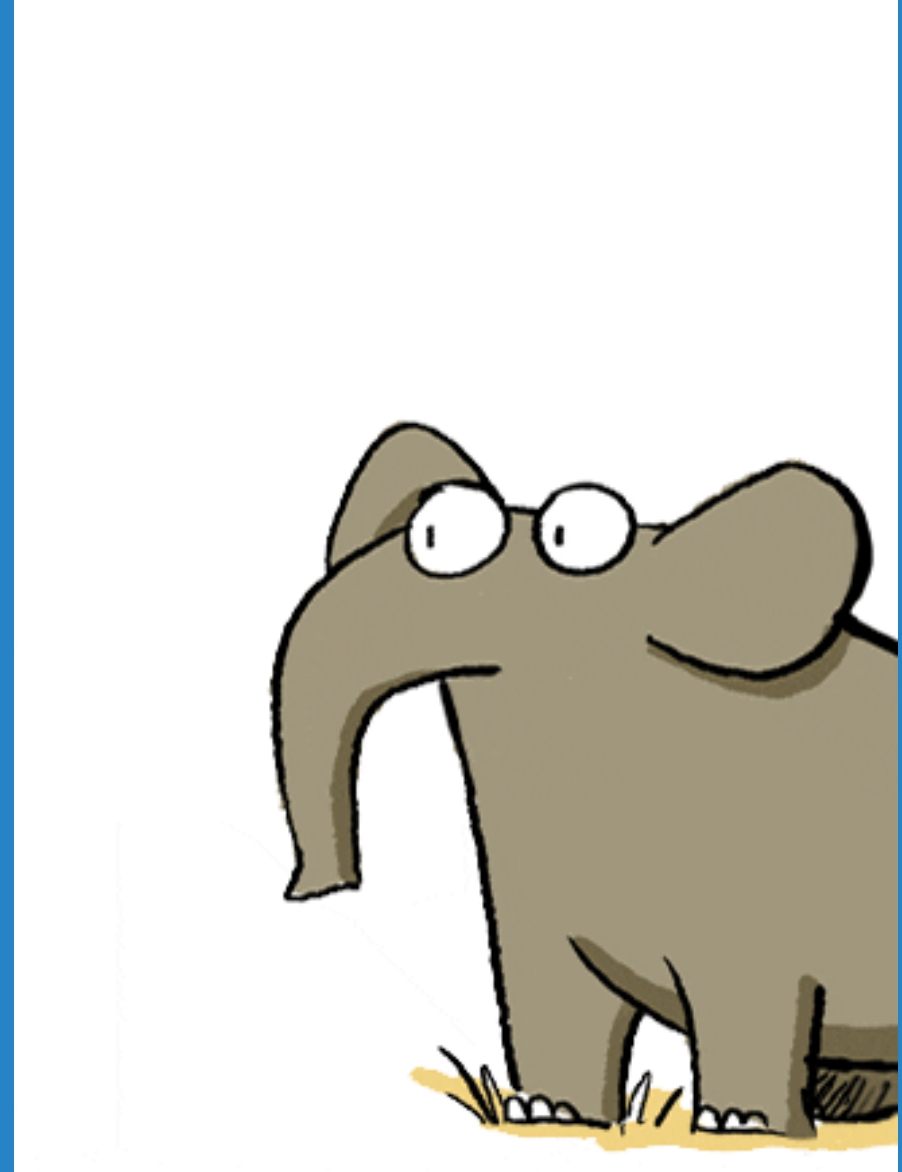
- ✓ Compare data points from Pre, Mid, and Post Pandemic.....Enrollment, Staffing, Funding
- ✓ Look at operating budget pre-pandemic
- ✓ Staffing costs are the largest player
- ✓ State average staff FTE increased 5% through post-pandemic. What was your up/down?
- ✓ Enrollment? Factor in State Aid increase, which may help or hurt you bottom line.....(\$7,871 v \$9,150)
- ✓ If enrollment stayed same: (\$1,279/student) = Probably OK.
- ✓ If you lost enrollment: (\$7,871-\$9,150/student) = Not OK.
- ✓ What does your programmatic data tell you?

# THE FISCAL CLIFF.....

- ✓ Evidence of High-Quality Assessment, Evidence Based Practices, and Models of Success
- ✓ This is intersection point of One-Time Funding vs Mid-to-Long Term Efficacy
- ✓ Right Answer may NOT be the Preferred Answer.....Continue what is working and “Let Go’ of what is not.....
- ✓ We have enough money in our budget to fund what is important to our district. The challenge is identifying what is important! (Dr. Thomas Gay, former superintendent, Lapeer Community Schools)
- ✓ Ask yourself....What was added or increased? What does the data show? What financial factors either support or restrict our ability to maintain or increase those strategies?



# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



# Contact Information

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