



Montana

Office of Public Instruction

Leveraging ESSER Funds - Virtual Conference

Hall of Fame

Facilitated by Dr. Julie Murgel, OPI Chief Operations Officer

Prepare, Prevent, and Respond

August 9, 2022



Goals For This Session

- **Share stories, Successes, and Challenges**

- Dawson/Glendive School District (Stephen Schreibeis)
- Great Falls School District (Lance Boyd)
- Superior School District (Scott Kinney)

- **Panel Questions posed:**

- What gains have been a pleasant surprise in using ESSER funds?
- What student and/or community-specific gains have occurred in using ESSER funds?
- What challenges (and solutions) have you faced with ESSER?
- What advice would you share with districts using ESSER Funds?
- How have you prepared your staff for ESSER – grant requirements, workload?
- How have you communicated ESSER benefits and requirements to your public?
- What internal forms, processes, and procedures have you created for ESSER that you think might benefit others?

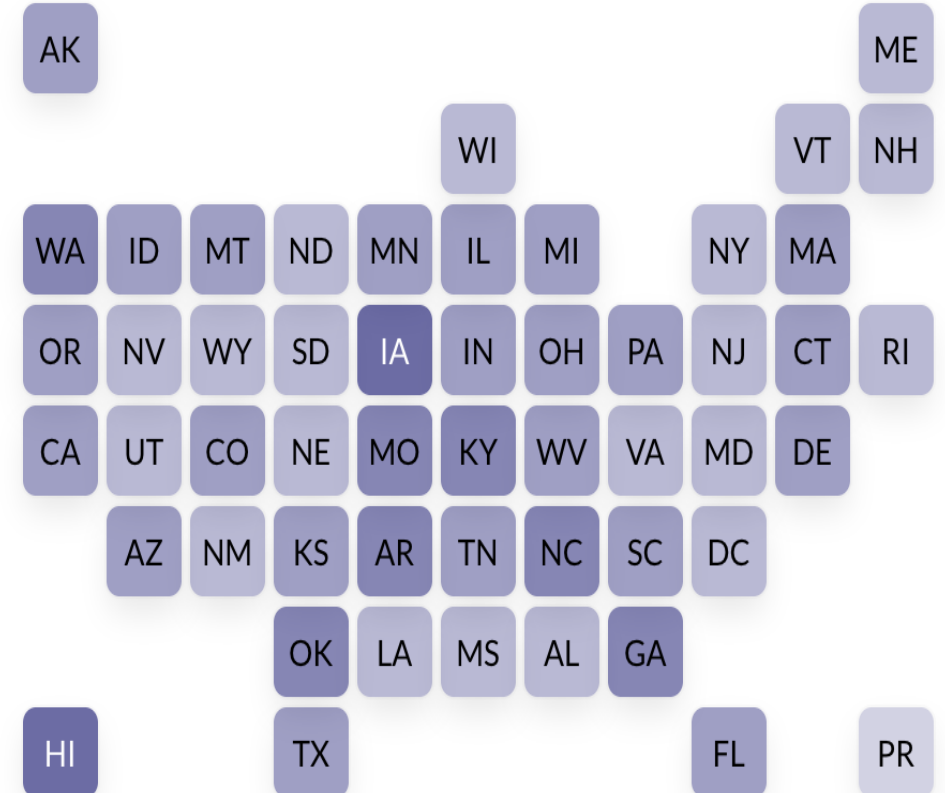


ESSER Spending Comparison

As of June 30, 2022

	CARES	CRRSA	ARP	Total
Montana	87%	43%	13%	27%
Idaho	97%	63%	10%	31%
Nevada	96%	44%	4.5%	21%
Wyoming	95%	46%	3.4%	22%
North Dakota	94%	25%	11%	24%
South Dakota	97%	24%	6.2%	18%

Lighter shaded states spent less than dark shaded states



Data retrieved from DOE site: <https://covid-relief-data.ed.gov/>



ESSER Funding used to Innovate

- Pivot to embrace online, innovative, and learning environments
 - 55 Million+ students
- Schools focused on attendance campaigns often using
 - High touch (phone calls, text, and in-person visits)
 - SIS and CRM software for profiling student needs and providing services
- Programming focused intentionally on:
 - Intensive academic intervention (individual, online, and small group tutoring)
 - Career/college programs: dual enrollment, summer career camps
 - Recruitment and retention to retain valued education workforce
 - Math, Reading, and connectivity needs targeted to address critical gaps
 - Health targeted efforts to address the whole student



Resources at OPI.MT.GOV

Montana Office of Public Instruction



Welcome to the Office of Public Instruction

Superintendent Elsie Arntzen is proud to serve our Montana families, students, and teachers. **Families are the foundation of learning as our parents are our first teachers.** Our students are our most precious resource and the future of this great state. As a teacher of 23 years, the Superintendent knows the importance of quality educators in the classroom and is working to ensure Montana teachers have the flexibility needed to put our Montana students first.

The Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) is charged with the responsibility of providing technical assistance in:

- School Finance
- School Law
- Teacher Certification and Licensing
- School Accreditation
- Teaching and Learning Standards

The OPI staff administer a number of federally funded programs and provide a variety of information services, including the information systems necessary to assess student achievement and the quality of Montana's elementary and secondary school systems.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

MEET EXECUTIVE STAFF

OPI ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

SEE OPI PRESS RELEASES

ESSER



Wendi Fawns
ESSER/EANS Director

Wendi's grandmothers were elementary teachers and her parents' college professors. They shaped Wendi's passion for learning anywhere, anytime and in varied formats. Wendi has taught dyslexic readers in elementary schools and provided college/career program support to schools and families across Montana. Her career in social work, information technology, and education have centered around helping customers identify goals and gain the resources necessary to succeed. She holds a BA in Sociology with MIS focus and a MA in Education Leadership. She is a strong customer advocate, member of Rotary and P.E.O. International, and mother of a Montana high school teacher and Arizona college advisor.

406-437-8595



Rebecca Brown
ESSER Program Manager

Rebecca Brown is joining us from the Bozeman School District where she worked as an ICTE instructor, teaching Metals, Woods, and Auto shop classes. Rebecca holds a BS in Technology Education from Montana State University, Bozeman. She has just recently moved to Helena with her husband, cats, and parakeet. Born and raised in Montana, Rebecca feels nothing can beat a gorgeous Montana summer weekend spent camping and floating on the river.

406-444-0783



Victoria Hoefler
Broadband Data Specialist

Victoria Hoefler relocated to Montana from the Atlanta, Georgia area. Victoria's previous roles in Corporate America include IT Support, Project Management, B2B Client Support, Software Training and Copywriting. In her secondary job, Victoria serves as the Founder and President of a 501(c)3 Charity bringing awareness to mental health needs of Military Veterans and better quality of life for Military Families. She is looking forward to identifying effective ways to improve broadband internet data in the school throughout Montana.

406-438-3601

Thank you!

For questions or additional information please contact:

ESSER Program Questions

Wendi Fawns at wendi.fawns@mt.gov or 406-437-8595

Rebecca Brown at rebecca.brown@mt.gov or 406-444-0783