State Budget Reporting Survey - Budget Reporting

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, *every* 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.

Instructions

The *State Budget Reporting 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

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 LEAs)

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 *NOT REQUIRED* to send hard copies of survey materials to the Department.

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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 only change we made was the company we utilized for coaching. Instead of BetterUp we utilized SchoolsWorks and ResultsAhead. This change was made to better align with the mission and vision of the school.

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

Exploration initially provided opportunities for public comment relative to the district's ARP ESSER Plans and use of funds at Board of Education in-person meetings held in May 2021, June 2021, August 2021, and October 2021. Since these initial discussions at public meetings, the district has had ongoing discussions on the use of funds at monthly Joint Leadership Team meetings engaging Administrators, Teacher Union Representatives, Counselors, IT Representatives, Nurse, and support staff Managers

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 (# : #)
One of our goals was to increase academic programming as well as social-emotional programming specifically for Grades 3-5. We doubled the number of intervention teachers we had to support our students in recovering from the pandemic. We added in additional small group time to decrease the student-to-teacher ratio by offering additional pull-out sessions in 4:1 and 15:2 student-to-staff settings.	1:4

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 ($)
Exploration used funds to fund a welcome back event for all students. Exploration recognized that families endured loss due to the pandemic, in particular with financial resources. Exploration prioritized using ARP funding to supply students with their uniforms and supplies given out at a welcome back event where students were able to come back to the building prior to the first day of school to reacclimate themselves, meet their teacher(s), and make sure they had all the supplies needed to make their return to full in-person instruction as seamless as possible.	56,224.55
ARP-ESSER funds at Exploration have also been used at this time to purchase new student devices, google syncing software, Gsuite for students and staff, as well as Brain Pop for each classroom, and individual student licenses to enhance teacher connections to the technology, and support student engagement in classroom instruction. Additional funding was used to support the student management of these devices.	241,240
To support interventions for both reading and math, as well as the documentation of the interventions and students' response to these interventions, Exploration purchased Illuminate Education's "Fastbridge" program. This program further supported the intervention teachers' creation, use, and documentation of both math and reading interventions. To support the carry out of these interventions, Exploration used a portion of the ARP funds to purchase additional teacher desks, kidney tables and chairs for small group instruction.	17684.69
Additionally, Exploration planned and used ARP funding to purchase new software from Eureka Math, "Great Minds Equip Grades 3-5 Teacher & Student Access to Digital Assessment" This software helps	29818

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Summary of New Programs _or_ Expansion of Existing Programs in Current Year	Investment ($)
Exploration teachers to identify and help address math learning gaps with students. In addition to Math Equip, Exploration also purchased the Great Minds Digital Subscription for all students to increase access to technology for math instruction as well as to support teachers in increasing their student engagement with math instruction and the Great Minds staff PD to support this initiative. In addition to these 2 purchases, Exploration purchased the i-Ready Diagnostic and Learning platform to provide teachers with actionable data for math and reading instruction as well as having students engage in personalized instruction and targeted resources online.	
One of Exploration's program goals was to expand social-emotional learning opportunities for students. Using ARP funds, the school purchased Second Step Grades K-8. This program supported the school counselors with their weekly SEL instruction. In addition to expanding social-emotional opportunities for students, Exploration prioritized staff as well. Staff was provided a variety of professional learning opportunities to engage in self-care.	7136
One of Exploration's goals was to decrease student to teacher ratio, if a staff member was absent, we worked with a staffing agency to provide coverage to continue to provide additional small group instruction and target interventions to close the academic gaps. To cover these salaries, ARP funding was used. To continue to attract and recruit high-quality staff to take a position at Exploration, recruitment bonuses were given. Once the new staff was recruited, to retain these new staff as well as existing high-quality staff, Exploration used a portion of ARP funding to support staff retention initiatives such as monthly lunches, a new recruitment referral program, holiday thank you bonuses, monthly appreciation gifts, as well as a Kick-off event to welcome them back to full in-person instruction that was held in August 2021.	291,400
Exploration recognized that families needed support with transportation costs to get their child(ren) to and from school) and provided families with any needed bus passes, ubers, taxis, and lyfts.	18,000.00
To support staff in addressing student social/emotional needs upon returning to full in-person instruction, Exploration of planned professional development for staff on Trauma-Informed Care, Classroom Management, Co-Teaching, TCIS, as well as DEI. " The professional development sessions were implemented in the fall of 2021 during staff development days as well as throughout the school year. For continued ongoing coaching and support, Exploration has will continue growing its leaders (Senior Leadership, Leadership, Deans, & Instructional Coaches) through Leadership Coaching.	90,016

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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.	18,000	1,000	1,000
Maximizing in-person instruction time.	69,170	19,750	19,750
Operating schools and meeting the needs of students.	362,560	154,000	154,000
Purchasing educational technology.	194,708	27,325	27,325
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.	99,766	30,000	30,000
Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs.	8,375	13,544	13,544

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	2021-22 School Year ($)	2022-23 School Year ($)	2023-24 School Year ($)
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:	**752,579**	**245,619**	**245,619**

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

(No Response)