

Lyme Central School District

American Rescue Plan

Mission: Preparing Today's Students to be Tomorrow's Citizens

All public school districts, Local Educational Agency, (LEA) participating in the American Rescue Plan (ARP) are required to develop a plan for the usage of the ARP funds that complies with the program's guidelines. These guidelines further state that the ARP plan created by the District should allow for the continuation of the program or programs related items beyond the availability of these federal funds.

To gather feedback, LCSD created an opportunity for stakeholders (parents; teachers; staff; community members) to engage with Administration and the Board of Education in order for interested parties to share ideas and make recommendations or offer suggestions for addressing perceived needs and priorities regarding the use of federal stimulus funds.

Prior to the District's American Rescue Plan becoming final, it will be posted publicly on our District website at www.lymecsd.org to allow for additional input and public comments. The District encourages all of its stakeholders to send any and all comments directly to the Board Clerk at swilson@lymecsd.org. All comments will be considered prior to finalizing the ARP.

ARP Permissible Expense Areas

These emergency federal funds were made available so that Districts could provide a wide range of resources, strategies and activities to support student learning, while also addressing diverse needs arising from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 Pandemic. It is anticipated that schools may, with this additional financial support, emerge stronger post-pandemic.

Districts are required to prioritize spending in the following areas:

- Safely returning students to in-person instruction;
- Maximizing in-person instruction time;
- Operating schools and meeting the needs of students;
- Improving indoor air quality
- Repairing and improving school facilities;
- 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

Funding Allocations

ARP Grant Funding	Allocation
Base 90% Allocation	\$719,405
20% Required Reserve for Learning Loss	\$143,881
ARP Allocation for District’s Discretionary use per ARP Guidelines	\$575,524

3-Year Plan For Use Of Funds

*The following is a **preliminary** outline of programs and initiatives the District is planning to implement with ARP funds. A more comprehensive plan will be forthcoming in alignment with the ARP application guidelines which will be put forth by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) upon release of part II of the ARP application.*

Objective #1	Address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions and ensure that such interventions respond to students’ academic, social, and emotional needs.
Plan Summary	The Lyme Central School District will hire a full-time Speech-Language Pathologist to provide much needed instructional support to our students. This service provider will focus work with students on instructional strategies to enhance student communication skills (oral and written); social skills (including but not limited to carrying on conversations, matching emotions to faces; communicating in a variety of situations, and so on); improving language skills; articulation; fluency; use of voice, etc. The LEA ensures that such intervention responds to each student and his/her academic needs.
Estimated Grant Funding Commitment	2021-2022 - \$54,555 2022-2023 - \$56,075

Objective #2	Offer evidence-based afterschool enrichment and extended learning programs
Plan Summary	The Lyme Central School District will fund and operate an afterschool program for students based on Academic, Behavioral or Social-Emotional needs. Planning and work sessions will take place during the summer of 2021. The District will hire staff as deemed necessary and appropriate in order to address student needs. Transportation will be provided.
Estimated Grant Funding Commitment	2021-2022 - \$158,038 2022-2023 - \$145,000 2023-2024 - \$125,000

Objective #3	Implement evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health and academic needs
Plan Summary	The Lyme Central School District will identify and offer professional development training opportunities to staff regarding the utilization of evidence-based strategies to address the impacts of COVID-19 on all students. Priority will be placed on trainings and resources associated with social, emotional and mental health needs. Professional development training opportunities, educational materials, and informative presentations will be purchased and provided to staff and the school community and stakeholders as deemed necessary to address needs.
Estimated Grant Funding Commitment	2021-2022 - \$20,000 2022-2023 - \$20,000 2023-2024 - \$20,000

Objective #4	Addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on students, including the impacts of interrupted instruction and learning loss
Plan Summary	The Lyme Central School District will purchase Reading resources (Journeys Program) for students in grades 4, 5, and 6 in order to provide programmatic consistency for students as they move to the upper elementary. In order to address early learning loss due to our inability to staff and meet social distancing requirements for our UPK program during the 2020-21 school year, the district has created an additional Kindergarten classroom. An academic support teacher will provide push-in services to students struggling due to the negative impacts of interrupted instruction. Instructional materials will be purchased to support teachers and students as necessary.
Estimated Grant Funding Commitment	2021-2022 - \$75,000 2022-2023 - \$25,500 2023-2024 - \$20,237