



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EMERGENCY RELIEF
FUNDING PLAN FOR JACKSON COUNTY SCHOOLS. 1-2-24

Since the onset of the pandemic, the Jackson County Schools Leadership Team has worked with an array of stakeholders to develop our response plans, identify the academic and social and emotional needs of students, necessary supplies, and facility related upgrades. The stakeholders consulted including Jackson County Board of Education, Jackson County Health Department, School Nurses, School Level Administrators, School Counselors, Curriculum Teams, Special Education Annual Desk Audit Stakeholder Group, Faculty Senates, Student Focus Groups, CERP Committee, Local School Improvement Council Representatives, Parent Surveys and Interactions with the West Virginia Department of Education.

There are three (3) areas which must be addressed by the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund. These required areas include: 1) Addressing Learning Loss, 2) Summer Enrichment, and 3) Afterschool Programs. After addressing those areas of need, funding can be directed to other identified areas in the federal legislation.

Addressing Learning Loss: \$4, 183,500.00

Given the fact that student learning is best advanced through highly trained teachers, significant resources have been designated to fund the following positions to reduce class size in grades 1-6 and to provide core area interventions at selected elementary schools and at the middle school level. At the high school level, an Option Pathway teacher will be provided to assist at-risk to students graduate through an assessment process and successful completion of a Career Technical concentration. The following positions will be provided through federal funding: 25 Class Size Reduction Teachers in Grades 1-6. 5.5 Interventionists in both middle schools and selected elementary schools. 2 Option Pathway teachers for the high schools.

Summer Enrichment: \$1,257,000.00

A robust summer enrichment program will provide students with an opportunity to recover learning in needed areas and provide areas of exploration. The summer program is contingent on student interest and participation. Based on preliminary information for the Summer of 2021, staffing levels have been planned as follows, and can be replicated through the Summer of 2023: 65 teachers, 2 counselors, 2 coordinators, a nurse, transportation services and meals provided by the Summer Food Services Program.

Afterschool Programs: \$210,000.00

After School Tutoring and Support Programs available in all schools through the 2023-2024 school term.

Elementary & Secondary Education Act: \$180,000.00

A Mentor/Facilitator will be employed to service teachers in grades K-8. In addition to the focus on teacher induction activities, this position will also support the effective implementation of the newly adopted English Language Arts materials.

Carl D. Perkins Act: \$180,000.00

Computer lab replacements will take place in each high school to support career tech programs. In addition, a digital plasma cutter will be provided to each high school to support the Simulated Workplace program.

Repairing & Improving School Facilities: \$3,500,000.00

Improvement to school facilities have been identified, and prioritized, through the Comprehensive Education Facilities Plan (CEFP) process. Projects to be pursued through use of the American Rescue Plan funding include updates to Cottageville Elementary School and Ripley Middle School.

Purchasing Educational Technology: \$689,536.00

The increased use of technology devices in schools have exposed the connectivity challenges many students have at home due to the lack of broadband coverage in our county. American Rescue Plan funds will allow for the continued service for up to 600 hotspots to allow internet connectivity for students. In addition, a few school buses in the county's fleet have been equipped with internet connectivity to allow for connectivity while traveling to extracurricular activities. Funding will also be provided toward tuition costs associated with virtual school offerings at the middle and high school level. Enrollment in virtual school classes is governing through Jackson County Schools Virtual Schools Policy.

To meet the high level of student demand for driver education classes, a driver education simulator will be purchased for each high school.

Providing Mental Health Services & Support: \$865,000.00

The need to provide additional mental and behavioral health services for students was identified by various stakeholder groups. To supplement the services already provided by Jackson County Schools, the following positions will be funded through American Rescue Plan funds: a school psychologist, 2 school counselors, 2 social workers and 3 Community in Schools Coordinators (continuing a current program.)

Continuity of Services: \$395,000.00

In order to sustain important services to students, the following positions will continue to be funded through the 2023-2024 school year, based on continued need: a school nurse, a Virtual School Coordinator and Virtual School Facilitators as needed.

Spending Overview:

