



FY 2023 Recommended Budget Budget Question

Board Question #: 9

BUDGET QUESTION: Can any of the Federal or State pandemic/recovery funding allocated to the Schools be used to support teacher compensation and compression pay?

RESPONDING DEPARTMENT/OFFICE: Schools

RESPONSE: Underlined terms within this response are hyperlinks to additional information.

[Pandemic Relief Programs](#) - Several federally funded programs have been authorized to support public and non-public schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. The overarching purpose of these programs is to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools in Virginia. To view the May 2021 VDOE presentation related to ESSER and GEER pandemic funding please click [here](#).

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) sets the allowable use of pandemic funding. The division's focus in allocating these CARES Act/ESSER funds is to address learning gaps for our students and to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff. The division developed a plan for the implementation and use of the pandemic grant funding based on the needs of our students and the [allowable uses](#) provided by VDOE. These plans have been reviewed and approved by the School Board and the State, with stakeholder input. Regular updates/revisions have been presented publicly in coordination with VDOE. School Board meeting information can be found [here](#); watch meetings [here](#).

It is important to note that Federal and state pandemic/recovery funding is considered one-time funding. Therefore, it is not considered a conservative fiscal best practice nor would it be sustainable for the schools to utilize those funds to address on-going teacher pay scale compensation and compression without a long term funding commitment from our local governing body.

ESTIMATE OF STAFF TIME SPENT ON RESPONSE: 1 hour