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 | Putnam Valley High School identifies and supports students in danger of failing through a variety of intervention programs including building level achievement centers, after school academic intervention, and data monitoring teams. These supports allow our highly qualified staff to work with students in small group settings and provide them with the individualized support they need to be successful. Each of these programs is funded through foundation aid. The collective efforts of our instructional staff across all buildings ensure that Putnam Valley High School maintains a high graduation rate. | Our community has approved our budget and remains supportive of these programs. These programs are often discussed during public meetings including Board of Education, Superintendent Advisory Council, Building Level Steering Committee, and Budget Advisory meetings. The Putnam Valley School District works closely with a wide range of community members to ensure that information is shared and feedback is welcomed. | 100000 |
| Reducing class sizes | The increase in foundation aid has allowed the District to hire additional teaching staff at Putnam Valley Elementary School. These additional teaching positions will allow us to lower class sizes across several grade levels and provide teachers with a better opportunity to address academic deficiencies. Smaller class sizes allow for more individualized and personalized instruction for all students. | Our community has approved our budget and remains supportive of these programs. These programs are often discussed during public meetings including Board of Education, Superintendent Advisory Council, Building Level Steering Committee and Budget Advisory meetings. The Putnam Valley School District works closely with a wide range of community members to ensure that information is shared and feedback is welcomed. The need for lower class sizes was also identified as a budgetary priority by our teaching staff during a recent survey. | 150000 |
| Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas | Additional funding has allowed the District to offer a wide range of academic enrichment and recovery programs. Each building will be offering summer enrichment and recovery programs designed to re-engage students who missed formal schooling over the past several years and to address specific academic needs of students. An after school reading recovery program was | Our community has approved our budget and remains supportive of these programs. These programs are often discussed during public meetings including Board of Education, Superintendent Advisory Council, Building Level Steering Committee and Budget Advisory meetings. The Putnam Valley School District works closely with a wide range of community members to | 375000 |

Use of Foundation Aid Increase

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| | Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less) | Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less) | New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$) |
|---|---|---|---|
| | offered at Putnam Valley Elementary School to help early readers who were struggling. A homework assistance program is currently being planned and will be implemented next school year to support third and fourth grade students. Each of these programs is facilitated by a highly qualified staff member. | ensure that information is shared and feedback is welcomed. These offerings are shared with the community and all are welcomed to participate. Building level data teams help identify those students in need of additional support and allow for targeted communications to those families. | |
| Addressing student social- emotional health | Coming out of the pandemic the District has experienced a significant increase in the number of students struggling with mental health issues. Additional funding has allowed us to bolster our clinical staff team by providing additional social work support at Putnam Valley High School. This much needed staff member will be able to help identify and support those students who are struggling. This individual is also bilingual and will be able to provide additional support to our non- English speaking families. | Our community has approved our budget and remains supportive of these programs. These programs are often discussed during public meetings including Board of Education, Superintendent Advisory Council, Building Level Steering Committee and Budget Advisory meetings. The Putnam Valley School District works closely with a wide range of community members to ensure that information is shared and feedback is welcomed. Social emotional health of our students and the need for additional staff members to help support students was identified as a budgetary priority in a recent survey of District staff. | 150000 |
| Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness | Additional funding has allowed the district to increase the number of staff members certified to work with our ENL students. Over the last several years the district has experienced an influx in non-English speaking students. In order to meet the NYS requirements for the instruction of ENL students, the District needed to add staff members and this additional funding has allowed us to support that need. This led to the development of a specific ENL program at each building allowing us to more easily accommodate the individual needs of any student who enrolls in our schools during the school year. | Our community has approved our budget and remains supportive of these programs. These programs are often discussed during public meetings including Board of Education, Superintendent Advisory Council, Building Level Steering Committee and Budget Advisory meetings. The Putnam Valley School District works closely with a wide range of community members to ensure that information is shared and feedback is welcomed. The district also welcomed our non-English speaking families in for an ENL night where parents were provided important information in their native language, this was also an opportunity to receive feedback from a subset of our community that does not traditionally participate in the other engagement opportunities noted above. | 100000 |

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.

Use of Foundation Aid Increase

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| Priority Area | Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less) | Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less) | New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$) |
|----------------------------|---|--|---|
| Innovative Learning Spaces | Additional funding has allowed the district to better support innovative learning practices. Some traditional classroom furniture has been replaced to create more modern and collaborative learning environments. New outdoor classroom spaces allow teachers to utilize our school grounds while continuing to provide our students with rigorous instruction. Cutting edge technology allows teachers to further engage students into the learning process. Each of these plays a role in establishing a learning environment that supports those instructional practices that we know most effectively support student learning. | Our community has approved our budget and remains supportive of these programs. These programs are often discussed during public meetings including Board of Education, Superintendent Advisory Council, Building Level Steering Committee and Budget Advisory meetings. The Putnam Valley School District works closely with a wide range of community members to ensure that information is shared and feedback is welcomed. Our Technology Plan has been approved by NYS and is used to guide our technology purchases. | 450,000 |

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 District began this year with a goal to improve our parent communication and engagement. Monthly District Newsletters now provide parents and the community with a glimpse inside our schools to see how their tax dollars are being used to educate the children of Putnam Valley. Each of our buildings bolstered their Building Steering Committees, providing additional parents with an opportunity to participate in those collaborative meetings. A District Wide Superintendent's Council was established and provided parents representing a wide range of continuent groups an opportunity to work with teacher, building, and district leaders in a collaborative environment. A communications survey was sent out to the entire district to collect information on how well the district was performing in this area and used to help identify focus areas moving forward. Additional surveys were sent to staff members seeking their input on budgetary priorities. The District hosted several budget advisory meetings prior to the board's adoption of the budget to provide parents and community members with an opportunity to learn more about our budget priorities, ask questions, and identify budgetary concerns. Each building and department leader has facilitated their own budget development presentation during public board meetings. Putnam Valley has taken great strides to improve our parent engagement and feedback over the past year and will continue to make this an area of focus moving forward.

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 may hold additional stakeholder meetings to obtain feedback if changes are needed. The amendments to the application has not yet been submitted and over time the application will need to be amended as the needs for change will become more evident based on student outcomes and stakeholder input. Maximizing funds available for the social an emotional needs as well as improving student oucomes should be a priority.

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 (# : #) |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| ARP and ESSER funds will be used to support a wide range of initiatives including, academic enrichment, learning recovery, professional growth, and program implementation. Funds will also be used to hire additional staff members to support our growing population of ENL students and lower class sizes in our elementary school. Smaller classes will allow teachers to more easily support the individual needs of the students in their classroom. Summer enrichment and recovery programs are offered at each building to help re-engage students into the learning process while meeting specific academic needs. After school reading recovery and academic support programs allow our highly qualified staff members to offer students targeted support services. Professional development opportunities provide staff members with strategies and resources that will allow them to improve their instructional practices. An additional clinical staff member at Putnam Valley high school will better allow us to support the social emotional health of our students. The District also added an additional school nurse to help support student and staff wellness. | 19:1 |

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 (\$) |
|---|-----------------|
| In 2022-23 there will be an implementation of a new ELA curriculum including professional development | 351546 |
| at the elementary level. There will be a Middle Years IB Program introduced in grades 5-8. There are | |
| additional teachers being added at the 2nd/3rd grade levels as well as 3 additional teaching assistants | |
| and maintaining of a floating nurse who will provide support to the existing RN's in the district. Summer | |
| recovery programs are offered each summer. After school support services are offered to meet the | |
| individual needs of students. | |

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. | 120,538 | 55,901 | 55,019 |
| Maximizing in-person instruction time. | 53,703 | 56,329 | 57,457 |
| Operating schools and meeting the needs of students. | 0 | 0 | 0 |

ARP Spending Plan Reporting

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| | 2021-22 School Year (\$) | 2022-23 School Year (\$) | 2023-24 School Year (\$) |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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. | 182,305 | 0 | 0 |
| Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs. | 25,000 | 192,816 | 0 |
| Offering evidence-based summer, afterschool, and other extended learning and enrichment programs. | 85,000 | 150,000 | 60,000 |
| Supporting early childhood education. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other (please describe below) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals: | 466,546 | 455,046 | 172,476 |

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

(No Response)