#### **PUTTING STUDENTS FIRST**



# May 2021 Coffee Talk Federal Grants – CARES, CRRSA, & ARP

Sarah Morrison, State Aid Planning



# Agenda for Today

- Overview of the three new federal grant allocations
- Review of the source of funds
- Accounting issues for each grant
- Allowable expenditures for each grant
- Recommended future actions for each grant
- Other matters to review when developing plan for use of funds



# Federal Allocations to NYS Public Schools

- CARES Act = Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act
  - Approved March 2020
  - □ \$1.13 billion
- CRRSA Act = Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act
  - Approved December 2020
  - □ \$3.85 billion
- ARP Act = American Rescue Plan Act
  - Approved March 2021
  - \$8.20 billion



Period of Fund Availability: 3/13/20-9/30/21\*
 (\*Extended to 9/30/22 with Tydings Amendment period)

<u>Tydings Amendment</u> - the Tydings Amendment, Section 412(B) of the General Education Provisions Act, 20 U.S.C. 1225(B), authorizes that any funds not obligated at the end of the initial federal funding period shall remain available for obligation for an additional period of 12 months.

- □ By 9/30/22:
  - Obligate funds
  - Expense goods and/or services
  - Complete FS-10F

#### CARES Act – Sources of Funds

Funded from two federal programs:

- CFDA #84.425C Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund
  - □ SED Project # 5895-21-XXXX

- CFDA#84.425D Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)
  - □ SED Project # 5890-21-XXXX

## **CARES Act - Accounting**

- Accounted for in the General Fund
- State Aid (Pandemic Adjustment) was reduced by the amount of the CARES Act grant
- □ Revenue code A4286
- Expenditures recommended by OSC to be put in separate accounts for transparency of use
- OSC memo available at:

cares-act-information-guidance.pdf (state.ny.us)

# Allowable Expenditures

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#### What are the allowable uses of GEER funds by LEAs?

Unless otherwise restricted by the Governor at the time of award, the LEA has considerable flexibility in determining how best to use GEER funds to prevent, prepare for, or respond to COVID-19. Grant funds awarded under subsection may be used to—

- (1) Implement activity authorized by the ESEA of 1965, including the Native Hawaiian Education Act and the Alaska Native Educational Equity, Support, and Assistance Act (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) ("IDEA"), the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.), the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.) ("the Perkins Act"), or subtitle B of title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.) (Section 18002(c)(3)).
- (2) provide child care and early childhood education, social and emotional support, and the protection of education-related jobs.
- (3) support the ability of local educational agencies to continue to provide educational services to their students and to support the ongoing functionality of the local educational agency.

The United States Department of Education has encouraged States and LEAs to invest GEER funds in technology infrastructure and professional development that will improve capacity to provide high quality, accessible, distance education, or remote learning. This may include:

- Providing access to reliable, high-speed internet for students and teachers through the purchase of internet-connected devices/equipment, mobile hotspots, wireless service plans, or installation of Community Wi-Fi Hotspots, especially in underserved communities:
- Purchasing hardware and software applications for students and teachers;
- Providing access to high-quality digital learning content, apps, and tools that can deliver engaging and relevant learning experiences that are accessible to all students;
- Covering costs associated with making materials accessible for students with disabilities or English learners; and
- Providing professional development and training for teachers on effective strategies for the delivery of remote and digital instruction.

So very flexible...

#### What are the allowable uses of ESSER funds by LEAs?

An LEA may use ESSER funds for any of the following activities:

- Any activity authorized by the ESEA of 1965, including the Native Hawaiian Education
  Act and the Alaska Native Educational Equity, Support, and Assistance Act (20 U.S.C.
  6301 et seq.), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.)
  ("IDEA"), the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.), the Carl D.
  Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.) ("the
  Perkins Act"), or subtitle B of title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
  (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.).
- Coordination of preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies with State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments, and other relevant agencies, to improve coordinated responses among such entities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.
- Providing principals and others school leaders with the resources necessary to address the needs of their individual schools.
- 4. Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth, including how outreach and service delivery will meet the needs of each population.
- Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies.
- Training and professional development for staff of the local educational agency on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.
- Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a local educational agency, including buildings operated by such agency.
- 8. Planning for and coordinating during long-term closures, including for how to provide meals to eligible students, how to provide technology for online learning to all students, how to provide guidance for carrying out requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.) and how to ensure other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all Federal, State, and local requirements.
- Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the local educational agency that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and students with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment.
- 10. Providing mental health services and supports.
- 11. Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs, including providing classroom instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care.
- 12. Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in local educational agencies and continuing to employ existing staff of the local educational agency.

## CARES Act – Future Steps

- Complete FS-25 to request funds beyond the first 20%
  - □ Can request up to 90% of grant before FS-10F done
- Coordinate with non-publics to provide equitable services
- On June 30<sup>th</sup> record a receivable in the General Fund for the difference between eligible expenditures and federal aid received
- Evaluate if new federal funds will affect need for Single Audit (if >\$750,000) & coordinate with auditors

## CARES Act – Future Steps

- □ If don't spend all of the grant before June 30<sup>th</sup>:
  - Have BOE approve a budget amendment for the 21 22 school year for the portion unspent
    - Increase Federal Aid, Increase Related Appropriations
    - Is a "Grant-in-Aid" so can amend budget for
  - Follow up again with non-publics so district is not waiting for them at the end of the grant period
- Complete FS-10Fs when grants are finished
  - No need to wait until 9/30/22

#### **CRRSA Act - Overview**

 Period of Fund Availability: 3/13/20-9/30/22\* (\*Extended to 9/30/23 with Tydings Amendment period)

<u>Tydings Amendment</u> - the Tydings Amendment, Section 412(B) of the General Education Provisions Act, 20 U.S.C. 1225(B), authorizes that any funds not obligated at the end of the initial federal funding period shall remain available for obligation for an additional period of 12 months.

- □ By 9/30/23:
  - Obligate funds
  - Expense goods and/or services
  - Complete FS-10F

#### CRRSA Act – Sources of Funds

- Funded from the same two federal programs:
- CFDA #84.425C Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund
- CFDA#84.425D Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)
- Funding sources listed under the Executive Budget backup page "Public High Cost and Private Excess Cost Aids for Students with Disabilities, UPK

and BT2122 Components"

COMPONENTS OF BT212-2:	
2021-22 SERVICES AID PRE-RED	2,405,549
DISTRICT WEALTH FACTOR	0.847
2021-22 SERVICES AID REDUCT	0
COVID-19 SUPPL. STIMULUS	666,504
ESSER 90% ALLOCATION	292,119
BASE FEDERAL ALLOCATION	374,386
ESSER DISCRETIONARY ALLOC	316,156
GEER ALLOCATION	58,229
2021-22 STAR FUNDS	1 130 174

COMPONENTS OF BT212-2:
2021-22 SERVICES AID PRE-RED 17,849,022
DISTRICT WEALTH FACTOR 1.010
2021-22 SERVICES AID REDUCT 1,606,792
COVID-19 SUPPL. STIMULUS 13,504,891
ESSER 90% ALLOCATION 13,504,891
BASE FEDERAL ALLOCATION 0
ESSER DISCRETIONARY ALLOC 0
GEER ALLOCATION 0

\$952.15 x enrollment

Preliminary Estimates

#### Final CRRSA Allocations –

Note: 90% Allocation May Have Changed

New York State - Local Educational Agency Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA Act) Allocations										
New Y	ork	c State - Local Educational Agency Coronavirus Respo	nse and Relief Su	oplemental Appro	oriations Act, 2	021 (CRRSA Act) AI	locations			
				2021-22 Ena						
BEDSCODE		LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY	90% LEA CRRSA ESSER 2	CRRSA ESSER 2 DISCRETIONARY	CRRSA GEER 2	LEA TOTAL ALLOCATION FROM	TOTAL LEA CRRSA ESSER 2			
	ψÌ.	▼	ALLOCATION 💌	ALLOCATION 💌	ALLOCATION	STATE RESERVES	<b>ALLOCATIONS</b> -			
010100010000		ALBANY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$13,991,256	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13,991,256			
010100860829		BRIGHTER CHOICE CHARTER SCHOOL FOR BOYS	\$401,804	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$401,804			
010100860830		BRIGHTER CHOICE CHARTER SCHOOL FOR GIRLS	\$382,435	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$382,435			
010100860867		KIPP TECH VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOL	\$872,385	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$872,385			
010100860892		HENRY JOHNSON CHARTER SCHOOL	\$455,963	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$455,963			
010100860899		ALBANY COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL	\$749,672	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$749,672			
010100860907		GREEN TECH HIGH CHARTER SCHOOL	\$368,060	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$368,060			
010100860960		ALBANY LEADERSHIP CHARTER HS FOR GIRLS	\$415,471	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$415,471			
010201040000		BERNE-KNOX-WESTERLO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$356,309	\$316,156	\$58,229	\$374,386	\$730,695			
010306060000		BETHLEHEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$519,376	\$3,075,995	\$566,535	\$3,642,532	\$4,161,908			
010402060000		RAVENA-COEYMANS-SELKIRK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$853,692	\$768,565	\$141,554	\$910,120	\$1,763,812			
010500010000		COHOES CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$1,952,505	\$43,781	\$8,063	\$51,846	\$2,004,351			
010601060000		SOUTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$1,788,788	\$2,372,459	\$436,958	\$2,809,419	\$4,598,207			
010615020000		MENANDS UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$356,627	\$42,199	\$7,772	\$49,973	\$406,600			
010623060000		NORTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$1,623,015	\$3,415,713	\$629,105	\$4,044,820	\$5,667,835			
010701030000		GREEN ISLAND UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$262,406	\$36,607	\$6,742	\$43,351	\$305,757			

## CRRSA Act & ARP - Accounting

To be accounted for in the Special Aid Fund per State Budget bill language:

§ 9-c. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of law, elementary and secondary school emergency relief funds and the governor's emergency education relief funds pursuant to the Coronavirus response and relief supplemental appropriations act, 2021 and the American rescue plan act of 2021 shall be deemed grants in aid and the state comptroller shall prescribe that any monies received therefrom by school districts shall be recorded and reported as special aid funds of the district.

- Account for each grant separately
- Open accounting issues
  - How to account for portion of grant(s) that include expenditures made in 19-20 from the General Fund. Revenues won't be matched in Special Aid Fund??
  - If grant application(s) not done until after 20-21 books closed, issue continues. Can expenditures for 20-21 be moved now to Special Aid Fund for 6/30/21?

#### CRRSA – Allowable Expenditures

- See CARES Act page same allowable purposes
- Note 1: Funds do not have a "supplement vs. supplant" requirement
- Note 2: Funds awarded are for the public school district
  - Districts do not provide equitable services to nonpublics – done through State this time

#### CRRSA & ARP - Future Actions

- Be prepared for SED to issue guidance on applying for funds
- Application(s) will be through the NYSED Business Portal
- If district's plan is to claim expenditures from prior year(s), make any necessary year-end recoding of expenditures and maintain appropriate documentation
  - Work with external auditors to understand any special federal grant compliance issues

#### **ARP Act - Overview**

 Period of Fund Availability: 3/13/20-9/30/23\* (\*Extended to 9/30/24 with Tydings Amendment period)

<u>Tydings Amendment</u> - the Tydings Amendment, Section 412(B) of the General Education Provisions Act, 20 U.S.C. 1225(B), authorizes that any funds not obligated at the end of the initial federal funding period shall remain available for obligation for an additional period of 12 months.

- □ By 9/30/24:
  - Obligate funds
  - Expense goods and/or services
  - Complete FS-10F

#### **ARP Act - Overview**

- NYS Budget bill also included additional rules:
  - 12.5% minimum spending in 21-22, 22-23, 23-24, and 24-25
  - □ If Feds don't extend 9/30/24 end date to 6/30/25 by 3/15/22, spending in 22-23 and 23-24 increases to 18.75%/year minimum
  - Remaining 50% of funds can be spent at any time during the period of availability
  - N/A if district gets less than \$500/student in ARP funds

# How to Determine If Your District is Budgeted to Receive \$500 or more of ARP Allocation

#### From Legislative Budget Backup (stateaid.nysed.gov) -

Public High Cost & Private Excess Cost Aid for SWD, UPK & Learning Loss Grant Link

#### LEARNING LOSS GRANT: BASE ARPA ALLOCATION 3,747,459 AMERICAN RESC PLAN 90% FSSFR 4,226,848 ADJUSTED PER PUPTI AMOUNT 67,219 2018 REGIONAL COST INDEX 1.202 0.377MODIFIDED EN INDEX 0.233503-YEAR ECON. DISADVANTAGED % SAIPE POVERTY % 0.06800 WEALTH FACTOR 0.326LEARNING LOSS GRANT Decimal place is off for all districts – read as \$672.19/student

#### ARP Act – Source of Funds

- Funding from one federal source:
  - CFDA#84.425D Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)

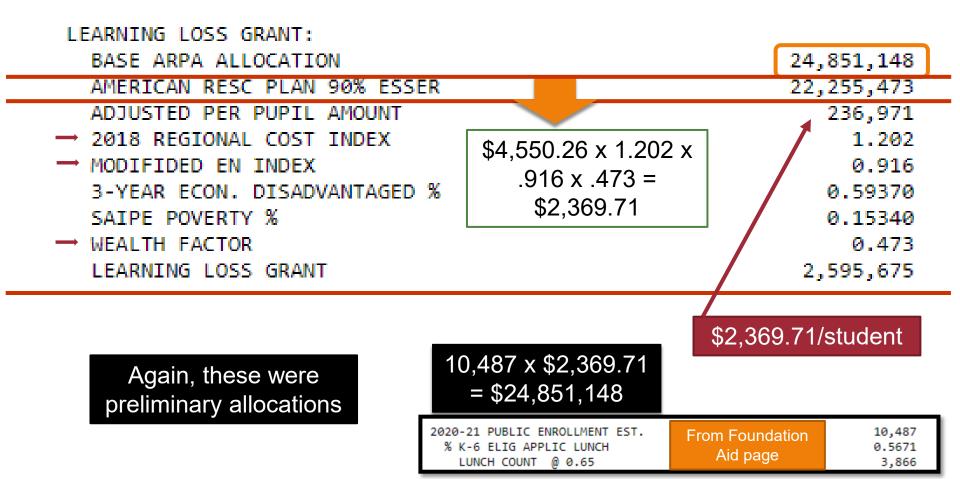


- Two allocations of the ARP funds to NYS schools:
  - 90% directly to districts based on 2020 Title I counts
  - 10% that went to NYS was distributed by formula in the State budget to individual districts

# How to Determine Sources of Your ARP Allocation

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Public High Cost & Private Excess Cost Aid for SWD, UPK & Learning Loss Grant Link



#### Final ARP Allocations

Note: 90% Allocation May Have Changed

New York State - Local Educational Agency American Rescue Plan (ARP Act) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund Allocations											
			202								
BEDSCODE	LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY (LEA)	90% LEA ARP- ESSER ALLOCATION	ENRICHMENT	1% STATE-LEVEL RESERVE COMPREHENSIVE	5% STATE-LEVEL RESERVE FOR	STATE-LEVEL RESERVE TOTAL	LEA TOTAL ARP-				
				AFTER SCHOOL	LEARNING LOSS	GRANTS	ESSER ALLOCATIONS				
<b>_</b> ↑	▼	▼	GRANI	GRANT 💌	▼	▼	▼				
010100010000	ALBANY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$31,422,374	\$182,630	\$182,630	\$913,121	\$1,278,381	\$32,700,755				
010100860829	BRIGHTER CHOICE CHARTER SCHOOL FOR BOYS	\$902,395	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$902,395				
010100860830	BRIGHTER CHOICE CHARTER SCHOOL FOR GIRLS	\$858,896	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$858,896				
010100860867	KIPP TECH VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOL	\$1,959,253	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,959,253				
010100860892	HENRY JOHNSON CHARTER SCHOOL	\$1,024,028	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,024,028				
010100860899	ALBANY COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL	\$1,683,657	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,683,657				
010100860907	GREEN TECH HIGH CHARTER SCHOOL	\$826,610	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$826,610				
010100860960	ALBANY LEADERSHIP CHARTER HS FOR GIRLS	\$933,088	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$933,088				
010201040000	BERNE-KNOX-WESTERLO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$800,219	\$112,073	\$112,073	\$560,351	\$784,497	\$1,584,716				
010306060000	BETHLEHEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$1,166,445	\$100,002	\$100,002	\$499,996	\$700,000	\$1,866,445				
010402060000	RAVENA-COEYMANS-SELKIRK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$1,917,272	\$138,014	\$138,014	\$690,052	\$966,080	\$2,883,352				
010500010000	COHOES CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$4,385,049	\$100,002	\$100,002	\$499,996	\$700,000	\$5,085,049				
010601060000	SOUTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$4,017,365	\$100,002	\$100,002	\$499,996	\$700,000	\$4,717,365				
010615020000	MENANDS UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$800,934	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$800,934				
010623060000	NORTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$3,645,061	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,645,061				
010701030000	GREEN ISLAND UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$589,327	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$589,327				

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Funding (nysed.gov)

## Learning Loss Grants

- Funded from the federal funds NYS received for Education
- Equal to the Base ARPA allocation less the 90% ESSER funds previously allocated
  - Base ARPA allocation =
     Adjusted per pupil amount x public enrollment
- If number is negative, no Learning Loss Grant
- Minimum of \$700,000
- Maximum of \$10,000,000 or 10% of the 20-21 total General Fund Expenditures, whichever is less

# Determine Restrictions So Can Plan Use Effectively



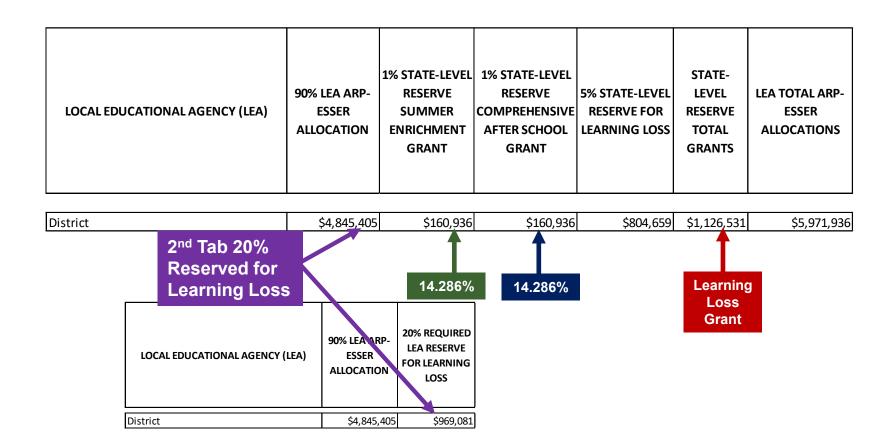
#### **American Rescue Plan 90% ESSER Grant:**

**Minimum** of 20% must be spent on learning loss remediation Balance can be used on same items as CARES Act grants

#### **Learning Loss Grant:**

- 14.286% of such grants for implementation of evidence-based summer enrichment programs;
- (2) 14.286% for implementation of evidence-based comprehensive afterschool programs; and
- the remaining funds for activities to address learning loss by supporting the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs. School districts shall ensure that such interventions respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care.

#### **APR ESSR Allocation Chart**



# ARP - Maintenance of Equity

"LEAs are prohibited from cutting per-pupil spending on any high-poverty school at a rate steeper than overall cuts in per-pupil spending across all schools served by the LEA, and from reducing per-pupil staffing in any high-poverty school at a rate steeper than overall cuts in perpupil staffing across all schools served by the LEA."

We need guidance from SED on how this will be measured.

### General Reporting Requirements

 SED has reporting requirements to the federal government for all three grants

#### Expect reporting on such items as:

- LEA Level Expenditure Based Reporting
  - What money was/will be spent on
  - FTE positions
- LEA Level Program Based Reporting
  - Student Participation and Engagement Remote Learning
  - Proportion of Students with District provided devices
  - Student internet access







# New Website Postings

#### ARP Requires LEA Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan:

"An LEA that receives ARP ESSER funds must, within 30 days of receiving the funds, make publicly available on its website a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. Before making the plan publicly available, the LEA must seek public comment on the plan."

#### Open questions:

- What is the definition of "receiving funds"?
- Do the School Reopening Plans satisfy this requirement? Or, if not, can they be added to vs. separate posting?

# New Website Postings



#### NYS Also Requires for Those Getting ARP Funds:

"...Post on its website a plan by school year of how such funds will be expended and how the local educational agency will prioritize spending on non-recurring expenses in the areas of: 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 lowincome 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. Provided further, that local educational agencies shall identify programs utilizing such funding that are expected to continue beyond the availability of such federal funds and identify local funds that will be used to maintain such programs in order to minimize disruption to core academic and other school programs. Before posting such plan, the local educational agency shall seek public comment from parents, teachers and other stakeholders on the plan and take such comments into account in the development of the plan."

#### Other Considerations

- Per SED, grant applications will be for the full grant period
  - Not done annually
  - FS-10A will be allowed
- Need a plan now for how these funds will be spent
- Need to consider:
  - Different periods of availability
  - One-time grants what happens when they end?

#### Other Financial Considerations

- Changes in Foundation Aid
  - If significant increases due, what is the plan for the next three years?
    - Confidence level of 22-23/23-24 increases?
    - ■What is the plan for 24-25+?
      - Maybe back to CPI increases from then on?
  - If funded over formula, what is the plan?
    - ■22-23/23-24? Any increase? Modest increase only?

#### Other Financial Considerations

- Plan should consider how to maximize the use of the federal funds
  - Caution on spending funds on items eligible for expense driven State Aid funds
  - FEMA grants separate funding source
  - Additional Section 611/619 funds for one year
  - Other new programs funded by ARP:
    - Homeless
    - Internet access
    - Etc.
    - Need to see how those programs can benefit NYS schools

#### Time for A Long-Range Planning Team?

- Recommend key stakeholders develop some mid-range and long-range plans for the district
  - Administrative
  - Instructional
  - Non-Instructional
  - Community members



#### Next Coffee Talk

"Preparing and Collecting Data for Year-End Close"

June 16, 2021 @ 9 a.m.



#### Thank You!

Questar III State Aid & Financial Planning Service 10 Empire State Boulevard Castleton, NY 12033 (518) 477-2635, Option 1 sap.questar.org @qiiisap

