

**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 Department (NYSED) an updated plan of how such funds will be expended and how the LEA will prioritize 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.

**State Budget Reporting Survey - Budget Reporting**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.**

Due to staffing shortages, the after-school program did not take place. Based on the needs of our district these programs served to be more beneficial via the summer program. However, due to tragic events that occurred in our nation over the course of this school year, the district felt it imperative to move these funds to support school safety. The district will have a School Resource Officer who is dedicated to the elementary program K-5 to support students, staff, and families through various needs within the school district.

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

The school district has posted a survey available to families on our district website- <https://www.tonawandacsd.org/page/american-rescue-plan-foundation-aid-funding>

Here are their comments:

Which stakeholder group do you best represent? 9 responses

Student 11.1% Staff Member 11.1% Parent/Guardian 77.8% Community Member 0.0%

Student	1
Staff Member	1
Parent/Guardian	7
Community Member	0

The current plan, for the District use of federal funding from the American Rescue Act can be found by going here: <https://www.tonawandacsd.org/page/american-rescue-plan-foundation-aid-funding>. The district has identified three priority areas. The area below is for public comment regarding any of these areas. All public comments will be considered as the plan is being implemented:9 responses  
Ok

I see that 64% of the funding is going towards staffing salaries. This seems excessive when only 25% are going towards supplies and materials. Especially when each year teachers across the district have to send home supply lists for the students to bring in and share across the room? Why can't we take more from the salaries and buy more supplies for the students, to ease the minds and wallets of parents each year?

Thank you for caring for our students to put such valuable resources into action.

Allocating the better part of funding to mental health and behavior modification is wonderful! More over, young children affected by remote learning, especially the children who's needs are not the status quo for the NYS education system should have that specific need addressed with as much one on one and in-person instruction as we can afford. Building on skills that allow them to succeed in a plural society is paramount as this is the doorway to a solid education. If kids are distracted by clothes, skin, hair, labels, gender, ideologies and the line- facts and science based learning can't be achieved.

If the bulk of the money is going to actually hiring more staff and not just paying existing staff more, I'm ok with that. I would really like to see additional resource officers added to the staff as well, to help ensure that the children are safe in the event of an emergency. However, I do feel that money should be allocated to improve sports fields and other extra curricular activities for the kids. For example, why is the softball team not playing on the school-owned fields?

I read the plan and it sounds good to me

Results from evidence-based practice as well as allotment amounts for specific technologies purchased to support closing learning gaps would be beneficial.

The details of this plan are not clear enough for any kind of intelligent discussion. The black box category of "curriculum development" is a little concerning since this is in the third category of spending that will comprise 57% of the spending from this grant. Also since it is a one time grant it's not clear how these funds could be responsibly used to hire new staff unless the staff are temporary. This is also in the largest spending category and I'd like to know how much of the roughly 1.5 million in that category will be spent on hiring staff whose salaries will need to be funded from other sources. The direct connection between the social, emotional, academic etc. Needs of the students and these "curriculum development" and "staff hiring" categories is not clear. It looks like the district is only looking at the academic side of the equation and not considering the social, emotional and mental health needs of student as a means of improving their academic achievement. Especially since the districts approach seems to favor technology based education, greater consideration of their mental health and social needs should be reflected in this spending plan. Also conspicuously absent from the funding is school safety improvements. In light of recent events, not spending a dime of nearly 3 million dollars on safety improvements to prevent Tonawanda from becoming a tragedy seems, frankly, naive.

Ok good!

**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.**

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Program Goals	Per Pupil Teacher Ratios (# : #)
<p><b>GOAL:</b> Increase the support for students who are suffering from learning loss as well as mitigate additional learning loss for the 2022-2023 school year and beyond.</p> <p><b>Additional Information:</b> Hiring 2 AIS teachers who will be added to the team for the 2022-23 school year. Additionally, support teachers by way of a reading coach to focus on the Next Generation Standards and to assist in the implementation of the reading program. Please note the ratio reflected in the small group size- this will change throughout the day.</p>	5:1
<p><b>GOAL:</b> Create and provide Summer Remediation (K-5) and summer school for students (6-12), student support programming, transportation, and nutritious meals for both breakfast and lunch.</p> <p><b>Additional Information:</b> Please note the ratio reflected is proportionate to a single grade level K- 5 there will be 2 sections at each grade level K-5 for summer programming.</p>	15:1
<p><b>GOAL:</b> Provide evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs of students.</p> <p><b>Additional Information:</b> This includes a behavior specialist who will support either one-on-one in a classroom or with an individual student who may be in crisis. Please note the ratio reflected is proportionate to multiple classrooms for grade levels K- 5. The addition of an elementary focuses School Resource Officer to support the district in managing student and community needs based on the changing world we live in based on events and tragedies that occurred in Buffalo, New York</p>	22:1

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 <i>or</i> Expansion of Existing Programs in Current Year	Investment (\$)
N/A	0
N/A	0

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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.	0	0	0
Maximizing in-person instruction time.	0	0	0
Operating schools and meeting the needs of students.	0	0	0
Purchasing educational technology.	339,710	892,522	218,250
Addressing the impacts of the COVID-19	142,196	506,313	447,268

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	2021-22 School Year (\$)	2022-23 School Year (\$)	2023-24 School Year (\$)
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.			
Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs.	56,818	245,454	56,818
Offering evidence-based summer, afterschool, and other extended learning and enrichment programs.	213,924	262,645	267,487
Supporting early childhood education.	0	0	0
Other (please describe below)	0	0	0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>752,648</b>	<b>1,906,934</b>	<b>989,823</b>

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

(No Response)