



Cortland Enlarged City School District

American Rescue Plan Act - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Plan

Introduction

In March 2021 the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law by President Biden. This plan allocated funds to school districts through the Elementary and Secondary School Relief Plan (ARPA-ESSER). New York State was awarded 8.9 billion dollars in relief funds with 90% of these funds going to local educational agencies. The Cortland Enlarged City School District (CECSD) was allocated \$5,699,639 dollars through the ARPA-ESSER funds. It is required that at least 20% of these funds be used to address learning loss. The remaining funds may be used for other expenses as allowed in the grant. This includes **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 instructional 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
- Supporting early childhood education

Districts were required to gather stakeholder input, present the plan to the public, and post the plan publicly. Input has been gathered to inform this plan through district committees. A public presentation of the plan occurred on June 8, 2021. The presentation, as well as this plan and related documentation, may be viewed on the District website. In order to regularly review and update the plan, four checkpoint public meetings will occur prior to March 2022, September 2022, March 2023, and September 2023.

Within the appropriate categories, ARPA-ESSER expenditures have been focused to address: learning loss, professional development, and the safe reopening of schools. A summary of the funding plan is as follows:

Safely Returning Students to In-Person Instruction

The CECSD currently provides in-person learning to all students. To support this, personal protective equipment including, masks, gloves, shields, and scrubs have been purchased. Additional supplies to sanitize and clean facilities are also being purchased.

Maximizing In-Person Instruction

In person learning is being provided to all students.

Operating Schools and Meeting the Needs of Students

Students' learning will be ensured through multi tiered systems of support. This utilizes common assessments, universal screening tools, and targeted interventions. Collaborative time and professional learning will be provided to teachers and staff to support this work. Additionally, hotspots, devices, and needed materials will be provided to students during any period of remote learning. Software applications, hands on materials and manipulatives, and decodable readers will support student learning.

Purchasing Instructional Technology

Instructional technology is being updated and added to support student learning. This includes, ipads, software applications, and interactive boards.

Addressing the Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Students

Support is being provided to students in order to help mitigate learning loss, transition students to in-person learning, and address social-emotional learning needs. These supports include:

- A full time head teacher at the primary grades. This teacher provides SEL support to students at the K-2 level.
- Additional teacher aides to support students with disabilities.
- A reading teacher at the secondary level.
- Curriculum materials.
- Hands on learning and sensory tools and manipulatives.
- Decodable readers.
- Professional development for teachers.
- Staff development materials.

Teachers, administration and social work staff work with local agencies to provide for students in need. This includes low-income students, English language learners, and students experiencing homelessness.

Implementing Evidence Based Strategies to Meet Students' Social, Emotional, Mental Health, and Academic Needs

Professional development for staff, additional hours outside of school, collaborative time, and structures support the implementation of evidence based strategies. This includes operating as a professional learning community by maintaining a focus on learning, a focus on collaboration, and a focus on results.

Specific professional development will be provided specific to ensuring student social-emotional learning and wellbeing. Sensory materials will be provided for using in classrooms and designated sensory rooms. Additional teacher aides, a head teacher and two school resource officers will be hired to support student needs.

Offering Evidence-Based Summer, Afterschool, and other Extended Learning and Enrichment Programs

Summer school programming will be offered during the next few years to support student learning. This programming will focus on mitigating student learning loss and supporting student social-emotional learning. Extended learning and enrichment programs may be offered as determined by stakeholder input.

Supporting Early Childhood Education

Space within each school building with students in Kindergarten through 6th grade will be provided for UPK programming.

Initial American Rescue Plan Act Use of Funding

American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Use of Grant Funding	Year 1 (2021-2022)	Year 2 (2022-2023)	Year 3 (2023-2024)	Year 4* (2024-2025)
Guidance and Social Worker Salaries	\$260,000	\$270,000	\$280,000	
Instructional Staff Salaries and Stipends		\$118,000	\$122,400	\$30,000
Support Staff Salaries and Stipends	\$333,600	\$350,200	\$367,160	
Summer School Stipends	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$30,000
Professional Development (Curriculum and SEL)	\$119,000	\$119,000	\$117,000	
Curriculum Materials (Math and ELA)	\$180,000	\$180,000	\$180,000	
Technology Upgrades (iPads, Interactive Boards, Decodable Readers)	\$552,000	\$532,000	\$527,000	
Health and Safety Materials (PPE, Cleaning Supplies)	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$40,000	
Staff Benefits	\$188,529	\$259,200	\$269,550	
Total Budget per Year:	\$1,743,129	\$1,938,400	\$1,958,110	\$60,000
Percent of Total ARPA Allocation:	30.58%	34.01%	34.35%	1.05%

*Funds must be expended by September 30, 2024. Amounts in Year 4 account for stipends planned during the summer of 2024.