

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
Saint Paul, Minnesota
COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD MEETING MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Administration Building
360 Colborne Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

September 14, 2021
4:30 PM

A G E N D A

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. AGENDA

- A. Superintendent's Announcements
- B. School Finance and Levy
 - 1. Introduction
 - 2. Presentation 2
 - 3. Discussion
 - 4. Action (TBD)
- C. Immunization Noncompliance and Risk for School Exclusion -- COB Update
 - 1. Introduction
 - 2. Presentation 29
 - 3. Discussion
 - 4. Action (TBD)
- D. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funding Plan Update
 - 1. Introduction
 - 2. Presentation 46
 - 3. Discussion
 - 4. Action (TBD)

III. ADJOURNMENT

#BoldSubject#



School Finance and Levy 101

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Committee of the Board Meeting

Marie Schrul, Chief Financial Officer

September 14, 2021

Purpose

- To provide finance and levy background to the Board of Education
- Provide framework and schedule for levy certification

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Agenda

- Finance and Property Tax Basics
- Levy Impacts
- The Levy Process
- Levy Timing
- Levy Categories
- Questions?

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Finance and Property Tax Basics

Public Schools

Constitutionally Established

Minnesota Constitution, Article 13, Section 1

*...it is the duty of the legislature to establish a general and uniform system of public schools. **The legislature shall make such provisions by taxation or otherwise as will secure a thorough and efficient system of public schools throughout the state.***

Finance Basics | General Education Revenue

- General Education Revenue is the primary source of operating funds for Minnesota Schools
- General Education Revenue is used to pay for operating expenses, i.e. salaries, benefits, supplies
- General Education Revenue is the sum of various components:
 - revenue that every district receives at the same amount, and
 - revenue that varies based on demographics and geographic characteristics

General Education Revenue

Source: State

General Education Revenue:

- Basic Per Pupil aid is the largest funding source from the State

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General Education Categorical Revenue (Examples):

- Special Education
- Basic Skills (Compensatory Education)
- Gifted & Talented

Categorical and Authorized Levy Revenue

Source: Local Property Tax Levy

- Examples of Categorical levies include:
 - Integration*
 - Transportation*
 - Long Term Facilities Maintenance (LTFM)*
 - Career and Technical Education*
- Examples of Authorized levies include:
 - Safe Schools, lease levy, OPEB and other legacy levies for District

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* Denotes aid impact with levy calculation

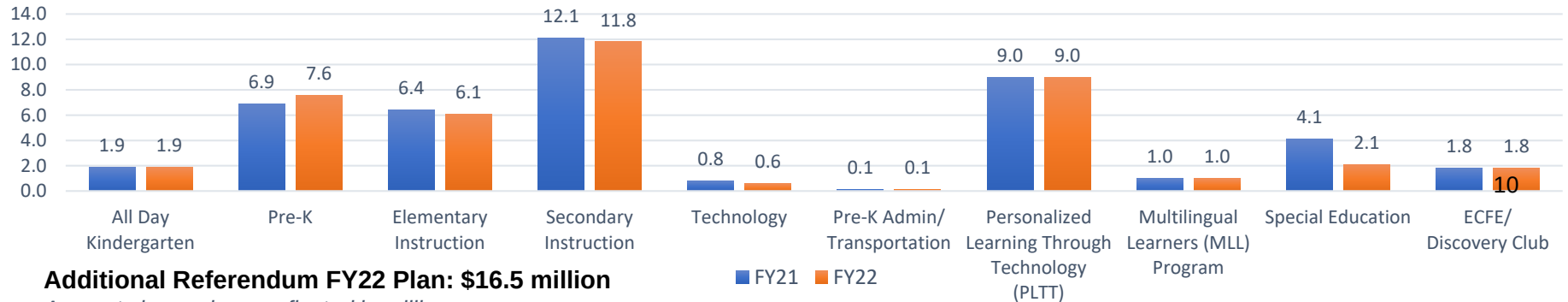
Voter Approved Levy Revenue: Referendum

FY 2021-22 SPPS Referendum Plan

In November 2018, Saint Paul voters renewed the 2012 voter approved referendum and voted to invest additional funding into Saint Paul Public Schools and the SPPS Achieves strategic plan, which is designed to decrease disparities in achievement based on race, ethnicity, culture and identity. These referendum funds will continue to support Saint Paul Public Schools for the next decade.

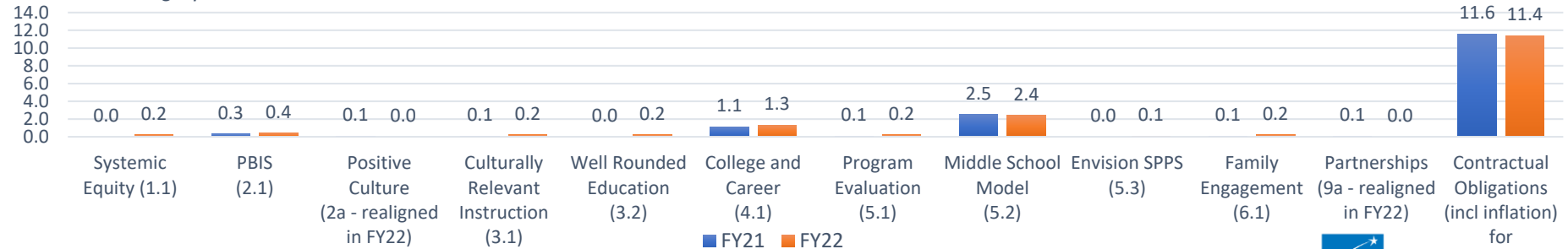
Continuing Referendum FY22 Plan: \$42.0 million

Amounts in graph are reflected in millions



Additional Referendum FY22 Plan: \$16.5 million

Amounts in graph are reflected in millions





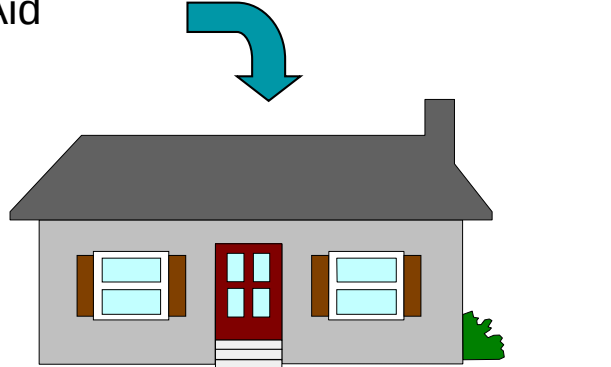
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Levy Impacts

Who Determines Your Property Tax?

State Legislature

- Sets Property Tax Policy
- Establishes Property Classes & Class Rates
- Determines Levels of State Aid
- Sets School Formulas
- Underfunded Mandates to Local Governments
- Levies State Business Tax



Property Tax

Taxing Jurisdictions

- Determines Levy Amount

County Assessor

- Determines Market Value
- Assigns Property Class

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Source: Ramsey County

Major Factors Impacting Property Taxes

- Is the property tax levy going up, down, or staying the same?
- Is there additional money available to reduce the local tax burden?
 - State aids (local government aid, county aid, or school equalization aid)
 - Fiscal disparity distribution
- How is a home's market value changing relative to other homes or compared to other types of property?
- Are there increases to the tax base that are not the result of inflationary or deflationary changes to the values of individual properties?
 - New construction
 - Property going from exempt to taxable
 - Decertified tax increment financing districts
- Are there legislative changes?

Changes In Fiscal Disparities: 2021 to 2022

	2021 FD Distribution	2022 FD Distribution	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Ramsey County	\$53,601,501	\$53,255,830	(\$345,671)	(0.6%)
City of St. Paul	34,441,416	33,580,911	(860,505)	(2.5%)
St. Paul Schools	38,794,402	40,444,879	1,650,477	4.2%

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Factors Impacting School Levies

- Changes in tax base – increases often result in less state aid
- Legislative changes to education formulas
- Referendum inflationary increase
- Pension contribution changes required by law
- OPEB (other post employment benefit) obligations
- Employment changes that drive severance and unemployment levies
- Capital bonding, refunding of bonds, abatements, long term facilities maintenance, health and safety projects, lease costs

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The Levy Process

The Levy Basics

- School levy authority is established in law
- School budgets are a combination of state, federal and local funding, including the voter approved referendum
- Pay22 school levy funds the 2022-23 school year ¹⁷
- Districts receive payments after the May and October collections from the County
- Levy can only move down after October 1

Summer Levy Process & Approvals

- Districts enter initial levy data into the MDE levy information system (July-August)
- Long Term Facilities Maintenance (LTFM) application is approved by BOE & submitted to the MDE Commissioner by July 31
- Initial data reflected on first levy run by MDE on September 8

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September – “Setting the Ceiling”

- The Board of Education must certify a levy “ceiling” or “maximum” amount that the District can levy for
- Based upon calculations provided by MDE in early to mid-September
- Must be certified by September 30 and provided to Ramsey County and MDE
- Levy can only move down after October 1

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December: Truth In Taxation Hearing(TNT)

- State statute requires all local governments (cities, counties and school districts) to hold a public hearing prior to finalizing their levy authority and allow for public comment
- The hearing must follow the release of the proposed tax notices from the county (estimated mail date is the weeks of November 10 - 24 this year)
- The notice provides information on estimated taxes as well as market value and other homestead adjustments

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December Final Levy Certification

- The Board of Education certifies the final levy amount at the December BOE meeting following the TNT hearing
- Final levy must be certified by December 28 and provided to Ramsey County
- Levy Certification report signed by School Board Clerk

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Levy Timing

Pay22 Levy Calendar

Date	Action
August-early September	District submits levy information to MDE
September 8	MDE provides preliminary calculations
September 14	COB Meeting - School Finance & Levy 101
September 21	BOE Meeting - Pay22 Levy Update
September 27	JPTAC (Joint Property Tax Advisory Committee) adopts joint advisory joint levy resolution
September 27 or 28 - tentative	Special BOE Meeting - BOE sets ceiling for Pay22 levy
September 30	SPPS provides Pay22 levy ceiling data to Ramsey County and MDE
Beginning October 1	Ramsey County calculates taxes and prepares tax statements
November 10 – 24	Ramsey County mails tax statements
December 7	TNT Hearing - SPPS holds truth in taxation hearing (note: COB meeting that evening)
December 14	BOE meeting - BOE certifies Pay22 levy
December 28	SPPS certifies Pay22 levy to Ramsey County

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Levy Categories

State Levy Categories (as of 9/08/21)

Levy Fund	Pay22 Levy Categories	Pay22 Adjustments to Levy Categories	Total Number of Levy Categories
General Fund	18	28	46 ²⁵
Community Service Fund	5	5	10
Debt Service Fund	3	3	6

Example of Levy Presentation Format

Levy Category	Certified Pay 21 Levy	SPPS Estimated Pay22 Levy Ceiling	Difference
Operating	\$71,708,307.72	\$	\$ ²⁶
Pension/OPEB/Contractual	42,490,748.07		
Facilities	78,176,671.21		
Community Service	4,212,527.00		
Total – All Levy Categories	\$196,588,254.00	\$	\$
Percent Change	4.77%		

Pay22 Levy Areas to Monitor

- Ramsey County & City of St. Paul tax impact (JPTAC meeting on September 27)
- Enrollment changes
- Market value changes and tax impact
- Long term debt levels & tax impact
- Legislative/school finance formula changes
- COVID-19 impact

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Questions?

Immunization Noncompliance and Risk for School Exclusion - COB Update

September 14, 2021



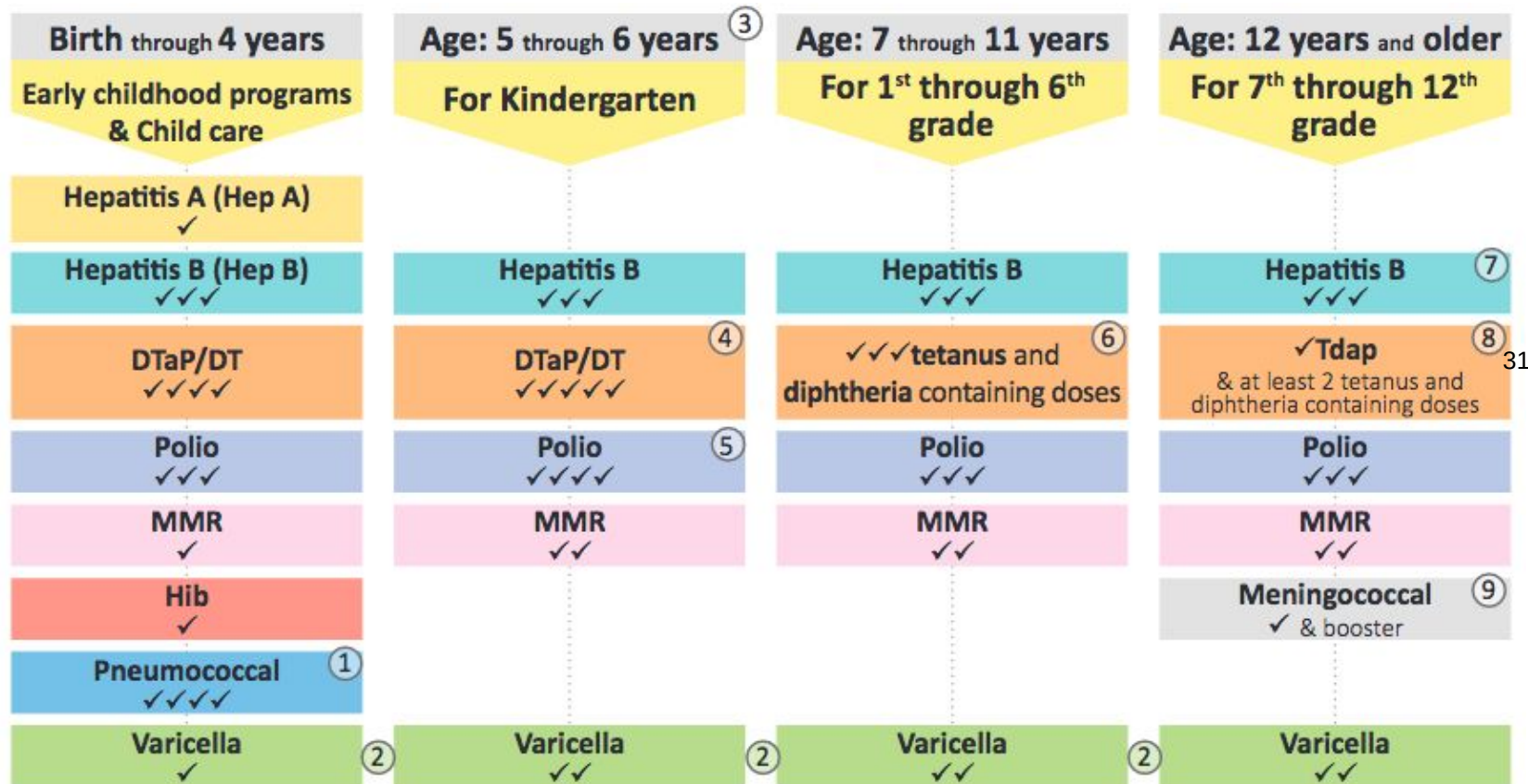
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Immunization Requirements

- Minnesota Statute 121A.15 requires that all students in public schools be fully immunized or have a notarized statement exempting them from immunizations while enrolled in school
- Law first enacted in 1967 due to measles outbreaks
- Immunizations protect students from childhood communicable diseases; thereby reducing illness, absenteeism, and permanent health conditions that may impact the ability to learn
- Goal is to remove barriers and connect families to resources to improve compliance, thereby reducing the spread of disease
- When students are not up to date on required immunizations, they are at risk for exclusion from school

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Required School Vaccines in Minnesota



Exemptions

- Students identified as homeless under the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act are exempt from exclusion (but are still encouraged to get vaccinated due to higher risks)
- Medical - requires medical provider signature
- Immunity - history of disease or titer drawn to show immunity
- Non-medical or Conscientious - requires notary signature
- New enrollees from out of state have 30 days to gain compliance
 - Immigrants and refugees are vaccinated as they enter the United States or Minnesota and follow a catch up schedule

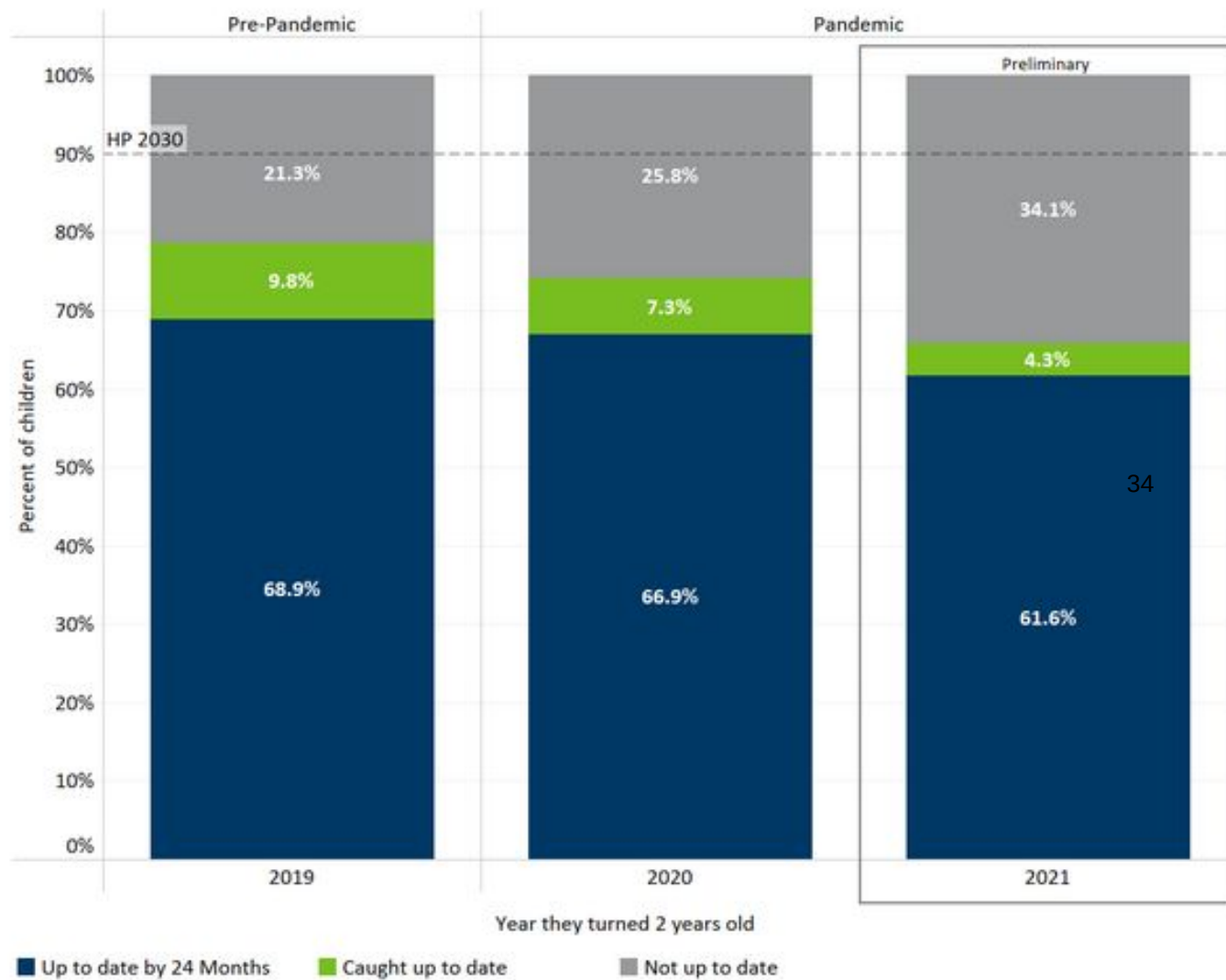
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Decreased Immunization Rates During the Pandemic

- Substantial decrease in administered vaccine doses during March–May 2020 compared with the same period during 2018 and 2019
- During March–May 2020, MMR doses administered to children aged 12–23 months and children aged 2–8 years declined a median of 22.4% and 63.1%, respectively
- Doses of Tdap administered during this period in 2020 decreased a median of 66.4% among children aged 9–12 years and 61.4% among adolescents aged 13–17 years compared with 2018 and 2019
- Parents have delayed preventative and ongoing care for their children due to social distancing policies as well as concerns about exposure
- Reports based on health care claims show declines in rates of vaccinations, child screenings, dental services, and outpatient mental health services among Medicaid/CHIP child beneficiaries

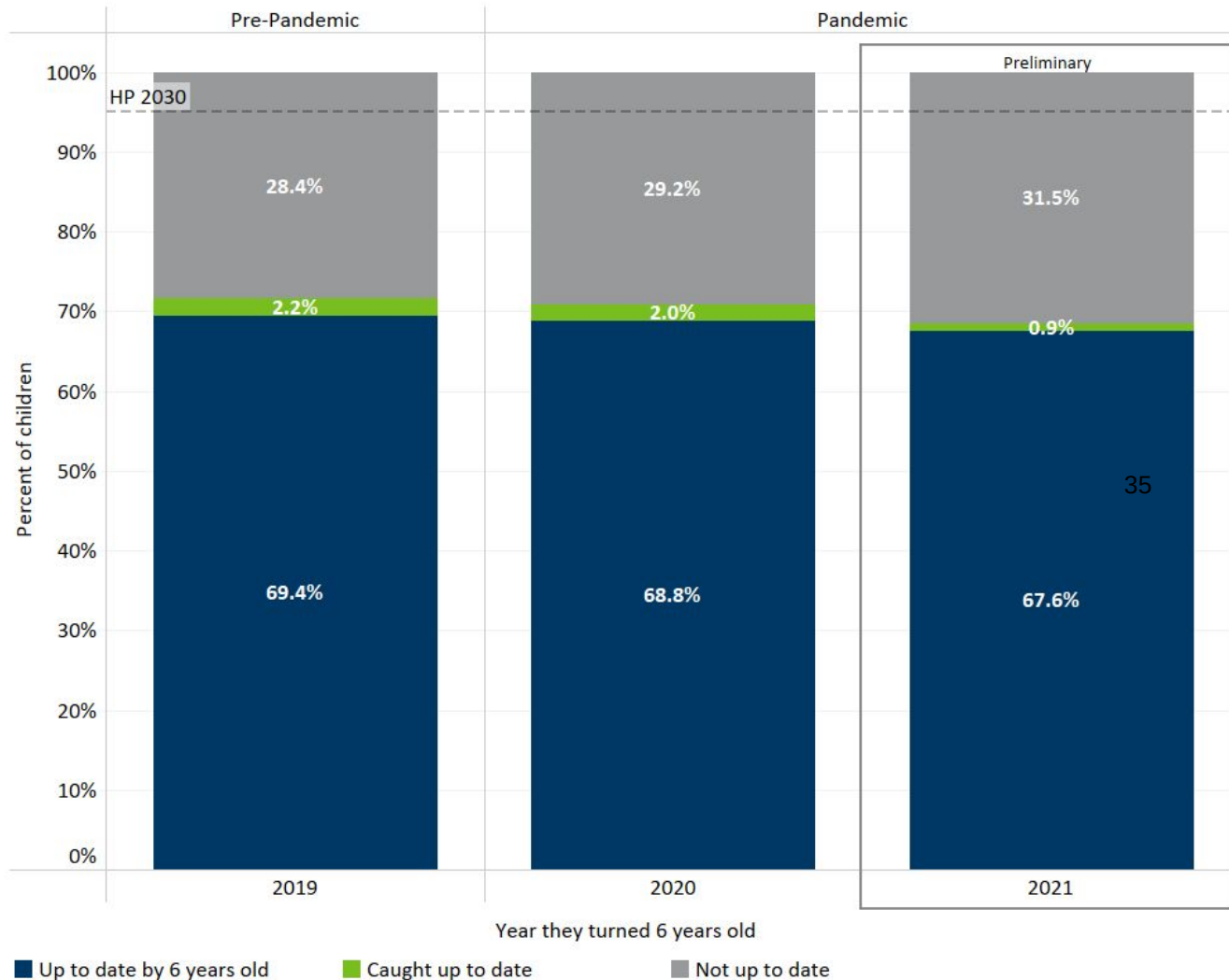
Vaccination Status of 2 year olds (Minnesota)

(64.6% in
Ramsey
County
2020-21)



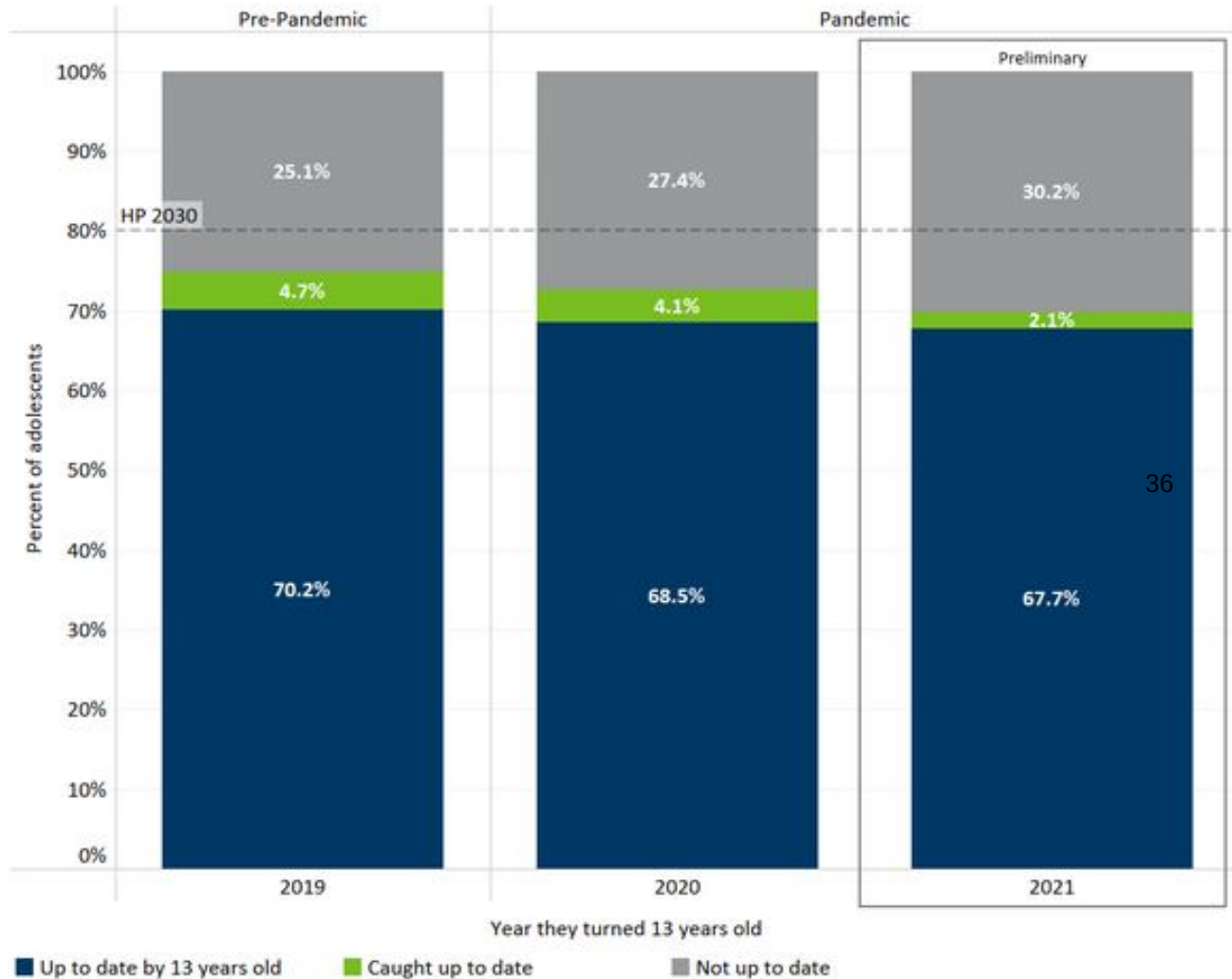
Vaccination Status of 6 year olds (Minnesota)

(62.6% in
Ramsey
County
2020-21)



Vaccination Status of 13 year olds (Minnesota)

(64.6% in Ramsey County 2020-21)



SPPS Noncompliance and Exclusion

School Year	Number of Students Considered for Exclusion	Number of Students Approved by BOE	Number of Students Excluded	Collective School Days Missed
2018-19	575 *throughout the year	318	96	265 (2.76 days average) ³⁷
2019-20	246 *throughout the year	132	61	119.5 (1.95 days average)
2020-21	0	0	0	0
2021-22	We expect these numbers to be higher than normal			

Vaccinations at Student Placement Center

Year	Time Period	# of Vaccines Given
2018-19	Oct-Sept	1205
	June-August	251
		38
2019-20	Oct-Sept	468
	June-August	0
2020-21	Oct-Aug	811 (missing Sept)
	June-August	515

Summer 2021 Work

- What actions were taken:
 - 3 Robocalls and emails in home language to all families of noncompliant students
 - 4606 phone calls made to noncompliant families (by household)
 - Calls and emails with questions after each robocall were fielded
 - Procedure was updated and presentation was shared with H&W staff to review and clarify expectations
- Results:
 - Started the summer with >6000 noncompliant students
 - Before last robocall (Aug 26), there were 3210 noncompliant students
 - 90% of non compliant students received at least one personal contact in addition to 3 robocalls (as of August 31)
 - 515 vaccines given at SPC this summer

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Letters to Parent/Guardian

- Notifies family regarding the risk of exclusion due to noncompliance with immunizations
- Informs regarding immunizations missing
- Addresses possible exemptions (i.e. medical, conscientious, immunity)
- Informs how to update school records
- Provides resources to get immunizations
- Translated (sent in English and Hmong, Spanish, Karen or Somali)

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In Partnership to Support Families

Health and Wellness Staff

- Sue Mather, Licensed School Nurse, who managed this project this summer
- Graciela Galvez Nery, Health Assistant, who personally called around 1000 families to reach families in both English and Spanish
- Our various staff (especially Karen Evans, Licensed School Nurse) at Student Placement Center for vaccinating the many families that came

Mark Gruen (Research Analyst with OSS/REA)

- Was able to filter and streamline data to efficiently support robocalls and phone calls to households

Office of Communications

- Erica Wacker, Jerry Skelly and the translations team for their support with email notifications and robocalls and monthly messaging stressing the importance of well child visits including immunizations and sports physicals

Health Start (Minnesota Community Care)

- Offered vaccines at open clinic sites to high school students
- Offered Prek-12th grade at Washington Tech site on Mondays and Wednesdays

Children's Minnesota

- Offered mobile vaccine clinic at Washington Tech last spring to support compliance

Referrals to local public health clinics and health care providers

Discussions with Project Reach to support our vulnerable population of students that are homeless

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Timeline to Address Noncompliance

- **Monthly summer messages to all SPPS families** regarding the importance of well child visits and immunizations
- **July 8, Aug 3, Aug 26:** Robocall and translated email sent to enrolled families with a noncompliant student
- **Week of September 13th** - Letter #1 is sent
- **Week of September 27th** - Letter #2 is sent
- **October 19** - BOE approval of school exclusions (this process continues monthly)
- **October 20** - Letter #3 mailed notifying them once again of exclusion date
- **First SPPS Exclusion Date: October 27, 2021**
- **Sept 1 - Oct 27** H&W Staff continue to promote compliance and update list of potential exclusions
- **Nov 16** - next batch of noncompliant for BOE approval (this process will continue monthly through June and will restart in Oct 2022 again)

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School Exclusion Rationale

- It's a law that helps protect students from childhood diseases
- SPPS has an updated procedure that more clearly defines the exclusion process and better supports and informs families and addresses equity among SPPS sites
- Health and Wellness has focused on sharing timely information in home languages throughout the summer and fall
- Noncompliance rates are higher than normal (federal, state and local level) and there is concern about an outbreak of other infectious diseases (i.e. measles, chicken pox) along with COVID-19
- Much time was spent creating and sharing resources and vaccinating to help students become compliant
- SPPS plays an important role in preventing future outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases

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...ALL schools will move forward with exclusions starting in October

References

- *Pediatric immunization gaps due to the covid-19 pandemic*. Minnesota Dept. of Health. (2021, August 18).
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/vaxpan.html>
- Patel B, Murthy , Zell E, et al. *Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Administration of Selected Routine Childhood and Adolescent Vaccinations — 10 U.S. Jurisdictions*,⁴⁴ March–September 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2021;70:840–845. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7023a2>
- Rachel Garfield and Priya Chidambaram Published: Sep 24, 2020. (2020, September 24). *Children's health and well being during the coronavirus pandemic*. KFF.
<https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/childrens-health-and-well-being-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

Questions



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ARP Funding Plan Update

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Board of Directors
September 14, 2021

Agenda

- ARP Federal Guidelines
- SPPS Proposal Development Process
- Draft Strategies
- Next Steps

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ARP Purpose and Priorities

American Rescue Plan, also known as ESSER III, provides funding to K-12 schools and institutions of higher education to reopen safely for in-person learning and address students' needs.

1. Safely reopen schools for all students
2. Address pre- and post-pandemic unfinished learning
3. Build lasting, equitable systems of teaching and learning
4. Support student and staff social emotional needs on returning to full on-site learning

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Requirements of ARP Funds

Availability of Funds - March 2020 to September 30, 2024

- SPPS \$206.9 Million
- 20% reserved to addressing “learning loss”
 - Extended day, extended year, summer school and evidence-based interventions to respond to students’ social, emotional and academic needs. 49
- Few examples of how remaining funds may be used.
 - purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean, improve ventilation systems
 - providing mental health services and supports
 - address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student groups.
 - activities allowable under IDEA, ESEA, other federal programs.

SPPS ARP Project Organization

Executive Leadership

Cedrick Baker, Chief of Staff

Planning Team

Erica Wacker, Innovation Office
Heather Kilgore, Family Engagement and Community Partnerships
Karen Randall, Strategic Planning and Project Management
Leah Corey, Innovation Office
Maria Vincent, Innovation Office
Sherry Carlstrom, Title I Federal Programs
Stacey Gray-Akyea, Research, Evaluation, Assessment

Workgroup

27 members, review requirements & needs, recommend objectives & strategies

Division of Academics
Division of Schools
Federal Title I Programs
Finance
Operations
Principals
Research and Evaluation
SPFE

All Divisions

Develop strategy proposals

Family/Community Advisory Group

13 participants, reviewing and responding to work in progress

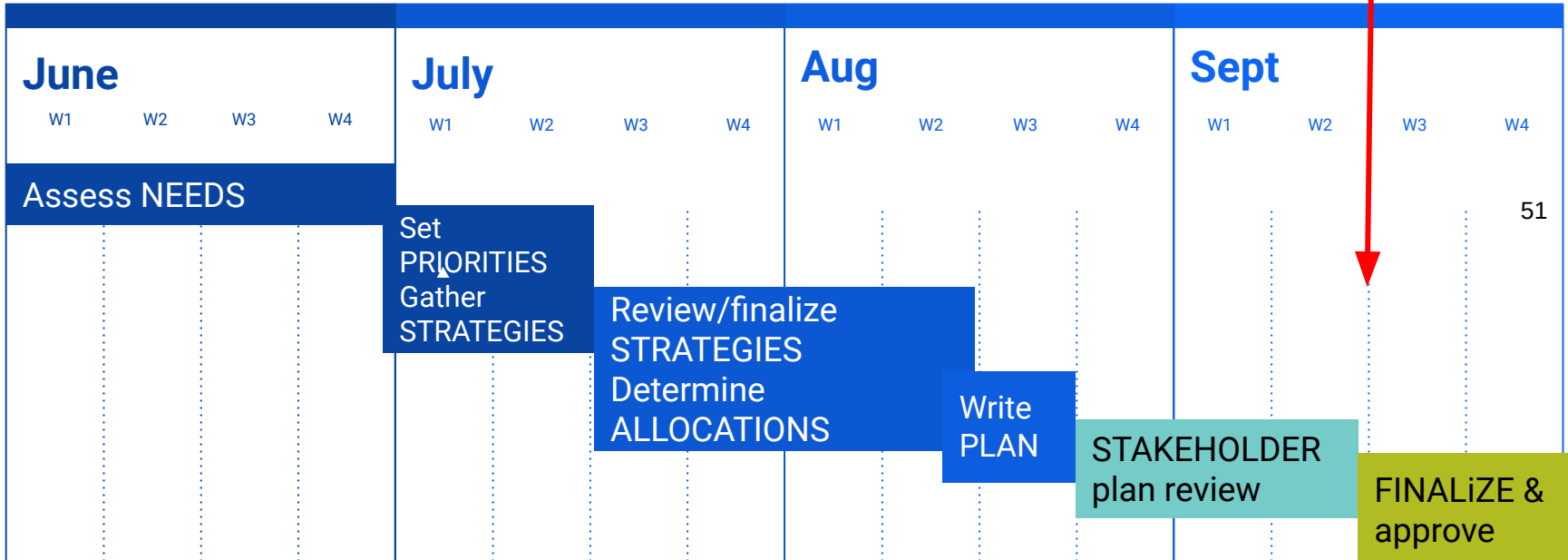
American Indian PAC
Coalition of Asian American Leaders
Dayton's Bluff, Hazel Park parents
Family Values for Life
Karen Organization of MN 50
Karen PAC
Latino Consent Decree PAC
NAACP
PAASAC - Parents of African American Students
Advisory Council
Somali PAC
SpEd Pac

Stakeholder Groups

Contribute to needs assessment
Review and respond to draft of strategies

SPPS ARP Planning Timeline

We are here



▲ LOREM

Recap: Needs Assessment Summary



STUDENTS

1. High-quality instruction
2. Strong feeling of welcome, safety, support as an individual and as a member of an ethnic/cultural/racial group and the school community
3. High level of engagement and representation in the classroom



SCHOOLS

1. Understanding that different schools have different needs
2. Being flexible and allowing staff to focus



STAFF

1. Time
2. Professional expectations for culturally relevant teaching and instruction
3. Partnerships with families and community resources



FAMILY & COMMUNITY

1. Consistent safety procedures at school
2. High-quality, engaging education that addresses core learning
3. Racial/ethnic/linguistic representation
4. Acknowledgement of the challenges facing families with children

Foundation for Addressing Needs: SPPS Achieves

Focus Areas

Systemic Equity

Positive School and
District Culture

Effective and
Culturally
Responsive
Instruction

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College and Career
Readiness

Program Evaluation/
Resource Allocation

Family and
Community
Engagement

SPPS ARP Engagement Phases

Phase 1: Needs Assessment	Phase 2: Input on the Draft	Phase 3: Implementation
May-June 2021	August - September 2021	SY 2021-22 and beyond
● Review existing data and reports ● Family forums ● Online form ● More than 11,000 responses	● Planning advisory committee ● Website, Online form ● Trusted messengers ● Targeted virtual meetings	● Ongoing advisory committee⁵⁴ ● Grants to community partners ● Consult stakeholders about high-leverage strategies

Engagement Objectives

- Gather information about stakeholder needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic
- Understand concerns and questions about a draft of ARP investments
- Gather ideas to inform implementation of funded ARP strategies
- Ensure understanding of the use of ARP funds and the timeline
- Show what's different as a result of the investment of ARP funds

INVOLVE

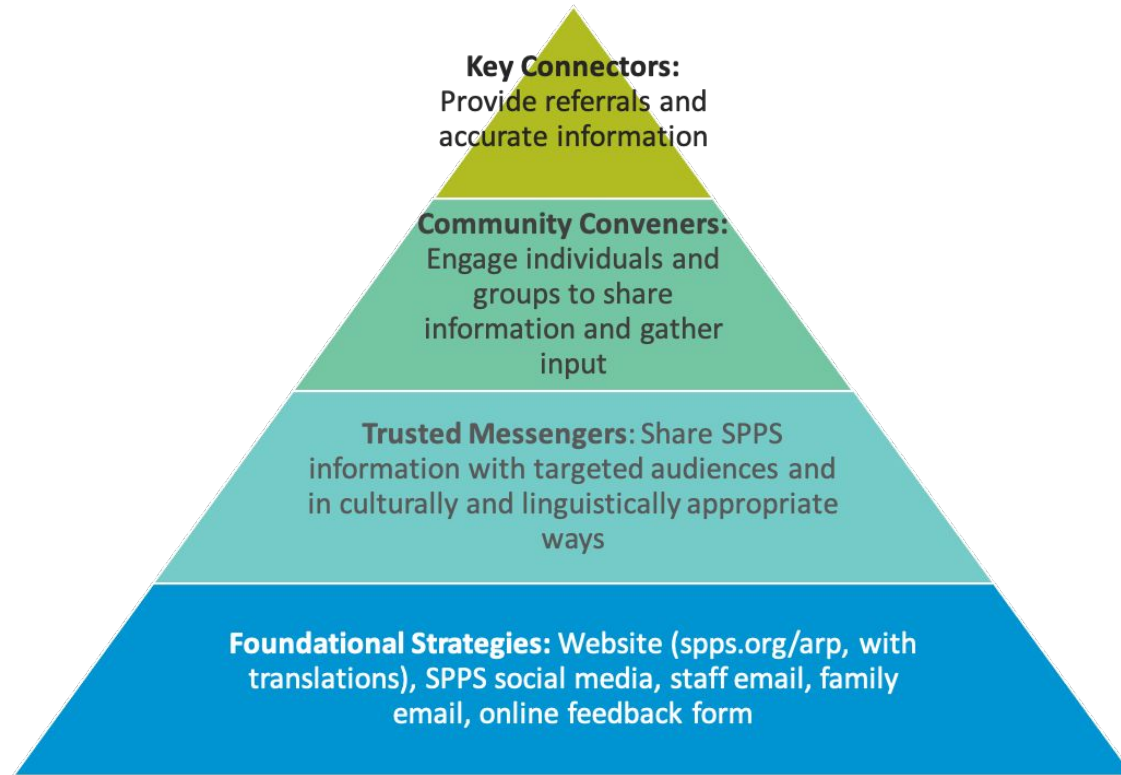
Engagement Goal:

To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.

Promise to Stakeholders:

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We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.



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How Do We Reach People?

Strategy and Allocation Recommendations

Family Summary: ARP Proposed Strategies

ARP Proposed Strategies	Allocation
High-Quality Education	\$93 million
Safe Schools	\$67.6 million
Targeted Student Services	\$12 million
Family Services and Community Partnerships	\$10.8 million
Operational Expenses	\$10 million
Mental Health and Social Emotional Learning (SEL)	\$8 million
Systemic Equity	\$5.4 million

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Next Steps

Sept 10-17	Plan revisions based on feedback
Sept 21	Board of Education approval vote

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Thank you!



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