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	Community Feedback Reflected (250	New
	or less)	words or less)	Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
Increasing graduation rates and eliminating the achievement gap	Develop a system to identify students by the end of their 9th grade year at a district level who are not on track to graduate and work with placements on supportive plans between the district and placement to stay on track to graduate with their cohort year.	District initiated a community survey on January 7, 2022. Fifty-nine (59%) of the 144 respondents indicated that providing additional resources for students that struggle was a priority.	680000
Reducing class sizes	The goal for elementary classrooms is for an average of 18-20 per class. Currently the district average is 22.	District initiated a community survey on January 7, 2022. A significant number of community members stated the following: Smaller class sizes for elementary and more support for teachers.	540000
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Redefine AIS/RTI program to ensure focused intervention, and explore possible advanced or enrichment sections.	District initiated a community survey on January 7, 2022. Fifty-nine (59%) of the 144 respondents indicated that providing additional resources for students that struggle was a priority.	610000
Addressing student social- emotional health	Address inconsistencies in SEL language and curriculum by implementing a district- wide social emotional learning program (e.g., Second Step).	District initiated a community survey on January 7, 2022. Eighty-four (84%) identified addressing SEL strategies and tools for teachers, students, and families as a priority.	290000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Foster a culturally responsive environment that promotes equity and diversity including ELL, SWD, and Homeless students and families	District initiated a community survey on January 7, 2022. A significant number of community members have identified our lack of diversity as an area of improvement.	270000

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		words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
Health and Safety	Develop a comprehensive approach to school safety including adding personnel (School Resource Officers), hardening buildings and campuses	District initiated a community survey on January 7, 2022. School safety was consistently identified as an area of further investment.	248,000

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 (\$)
	and improving communications and surveillance		
Exploration and Enrichment	Develop a comprehensive model for providing enrichment opportunities for all students grades K-8.	District initiated a community survey on January 7, 2022. Over 50% of respondents indicated enrichment as missing and in need of further development and investment.	270,000
Related Services (Speech)	Provide increased services for speech and language acquisition for students with IEP's, ELL's, and students who have deficiencies that can be proactively addressed	District initiated a community survey on January 7, 2022. Additional resources to support student learning and development was highly supported.	90,000

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)

The District has provided for school community input in June 2021 and January 2022 through the use of Focus Groups and survey's. The feedback recieved has focused on areas within our plan including addressing learning loss, SEL, enrollment, and increasing / offering exploration and enrichment opportunities for all students. All recommendations provided from our community have been reflected into the categories above. The survey and Focus Groups were designed to address these specific areas.

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.

The district changed the equipment funds from air handling assistance to upgrading our security camera system district. We also added a second school resource officer (SRO) in the grant from health insurance savings.

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

The spending plans have been made public throughout our entire budget development process. We have utilzied the category names (e.g. 'learning loss, enrollment, etc.) to identify where particular spending / investment was being made. This has helped us explain to our school community the 'why' and 'what' the investments are being used for. We hold monthly budget meetings and provide a forum for feedback (either written or verbal) and offer a Zoom option for those who can't attend in person. The spending plan reflects the feedback received by the school community.

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 (# : #)
Exploration and Enrichment - we have developed a K-8 enrichment program which will provide every student K-8 (1775 students) with an opportunity that has not existed since 2011. We have hired three teachers and an administrator to implement this program. SEL Program - we have developed an SEL curriculum for K-12 that will be implemented through our school counselors, social workers, and	12:1
(No Response)	(No Response)

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 (\$)
District has one new SRO position in the 21-22. The district also had a 5th school nurse to assist with	579100
COVID issues and SEL issues. Part time aides were hired to assist with learning loss in the K-8	
classrooms.	

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.	50,500	665,936	50,500
Maximizing in-person instruction time.	392,600	392,600	392,600
Operating schools and meeting the needs of students.	60,000	60,000	60,000
Purchasing educational technology.	0	0	0
Addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on students, including the	76,000	76,000	76,000

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:	579,100	1,194,536	579,100

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

(No Response)