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Background and Instructions

Background

Section 9-a of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2021, as amended by §5-a of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022 requires, on or before July 1, 2022, <u>every</u> local educational agency (LEA) receiving funding from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) act of 2021 to post on its website and submit to the New York State Education Departent (NYSED) an updated plan of how such funds will be expended and how the LEA will prioritized spending on non-recurring expenses as defined in section 9-a(1) of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2021. This updated plan must include:

An analysis of public comment;

Goals and ratios for pupil support;

Detailed summaries of Investments in current year activities; and

Balance of funds spent in priority areas.

In addition, Section 10-d of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2021, as amended by §5-b of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, requires school districts receiving a *foundation aid increase of more than 10%* or \$10,000,000 must create plans on how these funds will be used to address student performance and need. These plans must be completed, submitted to the department, and posted to district websites prior to July 1 of 2021, 2022, and 2023. Each district subject to this requirement is required to:

Seek public comment from parents, teachers, and other stakeholders;

Take public comments into account in the development of the plan;

Include an analysis of public comments within the plan;

Describe in the plan how the foundation aid increase will be used, including portions of the increase used to address any of seven listed areas;

Post the plan on the district website; and

Submit the plan to the State Education Department in a form prescribed by the Department to be posted publicly.

The list of school districts that are required to submit a plan aligned with the increase in foundation aid may be found in the "*Foundation Aid and ARP Plan* <u>Notification Guidance</u>" memo located in the *Documents* library at the lower left of the application. It should be noted that this requirement does not obligate districts to spend additional foundation aid funds in specific ways, but does require district seek public comment and share plans on how they intend to spend these additional funds. Plans are required to cover only the foundation aid *increase*. The plan should *not* cover how the district intends to use its *entire* foundation aid amount. Describe in the plan how the foundation aid increase will be used, including portions of the increase used to address any of the following seven areas:

Increasing graduation rates and eliminating the achievement gap;

Reducing class sizes;

Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas;

Addressing student social-emotional health;

Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities; and students experiencing homelessness;

Goals and ratios for pupil support; and

Detailed summaries of investments in current year initiatives and balance of funds spent in priority areas.

Instructions

The State Budget Reporting and Foundation Aid Survey is due by July 1, 2022.

LEAs must complete all sections and are required to answer questions marked with a red asterisk. If a required question has not been completed, the business

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portal will highlight it in red and the section of the application will be flagged. The applicant will be unable to submit the application to NYSED for final review if a required question remains unresolved.

The online application may only be submitted/certified by the chief school officer of the applicant LEA. The designated superintendent (public school LI or the chief executive officer, board of trustees president, or school employee designated by the board of trustees (charter school LEAs) are the only administrators with the submit/certify rights necessary to successfully submit and certify a completed application for NYSED review.

LEAs are <u>NOT REQUIRED</u> to send hard copies of survey materials to the Department.

Use of Foundation Aid Increase

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Use of Foundation Aid Increase

1. Please describe how the district plans to utilize funds provided by the foundation aid increase in the following priority areas. If these funds will not be used for one of the priority areas listed below, please respond with "N/A."

	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)	Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
Increasing graduation rates and eliminating the achievement gap	N/A	N/A	0
Reducing class sizes	Maintained additional section of 3rd grade and chemistry to help reduce class sizes in these areas.	During the entire budget development cycle, it was noted that reducing class sizes was a goal of the budget for 2022- 23. This goal was driven by discussions with the Citizen's Finance Committee, PTO meetings, and discussions at Board meetings.	352050
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Maintained academic intervention support positions at both elementary schools and the middle school.	Providing resources to students in need academically has always been a priority of this community.	528076
Addressing student social- emotional health	Maintained a psychologist and a counselor at our middle and high school to help address the social emotional needs of our students	Throughout COVID, the community expressed concerns about the social emotional well being of our students and did not want to lose any staff member that would help address these needs.	498102
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	N/A	N/A	0

2. Please use the chart below to describe 'Other' priority areas not otherwise addressed in Item #1. Click on "Add Row" as applicable for additional prioroty areas.

Priority Area	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)		New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
World language teacher in grades 3 & 4	Provide world language down into our intermediate school.	Community has been calling for a foreign language to be offered to lower grades.	123,641

Use of Foundation Aid Increase (Cont.)

Use of Foundation Aid Increase

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3. Please describe your analysis of public comment from parents, teachers, and other stakeholders on the plan. This analysis should include the approach to outreach that was implemented and common recommendations or suggestions. For recommendations not reflected in the plan above, what limitations or rationale led to the decision to not include? (250 words or less)

Public comment is gathered through various methods such as comments at Board meetings, our Citizen's Finance Committee which is comprised of community members, PTO meetings, and Tusker Univerity Community Meetings, other meetings throughout the community. The overall theme from everyone was that the District needed to provide the resources necessary for students to succeed. It was imperative to all that the social emotional well being of students, after going through COVID-19, had to be at the top of the list as far as priorities were concerned. Next on that list was that the District must be able to provide resources to students are struggling academically. The District, and the community, does not want to have any student lack the resources they need to succeed.

ARP Spending Plan Reporting

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American Rescue Plan (ARP) Spending Plan Reporting

- 1. Have you made changes to your approved ARP ESSER application?
 - ☑ YES, the LEA has made changes to your approved ARP ESSER application.
 - □ NO, the LEA has not made changes to your approved ARP ESSER application.

1a. Please provide a summary of those changes and the need informing those changes.

Shifted from four additional academic intervention support personnel to a social worker for the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years as well as additional training for nine staff members on social emotional learning. These nine staff members will be able to provide additional support to all staff in the district.

2. Please provide an analysis of public comment for the updated American Rescue Plan (ARP) - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding.

Public comment has continued to be encouraged and welcome during various forums. All comments are discussed and taken into consideration before deciding where to allocate funds. The district has a Social Emotional Wellnes Advisory Committee composed of staff, community members, students, and BoE members. This structure provided multiple opportunites for public comment on the adjustment to the ARP ESSER plan.

3. Please provide a description of program goals and per pupil teacher ratios for priorities supported by ARP - ESSER funding. Click on "Add Row" as needed to include additional program goals.

Program Goals	Per Pupil Teacher Ratios (# : #)
Program goals include supporting the social emotional needs of all students. Addition of a social worker, as well as additional training for staff, will help to ensure that all students are supported. The	900:1
current ratio for social workers is 1,350:1. By increasing to three social workers, the ratios will be 900:1.	

4. Please provide detailed summaries of investments in current year activities for ARP - ESSER funding. Click on "Add Row" as needed to include programs.

Summary of New Programs or Expansion of Existing Programs in Current Year	Investment (\$)
Most of the funds we used in the 2021-22 school year were used to pay cleaners for COVID related	27,500
needs. In the 2022-2023 school year the funds will be used for additional social worker and training for staff members.	

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Spending Plan Reporting

5. Please explain how ARP ESSER funds will be expended by the LEA, by school year, for each of the priority areas in the chart below.

	2021-22 School Year (\$)	2022-23 School Year (\$)	2023-24 School Year (\$)
Safely returning students to in-person instruction.	27,500	0	0
Maximizing in-person instruction time.	0	0	0
Operating schools and meeting the needs of students.	0	27,500	0
Purchasing educational technology.	0	0	0
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.	0	0	0

ARP Spending Plan Reporting

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	2021-22 School Year (\$)	2022-23 School Year (\$)	2023-24 School Year (\$)
Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs.	0	301,321	100,000
Offering evidence-based summer, afterschool, and other extended learning and enrichment programs.	0	0	0
Supporting early childhood education.	0	0	0
Other (please describe below)	0	0	0
Totals:	27,500	328,821	100,000

6. If 'Other' is indicated in the table above, please describe.

(No Response)