

**Applicant:** 35 5550  
WATCHUNG  
HILLS  
REGIONAL -  
Somerset  
American  
Rescue Plan -  
**Application:** ESSE - 00-  
**Cycle:** Original  
Application

**Project  
Period:**  
3/13/2020 -  
9/30/2024

American Rescue Plan Consolidated

**Application Sections**



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## LEA Plan for Use Of Funds

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; ([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)

In-person school resumed in September 2020 and as remained open due to our diligence in following CDC and NJDOH guidelines, including fidelity to contact tracing guidelines by our nursing staff. We will be using a portion of the grant funds to pay our nurses for working outside of school hours to continue conducting extensive contact tracing.

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; ([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)

We will be using funds to pay for a full-time teacher to support our most struggling learners through our Empower program, to pay for additional time for a math instructor to provide individualized support to students in our Empower program, to pay stipends for teachers to provide after school academic support to our students as well as to pay stipends for teachers to instruct summer support and enrichment courses in all subject areas to help mitigate the impact of lost instructional time since March 2020.

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

We are utilizing funds for professional development opportunities for teachers to expand their capacity to provide academic support to our ELL students, our students with disabilities, and our most struggling learners as well as to provide social emotional support to all students. We are also utilizing funds for a mental health program for our students provided by Rutgers University.

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.

([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)

Our plan for utilization of the grant was developed in consultation with our entire staff and was discussed publicly at Board meetings which included opportunities for public comment. We will monitor progress of the interventions through analyzing responses on our annual Culture and Climate Survey as well as by tracking student progress via attendance records and grades.

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. ([count] of 2000 maximum characters used)

The plan for utilization of grant funds was discussed publicly at Board meetings which included opportunities for public comment by all stakeholders.