



American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act 2021

Summary:

March 11, 2021, the President of the United States signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. ARP makes available \$122.8 billion nationally in a third round of Elementary/Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds.

ARP requires Marlow Public Schools (MPS) to reserve at least 20% of ARP-ESSER allocations to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive after school programs, or extended school year programs, and ensure that such interventions respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on economically disadvantaged students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, migrant, homeless, and foster care children. Moreover, MPS will ensure such interventions respond to students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs and address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on groups of students disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

MPS may use its allocation of ARP-ESSER funds for a variety of activities related to educating students during the COVID-19 pandemic and addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on students/educators/staff.

The District's Initial Plan for the Use of ARP funds is:

- For non-recurring expenses in the area of educational technology and 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. District intends to purchase a multitude of educational technology, equipment and supplies for the benefit of the overall student population impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic for the duration of the grant period. In addition, the District intends to target said purchases to adhere to the maintenance of equity specifications explicitly stated in the grant guidance.

- For non-recurring expenses in the area of offering evidence-based summer school, comprehensive after school, and other extended learning and enrichment programs. District intends to implement various summer, after-school and extended learning and enrichment programs for the duration of the grant period. This includes but is not limited to Summer Literacy Camps, which are focused on addressing reading and writing skills while fostering kindness, courage, curiosity, confidence, belonging and hope to all students involved.
- To minimize disruption to core academic and other school programs, MPS intends to maintain and enhance the current curriculum for the benefit of the overall student population while adhering to the maintenance of equity specifications explicitly stated in the grant guidance for the duration of the grant period. This will be implemented in a variety of ways and will not be limited to instructional salaries and benefits solely.
- Non-recurring expenses in the area of school facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of school to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards and to support student health needs.
- Non-recurring expenses of other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in and continuing to employ existing staff.