

Overview of the American Rescue Plan (ARP)

As part of the federal government's American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, school districts across the country will receive additional funding in response to the impact of COVID on students. The Oswego City School District will receive an allocation of \$8.9 million to invest in our students' education for the next three years. District spending plans are required to be posted on their website. Before posting the plan, districts are required to seek public comment from parents, teachers and other stakeholders to help develop the plan.

Listening to Community Needs

Planning to use these funds began in collaboration with district students, staff, families, and community members. To gather feedback and input, the OCSD created multiple opportunities for all stakeholders to engage with district staff and share their ideas and needs. A survey was sent out to all OCSD families and posted on our website, stakeholder meetings were held in all seven schools, and the information was outlined at an OCSD Board meeting. As a result of these engagement efforts, the district received hundreds of suggestions from students, families, staff, and community members on prioritizing the use of ARP funding. In analyzing the feedback offered by district stakeholders, the district took careful consideration of community priorities during the creation of the plan.

The final plan allows our district to:

- Safely return students to in-person instruction;
- Maximize in-person instruction time;
- Operate schools safely and meet the needs of students;
- Purchase educational technology;
- Address 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;
- Implement evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs; and
- Offer evidence-based summer, afterschool, and other extended learning and enrichment programs.

ARP Funding Priorities for OCSD

Our plans for non-recurring expenses in the area of maximizing in-person instruction time will include:

- Reading Coaches in elementary buildings, will replace reading teacher positions at the end of the grants
- Literacy Equipment for reading development
- PLC (professional learning communities) training at the secondary level

<p>Our plans for non-recurring expenses in the area of operating schools and meeting the needs of students will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food service support staff to support the changes in how we need to deliver breakfast and lunch
<p>Our plans for non-recurring expenses in the area of purchasing educational technology will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleartouch Panels • Remote training for parents • Seesaw program for K-1 students
<p>Our plans for non-recurring expenses in the area of 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 will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TCIS (Therapeutic Crisis Intervention for Schools) training for Oswego Staff
<p>Our plans for non-recurring expenses in the area of implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social and emotional online curriculum for grades K-6 • Rachel's Challenge
<p>Our plans for non-recurring expenses in the area of offering evidence-based summer, afterschool, and other extended learning and enrichment programs will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 Weeks, summer school programs K-12 • After school tutoring and busing
<p>The following programs will continue beyond the availability of federal funds and we will use the following local funds in order to minimize disruption to core academic and other school programs will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching assistants to support Tier II instruction in elementary classrooms and secondary programming • Math AIS teachers to allow for more students to receive Tier 2 instruction in small class settings • School counselors to support the social and emotional needs of all students. • Team leader stipends for elementary faculty

The plan covers a three-year funded time span. We anticipate that amendments will likely occur as we implement programs, review each program's impact on student learning and engagement, and revise as necessary.