

ARP-ESSR Funding Plan

Introduction

First off, we would like to thank the community for working together over the past year despite the challenges that were faced by all. As we've seen, COVID-19 has had and will continue to have an impact on the District. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 has established funds to be available to our District to help with this impact. As you read on, information on our allocation will be explained including our plan to spend the funds to recover from the losses incurred by the virus. Should you have any questions on the information presented below you can contact Renee Garrett, the superintendent, or the business office.

The 2021-22 enacted state budget includes language requiring local education agencies, such as school districts, that receive funding from the Federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund allocated by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP-ESSER) to post on its website a plan by school year of how these funds will be spent.

New York has been allocated nearly \$9 billion in ARP-ESSER funds, with a minimum of \$8.09 billion (90 percent) going to local education agencies, including public schools. Forestville Central School District has been allocated \$1,610,044.

Of this total, \$882,009 is earmarked specifically for the designated areas as follows:

- \$100,002 Summer enrichment
- \$100,002 After school
- \$682,005 Learning loss

Districts are also required to prioritize spending on **non-recurring** expenses in the following areas:

- Safely returning students to in-person instruction;
- Maximizing in-person instruction time;
- Operating schools and meeting the needs of students;
- Purchasing educational technology;
- Addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on students, including the impacts of interrupted instruction and learning loss and the impacts on low-income students, children with disabilities, English language learners, and students experiencing homelessness;
- Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs;
- Offering evidence-based summer, afterschool, and other extended learning and enrichment programs; and
- Supporting early childhood education.

In addition, districts must identify programs and services that will continue beyond the availability of these federal funds and how local funds will be used moving forward in order to minimize disruption to core academic and other school programs.

Before posting this plan, districts are required to seek public comment from parents, teachers and other stakeholders and take such comments into account in the development of the plan.

Safely returning students to in-person instruction

Plan Summary: The District believes through the use of masks, distancing, and the steps taken to clean and sanitize the school that the students have safely returned to in-person instruction. Depending on what the regulations will be next year, we may require funding for personal protective equipment or other safety expenses.

3-year estimate: \$25,000

Maximizing in-person instruction time

Plan Summary: The District has created several new positions in order to help maximize the amount of in-person instruction.

3-year estimate: \$480,000

Operating schools and meeting the needs of students

Plan Summary: The District plans to use funds to purchase classroom supplies and to update various facilities.

3-year estimate: \$100,000

Purchase of educational technology

Plan Summary: The District intends to purchase a variety of educational technology to assist our educators in providing the students the most up-to-date and effective instruction possible.

3-year estimate: \$150,000

Addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on all students, including low-income students, students with disabilities, English language learners, and students experiencing homelessness.

Plan Summary: The District is creating a new special education position and will also use the supplies and technology mentioned above.

3-year estimate: \$240,000

Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health and academic needs.

Plan Summary: The District has created a position for a Behavioral Interaction Specialist.

3-year estimate: \$240,000

Offering evidence-based summer, afterschool, and other extended learning and enrichment programs.

Plan Summary: The District plans to enhance both summer school and afterschool programs.

3-year estimate: \$200,000

Supporting early childhood education.

Plan Summary: The District will create new elementary educator positions to continue to assist with early childhood development.

3-year estimate: \$240,000

Other areas of student performance and need.

Plan Summary: The District will continue to monitor performance and needs on an ongoing basis. It is an extensive three year plan with estimated amounts that will be reviewed consistently and adapted based upon needs as they arise.