

**Applicant:** 03 4430 RIVER VALE - Bergen

American Rescue Plan Consolidated

**Application:** American Rescue Plan - ESSER  
**Cycle:** - 00- Original Application  
**Project Period:** 3/13/2020 - 9/30/2024

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The application has been submitted. No more updates will be saved for the application.

Overview	Contact Information	Allocations	Needs	Safe Return	LEA Plan for Use Of Funds	Assurances	Submit	Application History	Application Print
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**LEA Plan for Use Of Funds**

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1. 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; (451 of 2000 maximum characters used)

The River Vale School District has completed the Safe Return Plan, which outlines prevention and mitigation strategies that are to the greatest extent practicable consistent with the most recent CDC guidance on reopening schools and safely operating schools for in-person learning. Please see our Safe Return Plan here: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1syNwyGm5Oayf7\\_0LMeIWtmzGqC4U5GEm/edit?usp=sharing&oid=108330473374346017480&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1syNwyGm5Oayf7_0LMeIWtmzGqC4U5GEm/edit?usp=sharing&oid=108330473374346017480&rtpof=true&sd=true)

2. How the LEA will use the funds it reserves under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act 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; (1088 of 2000 maximum characters used)

The River Vale School District will use funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of our extended school year program. Students with severe disabilities require consistent and repetitive instruction in order to maintain skills mastered. The progress of these students has been negatively impacted due to the massive disruption in learning, the inconsistent in-person instruction over the past two years, and an introduction to virtual platforms. Additionally, the district will allocate funds for literacy and mathematics coaches to work with teachers on specific standards identified through internal assessments (Renaissance and TC) and through Start Strong and NJSLA. The consultants will focus on using data to provide small group instruction and target specific skills. This will also help bridge the gap due to the Covid 19 pandemic and over a year of disrupted learning. The district has received reports through Linkit that compare where our students were last year and this year and there is a decline in ELA and math scores.

3. How the LEA will spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act; and (1151 of 2000 maximum characters used)

The River Vale School District will spend the remaining of the funds on the social and emotional health of our students, staff, and families. The district will hire a full-time mental health clinician to continue providing school-based counseling to students, especially those that are requiring more intense services. This allows students a more therapeutic program where their specific needs will be better met in their home district. The goal is that the student's needs will be met on-campus and prevent the need for a more restricted environment (ie: therapeutic program, hospitalization, etc.). There has been a significant rise in the number of students experiencing symptoms of anxiety over the last few years who require intervention. This clinician will work with students, provide counseling, and complete on-site risk assessments for students who are at-risk of suicide. Additionally, the district will provide mental health services, beyond the school day to students, staff, and families in need. The district will provide sessions to identified students, staff members, and families who require additional mental health assistance.

4. 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 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. Under this requirement, an LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders and give the public an opportunity to provide input in the development of its plan. Specifically, an LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with students; families; school and district administrators (including special education administrators); and teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions. (1127 of 2000 maximum characters used)

The River Vale School District will ensure that we implement interventions to address the academic impact of lost instruction through the use of educational coaches and the extended school year program. This program also addresses the disproportionate impact of Covid-19 on our special education students. The district will also use these funds to respond to the social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students through the use of an additional full-time therapist from West Bergen Mental Healthcare. Lastly, we will introduce before/after school or weekend mental health sessions that will be offered to all students, staff, and families who are in need of additional coping strategies. These will be offered as workshops around specific mental health topics identified through district-created surveys. The LEA has and will continue to collaborate with all stakeholders to ensure that all voices are heard prior to the development of the plan. Additionally, the LEA will seek public input at Board of Education meetings, as identified in meeting minutes that can be found on the River Vale Public School Website.

5. Additionally, an LEA must engage in meaningful consultation with each of the following, to the extent present in or served by the LEA: Tribes; civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); and stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students. (306 of 2000 maximum characters used)

The LEA has engaged in meaningful consultation with the district's Child Study Team to ensure that the additional funds will be used to address the disproportionate impact of Covid-19 on our special education learners. The funds have been allocated to address the academic and emotional impact of Covid-19.

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