

Proposed Amendment to the Proposed ESSER III Budget

Amendment #	Amendment 5
Sponsor:	Director Leonard
Telephone:	414-750-7319
Email:	leonarhf@milwaukee.k12.wi.us
Date:	9/27/2021

Intent (required):

In April 2018 the Board received a report on Long-Range Facilities Master Planning Recommendations. This report noted that MPS has excess capacity – except in the Southwest Region, which was at 114% capacity. How many families choose to enroll elsewhere because they don't want their child enrolled in an overcrowded school?

The Facilities Master Planning Recommendations included recommendations to build new schools in the Southwest region to relieve the overcrowding. While this is just not feasible, given the cost, it would be possible to use this once-in-a-lifetime influx of facility dollars through ESSER III to expand several existing MPS schools within the Southwest Region, in order to improve classroom space, technological capacity, and reduce overcrowding, thereby attracting new families to our school district. Expanding and modernizing our buildings significantly improves our capacity to sustain and increase our enrollment potential in such a highly competitive market.

This specific amendment would allocate \$5-9 million of the \$68 million allocated for Remodeling/Additions specifically to the **Academy of Accelerated Learning (AAL)**. The intent would be to expand the school by adding a new gym and four classrooms.

- AAL has carried over 600 students with a waiting list.
- With close proximity to the City limits, AAL competes with several outlying districts within the open enrollment system.
- The current census tract data shows that the AAL neighborhood and overall southwest side of Milwaukee has gained a net 3.9%-4.4% population increase with almost all new home buys being starter families. We can reasonably predict that
 - a) the waiting list will continue to grow and
 - b) these students would less likely require bussing since they live in the AAL neighborhood
- AAL has show academic consistency, with an 83.5% report card average, receiving the DPI "School of Recognition" for nine years straight.
- The AAL community is reflective of a growing level of racial diversity in the Southwest Region of Milwaukee.
- Enrollment capacity is always centered on these aforementioned factors
- In addition, the old gym could be repurposed for other large-group use. For example, the space appears ideal for expansion of music programs.

MPS needs a consistent base of schools that are attractive to parents from our community. I believe we must use this opportunity to better equip AAL to compete with surrounding school districts and improve the quality of education for the growing diverse community that they serve.

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Funding Source (required):					
Identify specific category/description and page number from the ESSER III Budget Detail from which the funds should come from and the specific category/description and page number where the funds should be allocated to.					
Page #	Category and Description to be Changed	FTE Increase	\$ Amount Increase	FTE Decrease	\$ Amount Decrease
27	No change to the funding category. The amendment would allocate a portion of the \$68 million specifically for Academy of Accelerated Learning.	Click here to enter text.	Building cost= \$5-9M	0	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
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	Total			0	

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Administration Response:

The request is based on four classrooms and a gymnasium. The square footages are as follows:

- 900 square feet per classroom
- 7,500 square feet for the gymnasium
- 600 square feet for gymnasium storage
- 400 square feet for gymnasium office
- 4,500 square feet for corridor and accessory space

Additional scope would include modifications to the existing building to accommodate the addition and site restoration.

These figures are preliminary without fully assessing the existing building and determining actual space programming. An allotment of an estimated cost is \$8,700,000.