

American Rescue Plan ESSER Grant Newtown Public Schools Draft Plan

Background on federal ARP ESSER grant for K-12 School Districts:

- Funded by the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, signed into law 3/11/21.
- Provides an additional \$112.8 billion nationwide for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER), created in response to Covid-19 pandemic.
- Newtown's ARP ESSER allocation is \$1,253,726. Funds can be used for expenses from March 2020 through September 2024.
- The grant application is due to the CT State Department of Education on 8/16/21. The grant requires districts to get input from stakeholders regarding their ARP ESSER plans.

Funds must be used for allowable purposes under ARP. The CT State Department of Education has identified five priorities for districts.

1. Learning Acceleration, Academic Renewal, and Student Enrichment
2. Family and Community Connections
3. Social, Emotional, and Mental Health of the Students and of our School Staff
4. Strategic Use of Technology, Staff Development, and the Digital Divide
5. Building Safe and Healthy Schools

20% of CT school districts' allocations must address Priority #1.

Newtown's ARP ESSER Draft Plan for the 2021-22 School Year includes:

Priority 1	
1.0 ELL Teacher	K-12
.5 Math Interventionist	HOM
1.0 Math Interventionist	RIS
1.0 Special Education Teacher	NHS
1.0 Speech Language Pathologist	NHS
Special Education Support for TAP Program	NHS
Non-certified Staff Support for ARC Program	NMS
Support for Homework Clubs	NMS/RIS

New Tutoring Program for Elementary Schools	K-4
EduClimber License for tracking student data and monitoring interventions	District
Fountas and Pinnell Reading Assessment kits	District
Bus transportation for summer enrichment programs	District
Additional NMS and NHS summer school staffing costs 2021	NMS/NHS
Additional Special Education Teachers for Extended School Year (ESY) 2021	District
Priority 2	
Blackboard for notifications/two-way communication	District
Family information nights for new math program K-5	K-4/RIS
Family information night for ELL students	District
Staff stipend to support digital signage/event streaming	NHS
Priority 3	
Increase Social Worker Position from .4 to 1.0	RIS
Priority 4	
300 Chromebooks	District
Digital licenses for programs such as Rosetta Stone, Code HS, Achieve 3000 to support individualized learning	District
Priority 5	
<i>No ESSER budget items in 2021-22, see below for 2022-23. Some vaccine clinic costs from 2020-21.</i>	
Total for 2021-22 School Year	\$748,300
Total Remaining for 2022-23 School Year	\$505,426

Newtown Public Schools Draft Plan for the 2022-23 School Year Includes:

- Continued Funding for Math and Reading Interventionist Positions
- Continued Funding for ELL Teacher
- Continued Funding for Digital Licenses
- Moving and storage costs for Hawley HVAC project