

American Rescue Plan Funding Narrative (ESSER III)

Revision 11/15/22

Introduction

On March 11, 2021 United States president Joe Biden signed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) into law spending \$1.9 trillion across the nation. A large portion of that funding was directed to educational agencies. The State of Utah is expected to receive \$615,526,070 for education. Of that, Piute County School District is expected to receive \$503,613. If that funding is distributed to the schools based on the October 1, 2020 enrollment, each school would receive the following estimated amounts...

| School | Estimated Distribution |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Circleville Elementary | \$135,975 |
| Oscarson Elementary | \$65,470 |
| Piute High School | \$302,168 |
| Total | \$503,613 |

This funding is expected to have similar restrictions as the first two COVID-19 related federal stimulus packages. The funding is required to be connected to the recovery from and prevention of COVID-19. This funding must be expended by September 30th, 2023.

Strategy #1: Professional Development

The pandemic has required teachers to upgrade their use of digital instruction platforms. This takes time and training for teachers to do well. The first use of funding will be providing school district teachers with three additional contract days for the 2021-2022 school year and the 2022-2023 school year. One of the days will be coordinated by the school district office and the school principals to provide needed training on curriculum. The other two days will allow teachers time to incorporate curriculum training into their lesson plans and activities. The expected costs would be as follows through FY23...

| School | Salary | Benefits | Total |
|------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Circleville Elementary | \$13,200 | \$4,137 | \$17,337 |
| Oscarson Elementary | \$6,000 | \$1,881 | \$7,881 |
| Piute High School | \$19,200 | \$6,018 | \$25,218 |
| Total | \$38,400 | \$12,036 | \$50,436 |

This goal is on track to be carried out as planned. The removal of strategy two allows this strategy to be extended to the 2023-2024 school year. Total expenditures for this strategy are now expected to be \$88,684.

Strategy #2: Facilities Upgrades Strategy Removed With Revision

The pandemic exposed the weaknesses in our facilities for the spread of infectious diseases. In particular the heating and cooling systems are in many parts of the schools antiquated and not ideal for preserving quality clean air in the instructional environment. Approximately 36% of total allocations will be set aside for facility upgrades that help prevent the spread of airborne illnesses.

| School | Facilities Upgrades Budget |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Circleville Elementary | \$59,960 |
| Oscarson Elementary | \$36,945 |
| Piute High School | \$102,947 |
| Total | \$199,852 |

Strategy #3: Continuation of ESSER II Positions (20% Addressing Learning Loss)

The first two federal stimulus packages allowed the school district to hire additional instructional support positions to provide evidence-based student interventions. ESSER II funding must be expended by September 30th, 2022 and it is not expected that some of these positions will continue to the 2022-2023 school year without using ARP funding. As instructional benefits have been found by having these positions funds will be budgeted to continue these positions through the 2022-2023 school year. This includes the CES Paraprofessional Position and the PHS Interventions Teacher. The two PHS paraprofessionals will be paid from ARP funds for both school years.

| Position | Percent ARP | Salary | Benefits | Total |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------|----------|-----------|
| CES Paraprofessional | 100% | \$14,073 | \$1,077 | \$15,150 |
| PHS Paraprofessional | 100% | \$28,146 | \$2,154 | \$30,300 |
| PHS Paraprofessional | 100% | \$28,146 | \$7,968 | \$36,114 |
| PHS Interventions Teacher | 27.5% | \$12,375 | \$9,393 | \$21,768 |
| Total | | \$54,594 | \$15,531 | \$103,332 |

With the removal of strategy number two and the reduction of strategy four, the district will expand this strategy that started with ESSER II funding. ESSER II positions will be continued for 2023-2024 school year and similar new intervention and differentiated instruction positions will be added. Total expected expenditures for this strategy are now expected to be \$367,312.

Strategy #4: Instructional Coaching & Mentoring

As stated previously the pandemic has stretched teachers in their use of online learning platforms to better serve students learning in a blended instruction model. Though students are now fully back in the classrooms in person the need for quality online instruction remains. The pandemic illustrated how quality online learning content can bridge student learning during temporary absences, which will always be needed. Teachers need quality professional development and ongoing coaching and mentoring to properly implement the tools and strategies expected to online content access. The school district will create a 0.5 FTE instructional coach position to support the implementation of best practice instructional methods for digital delivery. The distribution of the cost of this position for two years will be divided among the schools as shown below....

| Instructional Coach | Percent | Salary | Benefits | Total |
|------------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| Circleville Elementary | 27% | \$15,390 | \$10,720 | \$26,110 |
| Oscarson Elementary | 13% | \$7,410 | \$5,162 | \$12,572 |
| Piute High School | 60% | \$34,200 | \$23,822 | \$58,022 |
| Total | | \$57.000 | \$39.704 | \$96.704 |

The instructional coach position was reduced in 2022-2023 school year requiring this strategy to be reevaluated. This strategy will be reduced and reallocated to strategy number three to increase the amount of differentiated instruction and interventions. This strategy is expected to be completed with total expenditures of \$24,235.

Strategy #5: Outside Professional Development

In addition to professional development conducted by principals and teachers, the school district will also offer professional development from outside the school district. Trainers and presenters will assist with team building, curriculum implementation, and best practices instruction. Costs will include travel and contract services expenses for presenters and trainers. Training costs will also include salaries and benefits for teachers, paraprofessionals, and administrators.

| School | Travel / Services | Salary | Benefits | Total |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Circleville Elementary | \$5,400 | \$8,712 | \$2,731 | \$16,843 |
| Oscarson Elementary | \$2,600 | \$3,960 | \$1,242 | \$7,802 |
| Piute High School | \$12,000 | \$12,672 | \$3,972 | \$28,644 |
| Total | \$20,000 | \$25,344 | \$7,945 | \$53,289 |

With the reduction of strategy number 4 and the elimination of strategy number two this strategy will be expanded to include stipends to teachers for participating in the LETRS training in SY23 and SY24. Total expected expenditures for this strategy will be extended to \$82,283 and the amount expected to be used for travel and purchased services will be reduced to \$9,000.

Plan Summary & Conclusion

The actual distribution between schools would vary slightly from the per pupil model. The actual distribution between schools would be...

| School | Final Proposed Distribution | Revised Distribution | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Circleville Elementary | \$135,400 | \$205,448 | |
| Oscarson Elementary | \$65,200 | \$115,213 | |
| Piute High School | \$303,013 | \$241,853 | |
| Total | \$503,613 | \$562,514 | |

Each of the five four strategies would be implemented and completed prior to September 30th, 2023 2024. The school district will evaluate the effectiveness of each strategy upon completion to determine if greater investments in such programs are needed to continue the strategies into future school years. The final estimated distribution by strategy is expected to be as follows...

| Strategy | Final Proposed Distribution | Revised Distribution |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Strategy #1 | \$50,436 | \$88,684 |
| Strategy #2 | \$199,852 | \$0 |
| Strategy #3 | \$103,332 | \$367,312 |
| Strategy #4 | \$96,704 | \$24,235 |
| Strategy #5 | \$53,289 | \$82,283 |
| Total | \$503.613 | \$562,514 |