

SOUTH SENECA SCHOOL DISTRICT



**American Rescue Plan Act
(ARPA) - Update
July 2023**

Background - 2021

- NYS has been allocated nearly \$9 billion in American Rescue Plan Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARPA-ESSER) funds.
- A minimum of 90% needs to be allocated to Local Educational Agencies (LEA).
- South Seneca 90% allocation is \$2,622,146. The remaining 10% will be reserve by NYS and allocated to Districts determined by NYS.
- 20% of the 90% allocation (\$524,429) must be used to address for “learning loss”. The rest (\$2,097,717) can be used other allowable uses (see slide 3).
- LEA allocations have been calculated using the relative shares of grant awards under Title I, Part A of the ESEA for the most recent federal fiscal year (2020).

ARPA New Provisions for LEAs

- The ARPA statute and Interim Financial Requirements (IFR) include several new provisions for LEAs.
 - To support safe return to in-person instructions and continuity of services - The LEA must develop, within 30 days after receiving its allocation, a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. The LEA must seek public comment on the plan and take such comments into consideration before making the plan publically available on the LEA's website. If a reopening plan has already been developed and meets the public comment requirement, then the LEA may consider using it instead. The plan will need to be revised, within 6 months, to meet the requirements of the IFR.

ARPA New Provisions for LEAs

Cont.

- The ARPA statute and Interim Financial Requirements (IFR) include several new provisions for LEAs.
 - Reservation to Address the Academic Impact on Lost Instructional Time – This is related to the 20% (\$524,429). The LEA must reserve this funding to implement evidence based interventions, such as summer learning or enrichment, extended day, comprehensive after-school programs, or extended school year programs.
 - LEA Plan for Use of ARPA Funds – Under the IFR, the LEA must develop a plan for its use of ARPA funding and submit it to NYS. The plan must contain, at a minimum, the extent to which and how funds will be used to/for:
 - Implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are consistent with CDC guidance.
 - Address academic impact of lost of instructional time.
 - The remaining ARPA funds.

ARPA New Provisions for LEAs

Cont.

- The ARPA statute and Interim Financial Requirements (IFR) include several new provisions for LEAs.
 - Public Input – The LEA must offer the opportunity for meaningful consultations with stake holders including students, families, school and district administrators, teachers, principals, other educators, school staff, and their unions. The LEA must take such input into account in the developing of the plan. The plan must also be posted on the LEA's website.
 - State Budget Update – Districts are required to update their ARP plan and post the updated plan to the website and submit to SED.

SSCS Update of ARP Plan

- Public Comment

- During our June 2021 Board meeting, we presented the South Seneca plan on ARPA funding. There was discussion on staff addition (RTI Math, MTSS), upgrade to the current HVAC system to help with warm weather conditions and investing in wider access to broadband.
- During our July 2022 Board meeting, we provided an opportunity for both the BOE and community members to discuss, ask questions and provide input in the ARPA plan. The BOE received an update from the Superintendent, Engineers and Construction Manager on the current status of the project and future steps. During the 4 yearly buildings and grounds meetings, the committee was given status reports.
- For the July 2023 Board meeting, members the Board are receiving this presentation as an update, and the community is invited to comment here in person, or in writing.

- Goals and Ratios

- Hunt Engineers provided a few options to improve air quality/circulation in both buildings during warmer month.
 - Goal is to provide 5 cooling zones in the Elementary and MSHS buildings. Cost include rooftop units, UV replacement, and incidentals. With these units, Facilities personnel can control the humidity levels. By controlling the humidity the District can help minimize the effectiveness and spread of virus and bacteria during warmer month. This will also improve the overall occupant comfort levels during warmer months. As of July 2023, construction has commenced in the ES building.
 - Our other goal is to continue to provide MTSS and RIT Math staff to be available for students deemed to have lost instruction time. No change was noted on this proposal.

SSCS Update of ARP Plan Continue

- Summaries of Investments

- We have engaged Hunt Engineers to file the necessary documents to NYSED to approve the project. After NYSED approval, our next step would be to bid out the construction.
- As discussed in recent buildings and grounds meeting, the work should commence and substantially be completed by the summer of 2023.
- Because of the 2022-23 inflation factors, the HS building plans needed to be transferred to the 2024 Capital Project.
- On the last week of June, demolition work commenced in the ES building. During the months of July and August pipework will be done in preparation to the Air Quality Units.

- Priority Areas

- Elementary second floor is the primary sections to be upgraded.
- Projected month for completion is November 2023