



# ARP-ESSR Funding Plan

## Introduction

The 2021-22 enacted state budget includes language requiring local education agencies, such as school districts, that receive funding from the Federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund allocated by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP-ESSER) to post on its website a plan by school year of how these funds will be spent.

New York has been allocated nearly \$9 billion in ARP-ESSER funds, with a minimum of \$8.09 billion (90 percent) going to local education agencies, including public schools. Westhill Central School District has been allocated \$1,740,620.

Of this total, a minimum of \$700,000 is earmarked for a Learning Loss Grant focusing on evidence-based summer enrichment, after school enrichment, and other “learning loss” activities.

Districts are also 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.

In addition, districts must identify programs and services that will continue beyond the availability of these federal funds and how local funds will be used moving forward in order to minimize disruption to core academic and other school programs.

Before posting this plan, 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.



Stakeholder input sessions:

- Westhill Instructional Team (4/29/21)
- Administrative Council (5/11/21)
- Mentor Program (5/12/21)
- WHS/OHMS Parent Councils (5/17/21)
- Board of Education (5/18/21)
- Math Leadership Team (5/19/21)
- Westhill Instructional Team (6/2/21)
- Board of Education (6/7/21)
- Diversity Committee (6/15/21)
- Board of Education (6/21/21)

## Maximizing in-person instruction time

Plan Summary:

\*Five general education teaching assistants to collaborate with teachers and administrators to support meeting the needs of individual students.

## Operating schools and meeting the needs of students

Plan Summary:

\*Other operating costs as needed to save positions and programs.

## Purchase of educational technology

Plan Summary:

\*Activpanel by Promethean:

“Thoughtfully crafted from the ground up, the ActivPanel Elements series interactive displays for schools are based on extensive user research to deliver innovation and ease-of-use that matters to teachers and students, as well as the security and manageability trusted by IT professionals and administrators ([prometheunworld.com](http://prometheunworld.com)).”  
The Activpanels will increase engagement, motivation, and collaboration of students and teachers in Westhill classrooms.



- Twenty-two Activpanels for kindergarten, first grade, second grade, and 12:1:4 classrooms.

## Addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on all students, including low-income students, students with disabilities, English language learners, and students experiencing homelessness.

Plan Summary:

\*Transportation shuttles for summer enrichment opportunities to provide equitable access for all students.

\*Support for families of English language learners through increased resources and family information sessions.

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

Plan Summary:

\*Academic Intervention Services:

Academic intervention services means additional instruction which supplements the instruction provided in the general curriculum and assists students in meeting the State learning standards. (nysed.gov)

- Three Academic Intervention Service (AIS) teachers

\*Mental Health Services:

When young people are educated about mental health, the likelihood increases they will be able to effectively recognize signs and symptoms in themselves and others and will know where to turn for help. (nysed.gov)

- Counseling Center Services: Social skills; peer tutoring and mentors
- Collaboration with Onondaga County for increase of 3.3 staff members specializing in mental health services

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

Plan Summary:

\*Summer Enrichment:



Evidence-based summer enrichment opportunities will be implemented to respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs over the next three summers including, but not limited to:

- HS Credit Recovery
- HS Transition Program
- Incoming Kindergarten Program
- Academic Tutoring/Camp
- Fine Arts Camp
- Technology
- Physical Education/Health
- Library Media Program

#### \*Afterschool Enrichment

Implementation of evidence-based comprehensive afterschool programs will occur over the next three school years to respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs. Examples of possible programs are:

- Robotics
- Coding
- Yoga
- Karate
- Art
- Legos
- Academic Intervention/Enrichment

#### \*Other Activities to Address Student Needs

Implement evidence-based interventions to meet the needs of students and administer and use high-quality assessments that are valid and reliable to assess students' academic needs and address the needs through individualized instruction.

- K-12 Interventions:
  - Implement evidence-based interventions to meet the needs of students
  - Administer and use high-quality assessments and interventions that are valid and reliable to assess students' academic needs and address the needs through individualized instruction.
- K-12 Professional Development to support core instruction, interventions, and enrichment.
- Adaptive software to address gaps in the mastery of NYS Standards
  - Implement evidence-based interventions to meet the needs of students



- Administer and use high-quality assessments and interventions that are valid and reliable to assess students' academic needs and address the needs through individualized instruction.

## Other areas of student performance and need.

Plan Summary:

\*Costs for response to intervention planning and implementation as needed.