The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP 2021) was signed into law in March 2021 and provides additional funding for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER Fund). This new funding is intended to help local education agencies safely reopen schools, measure and effectively address accelerated learning, and take other actions to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the students and families who depend on our K–12 schools. Cache County School District applied for and was awarded $10,443,542.64 to support the plan that is summarized below.

**Summary**

To best meet the needs of all students served in our district, Cache County School District created an ESSER grant team which included stakeholders from all grade levels and programs. Our team worked closely together to complete a needs assessment to identify the highest needs of our students who have been impacted by the pandemic. As a result of our needs assessment and thoughtful collaboration, we have created a plan that will provide the necessary support for our students to accelerate their learning, improve their mental and physical health, and continue learning at high levels, as has been the standard in Cache County School District.

The plan we created is data-driven and comprehensive. The plan includes services and support for students across elementary, middle school, high school, and post-high. The services and support in our plan will serve students in Special Ed, Regular Ed, English Language Learning, and Post-High. Services and interventions will be provided before and after school, during the summer, and during the school day. Additional focus has been given to the needs of students that are considered at-risk through several efforts such as removing barriers to after-school and summer school programs by providing transportation, and providing additional family support with parent liaisons. We are confident that through the implementation of our plan, our students will be prepared and ready for the next level of learning once the grant period expires. Below are some of the key features of our plan.

**Elementary Education**

This award will allow for each elementary school within our school district to be able to offer a REACH-OST program. All students are provided opportunities to participate in OST programming that engages them in homework help, remedial skill building and career exploration enrichment activities that foster academic and social emotional youth development in a safe and secure environment.

The grant will also provide for Tier 2 literacy aides in grades 4–6 at each school and for an instructional coach to serve teachers in grades K–2.

**English Language Learners**

The Elementary and Secondary plans include supports for English Language Learners. In addition to those supports, the award will provide for additional professional development for ESL teachers, fund additional para-professional support for small-group and individual instruction, and purchase the curricula needed for small-group and individual instruction.

**Secondary Education**

The award will support interventions during the school day by providing funding for additional ESL classes, directed studies/tutoring for students in Special Education, co-taught classes in English and Math, as well as intervention classes in English and Math.

In addition to school-day interventions, this plan will provide after-school and summer school tutoring as well as credit recovery services for high school students.

This plan also provides for a part-time parent liaison at each secondary school to foster relationships with families of students that are considered at-risk and families that have been more heavily impacted by the pandemic.

**Mental Health & Behavior Services**

The award will allow the addition of a general school psychologist to provide support to school teams in the specific areas of Response to Intervention (RTI) and targeted consultation in research-based behavior intervention strategies. Two psychology interns will also be hired to provide additional behavior support.

The award will also provide for a social emotional learning/mindfulness specialist, curriculum to support SEL, and continuation of the services provided by our Project AWARE team for one year.

**Special Education**

The Elementary and Secondary plans include supports for students receiving services in Special Education. In addition to those supports, the award provides funding for Special Education curricula and the purchase of technology to support the curricula.

**Response to Covid**

The award will support a health aide at each elementary and secondary school. The aide will provide COVID-related health services and coordination of contact-tracing within each school. The award will also support the purchase of additional COVID-related cleaning supplies, hand-sanitizer, and N95 masks.

**Budget at a Glance**

- **Salary & Benefits - $7,818,792**
- **Transportation - $155,600**
- **Supplies and Materials - $1,306,262**
  - SpEd, EL, and SEL curricula
  - after-school and summer program supplies
  - secondary intervention course supplies
  - COVID supplies
  - Credit recovery materials
  - iPads to support SpEd curricula

For more information contact Brittany Foster, Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning brittany.foster@ccsdut.org, 435-752-3925 ext 7605.

**ARP ESSER Grant Team**

- Tim Smith, Secondary Asst Superintendent
- Gary Thomas, Elementary Asst Superintendent
- Jen Reis, Director of Special Education
- Robin Clement, Director of Federal Programs & Elementary Literacy
- Brittany Foster, Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning
- Curt Jenkins, Director of Student Services
- Jacob Downs, K–6 Literacy Coordinator
- Michael Tomey, REACH OST Time Coordinator
- Debbie Ives, Project AWARE Coordinator
- Alden Jack, Behavior Coordinator

**Supplies and Materials**

- Additional COVID-related cleaning supplies
- Hand sanitizer
- N95 masks