American Rescue Plan 2021

Almont Community Schools - 44020

1. Please describe the extent to which and how the funds will be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent CDC guidance on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning:

The Almont Community Schools will utilize ESSER III funding for COVID-19 mitigation efforts. This will include the purchase of PPE materials for students and staff. Additionally, the ESSER II funding will help supplement the custodial work force and additional cleaning efforts by our custodian service. Additionally, ESSER III funds are also being allocated to address staffing shortages which compromise supervision and/or our ability to reduce classroom sizes.

2. Please describe how the LEA will use the funds it reserves under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act (see below) to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year:

The Almont Community Schools will be hosting a K-12 summer educational program for the next two years, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023, to provide select students with additional instructional time. The goal of this program is to address learning gaps and or "loss" due to pandemic disruptions.
The K-5 program focuses primarily on the areas of literacy and numeracy. It does so through a half-day instructional model with small class sizes and innovative instruction. Students in the K-5 program spend much of the instructional time in self-paced and personalized reading and numeracy activities.
The Middle School program uses a mixture of online and direct instructional activities to teach concepts and skills rather than content. This is again achieved through small class sizes who have access to technology as well as a teacher/facilitator.
The High School program addresses credit recovery by utilizing an online learning platform. In our case this platform is EdGenuity. Students are self-paced, but work with a district employee who serves as a liaison to EdGenuity as well as facilitating and troubleshooting online student's needs. Students have access to district owned Chromebooks to work on classes ether at home, or during "drop-in" hours on campus.

3. Please describe how the LEA will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act:

The District will use remaining funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act for purchasing educational technology, which could include hardware, software, and connectivity, for students served by the Almont Community Schools that aids in regular, substantive educational interaction between students and educators, including low-income students and students with disabilities. We will also engage in other activities necessary to maintain the operations and school facility repairs and improvements.

4. Please describe how the LEA will ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions implemented under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act (see below) to address the academic impact of lost instructional time, will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students.

The school district will ensure the implementation of interventions and programs to assist student academic success as well as student social, emotional and mental health needs primarily through updated, comprehensive curriculum purchases. ESSER III funding will be used in concert with State of Michigan grants to provide strong academic interventions alongside of qualified personnel to support student needs. As noted above, technology purchases are a component of our plans for meeting the needs of a wide range of disadvantaged learners. This includes providing families in need with internet access "hot spots" when they are financially unable to provide such access themselves. The leveraging of technology, staffing and curricular supports will assist disadvantaged students across the district.