



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARP) USE OF FUNDS PLAN

Use of Funds Plan

On May 19, 2021, Norman Public Schools received almost 18 million dollars in federal funding through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) to continue our efforts to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 over the next three years.

The Use of Funds Plan was created using stakeholder input through surveys and through meaningful consultation during the 2020-2021 school year including our Back to School Task Force. As the needs of the district evolve, stakeholders will be involved in the plan revision process.

In order to meet the academic needs of our students as a result of COVID-19, 20% of the funds will be used to address the academic impact of lost instructional time. The remainder of ARP funds will provide support to continue our efforts to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 along with supporting other activities to maintain the operation and continuity of services.

Prevention & Mitigation of COVID-19

Stakeholders consider the health and safety of our students and staff to be the highest priority. Cleaning and sanitization services as well as school improvements to decrease the risk of transmission were also identified as a high priority for stakeholders.

Enhanced cleaning and sanitization protocols have been in place in Norman Public Schools since the onset of COVID-19. Equipment commonly used in hospitals such as portable, ultraviolet disinfection devices and electrostatic sprayers have been employed in school buildings. Plexiglass barriers have been installed in front offices, and hand sanitizing stations and touchless bottle fillers are available at each school. ARP funds will be used to continue to provide cleaning and sanitization at the level established in the 20-21 school year.

Educational technology, online learning platforms, and management software systems allow students and staff to work remotely and are essential in preventing

disruption to learning due to quarantine. ARP funds will be used to support the continued use of the technology that supported staff and students during the 20-21 school year.

Learning Loss

Norman Public Schools is committed to serving the needs of ALL students, especially those impacted by COVID 19 and our students with unique learning needs. The district will reserve 20% of the funds to address the learning challenges and social emotional needs of students arising from the pandemic.

Stakeholder survey responses indicate social/emotional needs and mental health services and supports for students are a high priority. ARP funds will be used to provide additional counselors, social and emotional learning curriculum, professional development for staff to provide equitable support for all students, and continued use of a digital student safety management system.

Additionally, the district will address the learning loss that is a result of lost instructional time due to COVID-19 by providing summer learning opportunities, technology to support in person and remote instruction, teacher mentoring, and support for after-school programs.

The district will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the interventions in order to ensure the learning loss and social emotional needs of students are being met.

NPS Use of ARP Funds

