Background/Instructions

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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 | N/A | N/A | 0 |
| Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas | Increasing technology support in classrooms, creation of a Tech Help Desk to support all students | Community is supportive of this initiative. As part of our district-wide Strategic Planning process, community members developed objectives, strategies, and action plans focusing on increasing technology resources for students. | 300000 |
| Addressing student social- emotional health | To increase social-emotional education and supports for K-12 students. | Community is supportive of this initiative. As part of our district-wide Strategic Planning process, community members developed objectives, strategies, and action plans focusing on increasing wellness for students. | 150000 |
| Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness | To increase technology and curricular resources that benefit students with disabilities in the district. | Community is supportive of this initiative. As part of our district-wide Strategic Planning process, community members developed objectives, strategies, and action plans focusing on increasing technology and differentiated curricular resources for all students, including students with disabilities. | 150000 |

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) | words or less) | New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$) |
|-----------------|--|--|---|
| General Support | Continuing to improve or maintain programming to support students | Community is supportive of this initiative. As part of our district-wide Strategic Planning process, community members developed objectives, strategies, and action plans focusing on initiatives around differentiated curriculum, wellness, increased communication with the community, | 400,000 |

Use of Foundation Aid Increase

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| Priority Area | Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less) | New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$) |
|---------------|--|---|
| | improved infrastructure and resources, and development of additional community partnerships. | |

Use of Foundation Aid Increase (Cont.)

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)

Our use of foundation aid has been guided by our Strategic Plan. As part of the planning process, community members were invited to participate in ongoing committee work revolving around six strategies (Leadership, Curriculum, Wellness, Communication, Infrastructure and Resources, and Partnerships) over the past ten years. The Superintendent has updated the Board of Education and community throughout the process in the form of presentations, district newsletter, and email blasts. Community members have requested continued communication and updates regarding accomplishments/progress and recommended changes to the plan.

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

The District engaged the public during several board of education meetings regarding the ARP funding. Presentations were made and plans were explained. The District also discussed the plan during the administrative cabinet meetings which included both the general education as well as special education administrators. The ARP plan was also discussed with staff during the faculty meetings and during meetings with union leadership. At every step of the way, the District will meet with all stake holders to ensure that the procedures are followed and everyone is informed. The District also intends to report out the progress at the public session of the Board of Education Meetings. The public has been largely supportive of the initiatives and projects funded by this grant.

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 (# : #) |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| District has purchased educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and students with disabilities, including assistive technology or adaptive equipment. Purchases have included wireless microphone headsets, Jabra speakers, wireless headphones, and student laptops. | 11:1 |

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 (\$) |
|---|-----------------|
| 2021-2022 investments have included educational technology (including hardware, software, and | 62,098 |
| connectivity) for students that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students | |
| and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and students with disabilities, including assistive technology or adaptive equipment. Purchases have included 35 wireless microphone | |
| headsets, 100 Jabra speakers, 30 wireless headphones, and 155 student laptops. | |
| 2021-2022 investments also included an investment in professional salaries. | 256,397 |

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. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Maximizing in-person instruction time. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Operating schools and meeting the needs of students. | 256,397 | 0 | 0 |
| Purchasing educational technology. | 62,098 | 0 | 0 |
| Addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on students, including the | 0 | 0 | 0 |

ARP Spending Plan Reporting

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| | 2021-22 School Year (\$) | 2022-23 School Year (\$) | 2023-24 School Year (\$) |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 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: | 318,495 | 0 | 0 |

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

(No Response)