



Brockport Central School District

American Rescue Plan

July 1, 2021 - September 20, 2024

Introduction

The 2021-22 enacted state budget includes language requiring each local educational agency (LEA), such as school districts, that receive Federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds allocated by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) of 2021 (ARP-ESSER) funding to post on its website, a plan of how such funds will be expended and how the LEA will prioritize spending on non-recurring expenses.

New York State has been allocated nearly \$9 billion in ARP-ESSER funds, with a minimum of \$8.0- billion (90 percent) allocated to local educational agencies, including public schools. The Brockport Central School District has been allocated \$8,379,323.

The United States Department of Education (USDE) also references the ARP statutory requirement that an LEA receiving ARP-ESSER funds must reserve at least 20 percent of its 90 percent base ARP-ESSER funds to measure and address the academic impact of lost instructional time on all students through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, including but not limited to interventions implemented through summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs or extended school year programs. Moreover, USDE's IFR states that the LEA must also ensure that such interventions respond to students' academic, social, emotional and mental health needs and address the impact of COVID-19 on groups of students disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

This plan will be monitored and reviewed by our administrative team to ensure we are supporting the needs of our students disproportionately impacted, as well as our student population as a whole.

The USDE has identified final requirements for school districts who are receiving ARP-ESSER funds. Districts are required to prioritize spending on *non-recurring* expenses in the following areas:

- Safely returning students to in-person instruction;
- Maximizing in-person instruction time;
- Operating schools and meeting the needs of students;
- Purchasing educational technology;
- 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;
- Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health and academic needs;
- Offering evidence-based summer, afterschool and other extended learning and enrichment programs; and
- Supporting early childhood education.

Additionally, school districts need to identify any programs and services utilizing such funding that are expected to continue beyond the availability of such federal funds. Districts are also responsible for identifying local funds that will be used to maintain such programs.

Outlined in the requirements, districts are required to seek public comment from parents, teachers and other stakeholders and take such comments into account in the development of the plan. The District worked closely with faculty and staff members, union leadership, administrative team members and the community through virtual meetings and surveys. Data was collected and common themes were identified as key areas of focus.

Reference: Information for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) on American Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Plan State Budget Document. May 17, 2021

The following narratives support prioritized non-recurring spending in the areas identified through APR-ESSER:

Safely returning students to in-person instruction

The District plans to allocate ARP-ESSER funds to the purchase of support in-person instruction. Such purchases are intended to be non-recurring expenses. Replacement costs of any purchases will be allocated within the General Fund once the federal funds are no longer available.

Maximizing in-person instruction time

The District plans to utilize ARP-ESSER funds to support lower class sizes and provide instructional supports and services to maximize in-person instruction, including remedial and enrichment opportunities for students. Funding will be allocated to staff programs accordingly on a year-to-year basis and will be reviewed annually to minimize recurring costs.

Operating schools and meeting the needs of students

The District plans to utilize ARP-ESSER funds to lower class sizes in our elementary schools (K-5). Additionally, staff will be allocated to each grade level to support social emotional and academic needs, such as learning loss and enrichment. The District will evaluate positions to ensure staffing levels support student needs through program evaluations and student achievement data. Positions added through ARP-ESSER funds will be eliminated through attrition, unless the District determines a need where local funds will be used to support.

Purchasing educational technology

The District plans to utilize ARP-ESSER funds to support equity and access for all students relative to technology in instructional classrooms. Clear Touch interactive displays will be purchased for all instructional classrooms. Instructional web-based software will also be purchased to support learning loss and enrichment for students and staff.

Future technology replacement costs will be evaluated and prioritized to be included in the District's Technology Annual Budget. Local funds will sustain technology purchases identified through this process.

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

Instructional and non-instructional staffing will be increased to provide response to intervention (i.e. reading and math) and social emotional supports. Programming will be offered during the summer, before and after-school, as well as during extended breaks. Instructional programs will be designed to target learning loss and opportunities for students impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The District will evaluate academic intervention services and opportunities for students. Recommendations for staffing and resources allocation will be reviewed and purchased using ARP-ESSER funds.

Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health and academic needs

The District will utilize ARP-ESSER funds to support early childhood students with target resources to support foundational literacy skills, reading, writing and math instruction. Building-based substitute teachers will be housed in all areas to support students while instructional staff are attending focused, professional development opportunities.

Additionally, the District will plan to support students through mental health services and professional development opportunities that will enhance our restorative practices and Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports. The District will explore opportunities with programs, such as AVID, that support students by closing the opportunity gap.

Offering evidence-based summer, afterschool and other extended learning and enrichment programs

The District will utilize ARP-ESSER funds to support Instructional programs designed to target learning loss and opportunities for students impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic. Programs will be created to support students through extended learning opportunities such as: summer programming, before and after-school and during extended breaks.

Supporting early childhood education.

The District utilize ARP-ESSER funds to support early childhood students with target resources to support foundational literacy skills, reading, writing and math instruction. Clear Touch interactive displays will be purchased for all Prekindergarten instructional classrooms

References: The State Education Department Memo: *Information for Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) on American Rescue Plan (ARP), Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Plan State Budget Language.*