What School Leadership Needs to Know About Stimulus Funding



What is the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)?

- Responding to the needs of U.S. schools faced with the risk of learning loss resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the federal government passed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).
- The largest single stimulus funding ever directed to K-12 education, ARPA provides \$123B to K-12 public schools.



Important facts about ARPA funding:

- Provides additional funds to the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSERF) program created by the CARES Act (March, 2020) and supplemented by CRRSA (December, 2020).
- Funds must be obligated by September 2024.



You can use these funds for:

- Activities allowed by the Every Student Succeeds Act.
- Evidence-based programs addressing learning loss including: summer learning; supplemental after-school programs; classroom instruction or online learning during summer months; and instruction addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English language learners, migrant students, students in foster care, or students experiencing homelessness.
- Resources for in-person learning (hiring/layoff prevention, PPE, social distancing support, and more).
- Improvements in Wi-Fi and broadband access.
- Educational technology purchases aiding in regular substantive educational interaction between students and their instructors, especially low-income students and students with disabilities.



Here's what this means for you and your school:

- \$123B for K-12 public schools includes \$22B to address learning loss.
- Schools will receive an average of \$2,500 per student.
- Low-income districts may receive up to \$8K per student; high-affluence districts less than \$1K per student.
- Discretionary funds are available for school principals.
- Schools may also purchase multi-year subscriptions with ESSR funds.



How ARPA funds can help you bridge the learning gap:

- With access to these new funds, opportunities to accelerate learning and closing the achievement gap is within reach.
- Learning A-Z can help you get there with proven ARPA-aligned resources designed for in-class and distance learning.

