

**Central Islip Union Free School District
American Rescue Plan Funding**

An Unprecedented Opportunity

As part of the federal government’s American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, school districts across the country will receive additional funding to support student need in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Central Islip Union Free School District will receive an allocation to invest in our students’ education over the next three years. This is a once in a generation infusion of funds that gives us the opportunity to truly reimagine education in our district. As part of the comprehensive plan, the Central Islip UFSD will use of ARP funds to support the District's strategic priorities incorporating recommendations made by stakeholders.

The ARP ESSER funds will help to address long-standing inequities in our communities and schools that were exacerbated by the pandemic so that we can ensure the students most severely affected by the pandemic are provided with the resources and support they need as they recover from its impacts. Comments, questions and input can be submitted using the following form: <https://forms.gle/dVpxWUFXxwKXsAEK8>

The Central Islip UFSD plans to use such funds in the following ways:

2021-2022 Spending Plan for American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funds
Maximizing in-person instructional time
One of our priorities is to create and maintain staffing so that students do not experience higher class sizes and less support when returning to school. These funds help us accomplish that goal and reduce class sizes at our elementary school increasing student to teacher ratios.
Operating schools and meeting needs of students
Schools need resources to help with the added operational costs to maintain and implement comprehensive communication between stakeholders. We are providing transportation for after school programs and purchasing supplies and materials for such programs. We are also upgrading our radio communication system and outfitting each building with new devices to increase response time and maintain continual communication.
Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students’ social emotional, mental health and academic needs
Central Islip is hiring additional full-time bilingual psychologist and a guidance counselor to enhance student support dedicated to social and emotional support for students. There has been and emphasis on social emotional best practice and implementation by structuring a comprehensive district-wide group that can coordinate services, plan interventions and help plan staff development.

Offering evidence-based summer, afterschool and other extended learning and enrichment programs

Central Islip is using funding to offer summer programming to identified student including transportation. (Opportunities for students based on the needs they present with during the school year.) The programs will address learning loss and provide enrichment to students. We are also planning to extend and enhance our after-school program to meet more individual student needs and begin to bridge the loss of learning gaps.

Academic Program Initiatives

Central Islip goal is to work to create a vertical alignment with regards to academic instruction. With the implementation of new professional development and targeting instruction the focus has been to take a proactive approach to reading and strengthening out Tier I services and supports. The District has implemented new targeted supports for our ELL and Special Education students.

Purchasing Educational Technology

We will be purchasing software to assist teachers with addressing learning loss and we are upgrading devices and/or systems. The district has embarked on a one-to-one device initiative with the assistance of funding. Additionally, adaptive technology will be purchased to ensure we meet the needs of all learners.

Supporting early childhood education

We will hire additional staff at our elementary schools to reduce class numbers. We will also be providing early intervening consult support in our kindergarten classes to be proactive when developing and implementing strategies for learning and growing.

Addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on students, including the impacts of interrupted instruction, and learning loss

Central Islip has reworked our MTSS system and investing in supports for all learning to meet success. Additionally, Central Islip has developed a district-wide data team. The focus will be to analyze student data to drive instructional practices to better service the needs of our students.