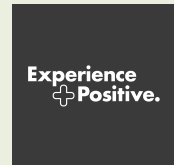




3 Innovative Ways to Spend Your ESSER Funding





Did you know?

Districts must allocate ESSER III funds by September 30, 2024, and spend them by January 31, 2025. Extensions are available by contacting your state's education agency.

Explore these innovative ESSER-approved furnishings and spaces

At School Outfitters, we work with 97% of the top 1,000 U.S. school districts, and the innovative ways they're investing ESSER funds might surprise you:

- Esports
- Relaxation spaces
- Outdoor learning

Now is a great time to consider how you might reimagine your own learning spaces with your ESSER funds. We're thrilled to share some product-specific inspiration, along with tips for successful ESSER purchasing, based on what we're helping other top schools do this year.

Call or email us to talk to an ESSER expert and get started today.

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1

A Cutting-Edge Esports Space

As a response to the billion-dollar (and rapidly growing) Esports industry, schools are establishing Esports programs and promoting game-based learning.

Studies show Esports improves critical thinking, communication, and collaboration skills.

Gaming Chairs

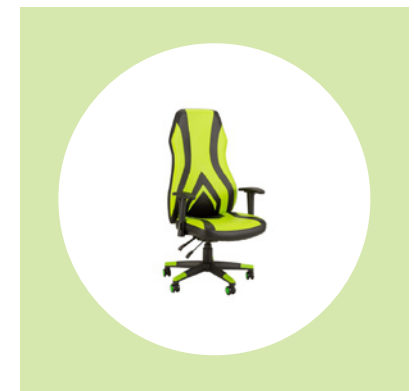
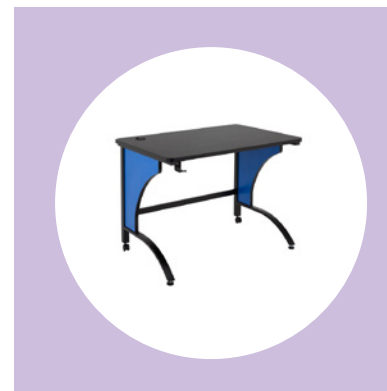
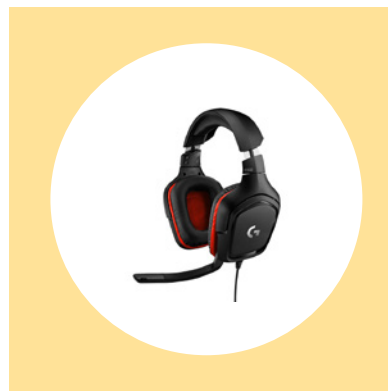
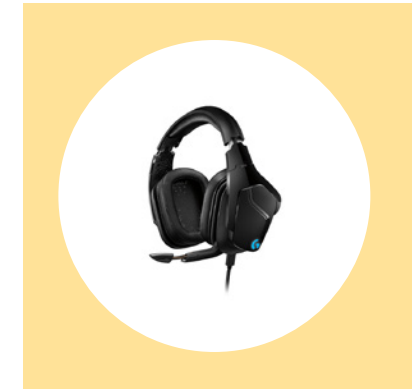
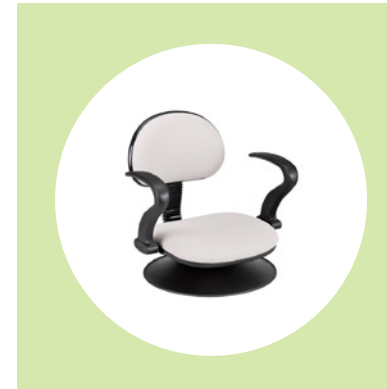
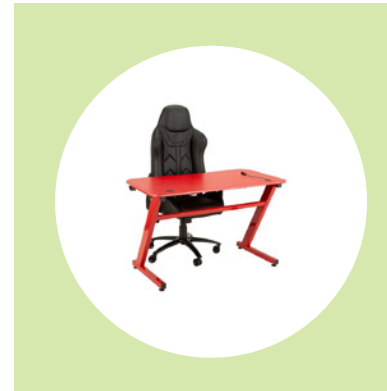
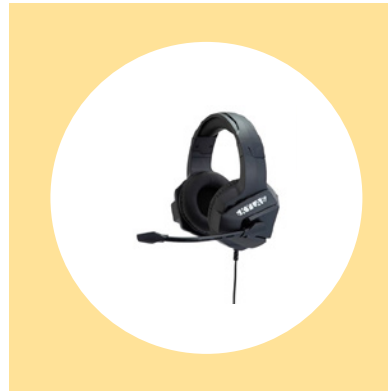
Comfortable and customizable, these chairs keep students engaged through long gaming stints with features like lumbar support, padded armrests, and locking casters.

Gaming Tables

Gaming tables add vibrant colors, modern design, and healthy ergonomics to any Esports space. Plus, they're equipped with grommets to keep cords and cables organized.

Gaming Headsets & Speakers

Durable gaming headsets immerse students in play and feature customizable sound options, omni-directional mics, and padded headbands.



2

A Restful Relaxation Space

Schools are frequently looking for ways to outfit spaces that allow students to take a break from the stresses of the school day – whether it's a Zen den, a calming corner, or a student wellness center.

And it's no wonder: research shows that relaxation spaces improve student productivity, mood, and focus.

Classroom Beanbag Chairs & Floor Cushions

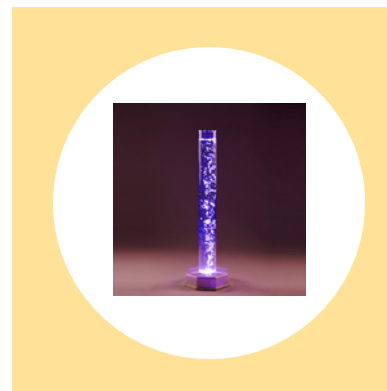
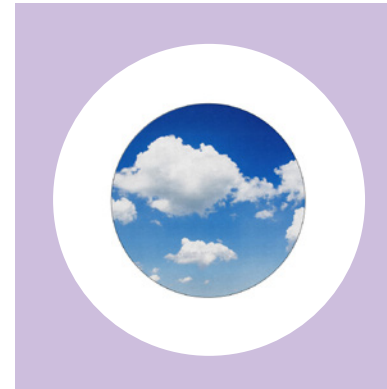
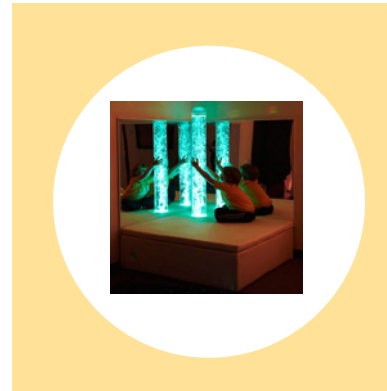
Colorful and comfortable, beanbag chairs and floor cushions allow students to lounge and feature easy-to-clean vinyl material.

Calming Rugs

With their plush material and non-skid backing, calming rugs are an ideal spot for quiet meditation or reading.

Bubble Tube Lights

Beloved by students, bubble tubes feature moving bubbles and changing colors to support emotional regulation and sensory sensitivities.



3

An Outdoor Learning Space to Encourage Play

Outdoor learning continues to be a priority for school districts nationwide. Research shows it decreases behavioral problems, boosts creativity, and even increases test scores.

Sand & Water Play

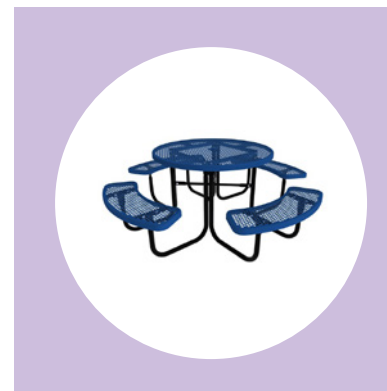
From sandboxes and water mills to mud kitchens and nature bowls, outdoor sensory play equipment allows students to learn through exploration and play.

Outdoor Table & Chairs

Designed to endure bad weather and years of use, outdoor tables and chairs add durable, practical workspace to outdoor learning spaces.

Benches

Available in countless shapes and sizes, outdoor benches provide a comfortable spot for students to rest and reflect in between activities.



Lessons Learned for Successful ESSER Purchasing

Spend now, not later.

The recent ESSER funding extension affords schools more time to make their purchasing decisions. However, it's best to act sooner than later instead of waiting until "back to school" this August to start organizing. Get a jump on using those remaining funds now. Allocations need to be submitted by September 2024 and spent by January 2025. So, prioritize your school's needs and goals now to maximize remaining funds in time.

Communicate investment value with everyone.

District leaders will want to make sure to share ESSER investment initiatives with the community as a matter of transparency. Schools will want to demonstrate the value of their investments. You can include a communication strategy within your ESSER plan that highlights how these investments will impact students and learning. This will encourage buy-in from everyone – including your school staff, district, and community. The success of your initiatives will depend on this key step to communicate ESSER fund usage.

Track results and student outcomes, not just expenses.

Results matter, especially when it comes to funding and student outcomes. Be mindful not to overlook the importance of demonstrating real results with your ESSER investments. Consider taking steps to be diligent about tracking progress toward your school's goals after you allocate and spend your funding. Show how your strategic investment improves learning and students' environment, whether you're investing in long-term strategies, displace/replace strategies, or general expense extensions.

**Talk to an expert to find
ESSER-compliant furniture
and room designs today.**

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