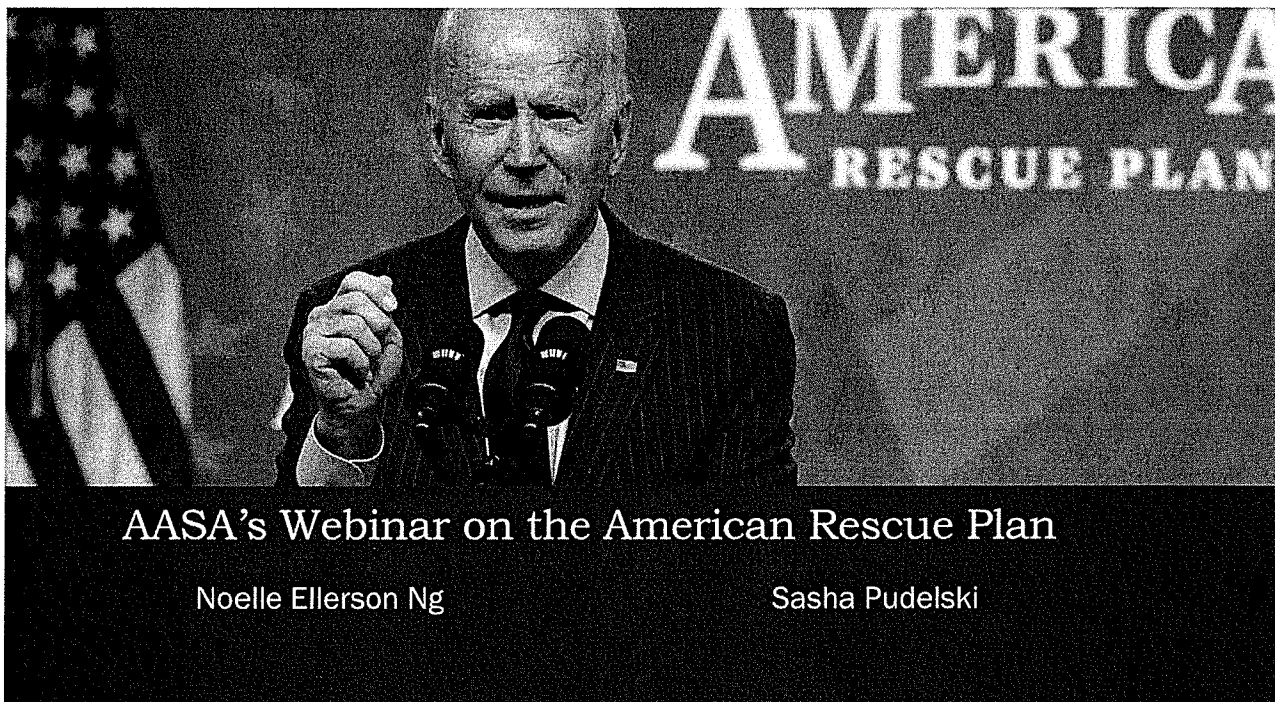


5.3.1



## One Year of COVID Relief

**COVID 1: H.R. 6074, Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act (3/6/20)**

Small in scope and focus; targeted on bolstering capacity to respond to the COVID19 health emergency.

**COVID 2: H.R. 6201, Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) (3/18/20)**

Includes funding adjacent to education: critical flexibility for school nutrition programs and mandate for sick paid/family leave.

**COVID 3: H.R. 748, Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) (3/27/20)**

First bill to include dedicated funding for K-12 education (\$13b).

**COVID 3.5/4: H.R. 266, Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (4/24/20)**

Series of technical changes, along with money for testing, hospitals and PPP.

**COVID 5: H.R. 133 Consolidated Appropriations Act / Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CAA/CRRSA/CARES II) (12/27/20)**

Massive FY21 spending and COVID-relief package. Months in the making.

“The most progressive domestic legislation in a generation”

- KEVIN MCCARTHY

## The American Rescue Plan

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Funding for districts: \$110 billion

How does this compare to other COVID aid/federal money?

Annual fed Title/IDEA funds per pupil = +640/student

+ March CARES = +270/student

+ Dec. CCRSA/CARES II = +1,100/student

+ ARP = +2,600/student

For comparison, ARP is **10x CARES** or **2 x CCRSA/CARES II**

# Use/Distribution of Funding

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Ninety percent of funding will be distributed to districts based on their relative share of Title I, Part A funding. (not a fan favorite)

The funding can be spent flexibly like the December package. This includes expenditures related to:

- Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities,
- School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission
- Addressing learning loss
- Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning
- Providing mental health services and supports, including through community schools
- Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity)
- Providing meals to students during school closures
- Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean buildings
- And more

**NEW SET ASIDE:** 20% of funding must be used to address learning recovery through the implementation of *evidence-based interventions*, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs,




## Learning Recovery Set-Aside Details

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Evidence based: USED interpretation of this term will be critical to how flexibly you can/will be able to have your expenditures/interventions meet the 'learning loss' requirement

Interventions must also "respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on the student subgroups, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care."

Can you only spend 20% on learning recovery? NO! You can spend all of it on learning loss if you want!



# Maintenance of Equity

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States cannot reduce their per-pupil funding in high needs LEAs for the next two years by more than any overall per pupil reduction in state funding; and states cannot reduce state funding for the highest poverty LEAs in their state below the state funding those LEAs receive in 2018-19. This would apply to both the 2022 and 2023 fiscal years.

LEAs cannot reduce combined state and local per-pupil funding and per pupil full-time equivalent (FTE) staffing for high poverty LEAs by more than any district-wide reductions.

- LEAs enrolling less than 1,000 students; and/or operating only one school building; and/or serving all students in a grade span in a single school would be exempt.
- For context, this would exempt nearly half of the nation's LEAs from this provision.

## Additional Set Asides

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800 million set-aside for McKinney Vento. This translates to an increase of 8x McKinney Vento funding.

2.5 billion for IDEA. This is an increase of 20% in IDEA funding when compared to annual appropriations.

- Be careful! This is one-time funding. Beware of running into MOE issues.

And....2.75 billion in funding for non-public schools.

### *Schumer and a Teachers' Union Leader Secure Billions for Private Schools*

The pandemic relief bill includes \$2.75 billion for private schools. How it got there is an unlikely political tale, involving Orthodox Jewish lobbying, the Senate majority leader and a teachers' union president.

## NEW: Required Plan for Opening

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Within 30 days of receiving funding, LEAs have to develop and make public a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of educational services. Before making public the plan, the LEA must seek public comment and take this into account in the development of the plan.

If the LEA developed a plan for safe return to in-person instruction before March 13th that did take public comment into effect, the plan will have met the requirement.



## Funding for Homework Gap

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- ARP includes just over \$7 billion to help schools address homework gap
- Designed to support remote and in-school access for both staff and students
- Will allow LEAs to buy devices and more to help close homework gap
- Implementation is expected to closely mirror the E-Rate program



# ARP And Other Child Supports

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**TAXES!** For every dollar that a state spends on net tax cuts in the next couple years, it will lose a dollar of federal aid. The provision doesn't bar tax cuts (it leads to an equivalent drop in aid) and it's not permanent (it expires when the aid is spent or 2024, whichever comes first).

## Child Care

- Childcare Development Block Grant (\$15 b)
- Child Care Stabilization (\$23.9 b)
- Head Start (\$1 b)

State and Local Fiscal Relief (\$362 b)

Increases child tax credit

# Timelines

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When will you get the money?

How long do you have to spend the money?

What do you need to know about spending down the dollars?

Join us TOMORROW for **American Rescue Plan Explained: Implementing for Success**

- March 18 at 2 pm ET: [Register today!](#)

## Other news re Biden Admin

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Extension on doing Seamless/SOS meals until Sept 30, 2021

HHS is sending \$10b to states to help implement coronavirus surveillance testing in K-12 schools

No longer enforcing public charge regulation

Expected action to repeal the Title IX regulation in next 2 months

Expected DOE action on discipline guidance, transgender student/athlete guidance

Accountability waivers available; assessment conversations between States and ED still ongoing



## What's next on Capitol Hill?

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### Infrastructure!

Schools are the original community infrastructure– we expect at least 100b in dedicated funding for schools.



# Questions?

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Governance committee

5.4

Attendees: Via Zoom Albert Cousins, Diane Lyons, Steve Jenkins, Matt VanWormer

March 10, 2021

The committee made the following decisions:

\*Retreat: A board retreat will be planned for this summer. A separate date will be worked on for district priorities possibly prior to a board meeting.

Albert will send out a request to the board members for dates with doodle.

Diane will contact NYSSBA for information on facilitators and possible agenda for the board to review.

\*Presentations for next year

Three principal presentations will be scheduled next year with the following themes.

1-Vision for the year, building-based goals

2-Midyear check in, examples of teacher/student work.

3-How are we doing? successes/opportunities

The committee would also like to continue with presentations we normally have on special services, athletics, curriculum, technology with the ability to add others as needed.

We would like to restart celebrating the achievements of our students and staff in person on a regular basis.

Discussion: We discussed the changes previously established regarding reporting on committee minutes during meetings. There are still some inconsistencies. Committee minutes do not need to be read in their entirety as the board and public have access to them.

This is an opportunity to get any input the committee may need from the full board or discuss anything the full board might need further clarification on.

Respectfully submitted by

Diane Lyons

Next meeting May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## Stakeholder Relations Committee Meeting Minutes

5.5

March 11, 2021

**Attendees:** Megan Barbera, Albert Cousins, Steve Jensen, Matthew Van Wormer, Jacqueline Raccuia

### **BOE members increasing relations within the district and community stakeholders**

**Discussion:** Board members to create a stronger presence and relationship with administrators, teachers, and students as well as establishing transparency within the community. Discussion focused on ideas to improve relations and increase interaction within the schools including classroom visits/tours, and attending special school events. The committee discussed the addition of a Board Communication Report to the meeting agendas. Board members would have the opportunity to report concerns voiced by the community. Information shared would be anonymous and impartial. The concerns would be noted in the minutes.

**Decision:** The Committee is requesting input from the board regarding the addition of these types of interactions within the schools and with administrators and teachers as well as the addition of a board communication report. Would board members believe these to be productive and beneficial?

### **BOE members outreach to the community for increased understanding of the budget**

**Discussion:** The committee discussed the benefit of board members being present during a town hall meeting that would highlight key points and projects of the 2021-2022 school budget. This will allow an increase in board members visibility to the community.

**Decision:** The committee is seeking feedback regarding board members attending the April Town Hall where an overview of the 2021-2022 budget will be presented.

### **Student Representation at Board Meetings**

**Discussion:** A suggestion was proposed to improve student relations with the Board of Education through providing representation of the students through student reports and updates, presentation of projects, and showcasing of art and music. This can be accomplished by a selected student representative or representatives on student government or by inviting various school clubs to present at a meeting

**Decision:** The committee is seeking approval of inviting students to share their experiences and achievements with the board.

**Steve Jensen** updated the committee on the following on-going projects:

## **Performance Monitoring Committee**

March 18, 2021 minutes

5.6

Attending via zoom: Albert Cousins, Tom Burnell, Christine Natoli, Steve Jenkins, Mark Fleischhauer, Jackie Raccuia

### **Title 9 policy revisions and board trainings**

**Discussion:** The Superintendent reported that there are new federal regulations regarding the procedure for the handling of sexual harassment cases within schools. There is also a change in the language and labels. The district's current policy will require amendment to comply with new mandates. The district's attorneys are awaiting clarification from the federal government and will assist in updating the policies.

**Decisions:** The Superintendent will provide the board with a brief background, in the form of a slide deck, on the policy changes that need to be brought forth. The committee will await and review the amended policy and bring it to the full board when appropriate.

**Discussion:** Board members are required to complete the mandatory annual board training in sexual harassment and mandated reporting. Online modules will be investigated and shared with the board to meet compliance.

### **Live streaming and increased in-person learning**

**Discussion:** The middle and high school teachers participated in a professional development day on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 to assist in the transition to live-streamed classes. Six of the district's current teachers have been using this technology and facilitated the PD. The classrooms have been equipped with cameras and microphones.

The high school seniors and CSE students will be returning to 4 day in-person learning starting Monday, March 22, 2021. The district will slowly phase in additional grades in BMS and RHS following spring break. The option to remain a fully remote learner remains available, however, there is a change to the current schedule for remote learners.

### **New Federal Stimulus Package**

**Discussion:** Tom advised the committee regarding the new federal (COVID) stimulus package. 2.5 billion dollars has been allotted to upstate New York school districts. At this time, Rhinebeck School District has been given an estimated amount, based on Title 1 status, to be dispersed over the next three years. There are strict stipulations on how the monies are to be spent requiring approval by the State.

**Decision:** As additional information is received; it will be shared with the board and community. Discussions regarding innovative uses of the grant will be discussed.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 15, 2021

Respectfully submitted: Jacqueline Raccuia