

Section: Narratives - Needs Assessment

Introduction

The findings of a recent study showed that there is a significant benefit to students who participate in out-of-school-time (OST) programs. In fact, the Return on Investment of Summer school Programs in Pennsylvania study determined that for every dollar invested in summer school programming for students there was a return of \$6.69 in potential benefits to students, including reduced rates for drop-outs, teen pregnancy, substance abuse, crime and delinquency ([Link PSAYDN.org](#)).

In accordance with the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act and Pennsylvania Act 24 of 2021 (Act 24), the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) will award approximately \$50,000,000 or one percent (1%) of Pennsylvania's ARP Elementary and Secondary School Education Relief (ESSER) State Reserve funds to support school districts, charter schools and cyber charter schools (collectively, LEAs) in the development and implementation of comprehensive after-school programs to address learning loss in response to the academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of students and subgroups of students impacted by COVID-19 public health emergency that supplement school programs and activities.

Act 24 requires that, when available, existing personnel shall be utilized by school districts, charter schools and cyber charter schools to staff programs and activities established with these grant funds.

Within 90 days of receipt of these allocations, school districts, charter schools and cyber charter schools must submit a three- part plan to PDE, that outlines the proposed use of the grant money, itemized by program and activity. This plan is part of a consolidated application that includes after-school programming, summer programming, and a comprehensive plan to address learning loss. The plan shall include:

- 1) A description of each program and activity
- 2) A narrative outlining the expected benefit of each program and activity
- 3) A budget for each program and activity detailing personnel and operating costs

PDE has developed the Accelerated Learning Toolkit, a significant cadre of resources and trainings, to support LEAs in the development of their plans. The Accelerated Learning Toolkit can be found [Link to Accelerated Learning Toolkit](#).

Section 1 - Needs Assessment: In this section, LEAs are asked to describe the impact of the pandemic on their students since March 2020.

Indicators of Impact

1. Describe how the LEA identified students for inclusion in a summer school program. Include a brief description of the indicators used in the decision-making process.

The Bethlehem Area School District (BASD) provided a July 2021 Summer Enrichment Program and an August 2021 Summer Ramp-Up Program to meet the instructional and social emotional needs of students. After thirteen months of implementing a hybrid instructional

schedule, the July 2021 Summer Enrichment program allowed students, faculty, administration and community partners to reconnect and engage in fun activities in whole and small group settings to develop and strengthen relationships. The August Summer Ramp-Up and High School Credit Recovery Programs were targeted to students who showed a decline in screening and progress monitoring data or who were not at benchmark by the end of the year. High School students who failed courses during the 2020-2021 school year were invited to the High School Recovery Credit Program. The following indicators were used in the decision-making process: Acadience and Lexia screening and benchmark data, local assessments, behavioral referrals, and referrals to the BASD Student Assistance Program. Acadience data was used to screen elementary literacy progress and Lexia was used to screen middle school literacy progress. Both programs follow a 3-Tiered Approach: Tier 1 indicates students are performing at or above grade level, Tier 2 indicates students are approaching grade level and Tier 3 indicates students are performing below grade level. BASD's goals was and continues to be to have 80% of student performing in Tier 1, 15% in Tier 2 and 5% at Tier 3. The impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic showed less than 60% performing in Tier 1 and more than 40% performing in Tiers 2 and 3. BASD used this screening data to identify students to participate in the Summer Ramp-Up Program. High School students who failed courses during the 2020-2021 year were invited to participate in the High School Credit Recovery Program. In addition to the overall impact the COVID-19 Pandemic had the ability to engage in-person on a daily basis, behavioral and BASD SAP (Student Assistance Program) data were used to determine students who could benefit from reconnecting with peers and staff through enrichment activities.

Section: Narratives - Summer School Program Questions

Summer School Program Questions: In this section, LEAs are asked to describe the activities they have designed to provide summer school programming for their students.

2. Identify the target student-group for the summer school program. Will the focus be on academic growth, social and emotional wellness, or some other factor to support student growth? For each group, provide specific strategies that were used or will be used to identify and measure impacts.

Student Group	Area of Focus	Number of Students Served	Provide specific strategies that were used or will be used to identify and measure impacts
Major Racial and Ethnic Groups	Emotional Wellness	1,126	STEM and enrichment opportunities were provided to engage and connect students with their peers, teachers and community partners to develop and strengthen relationships and re-engage students within the school building.
Major Racial and Ethnic Groups	Academic Growth	429	Acadience progress monitoring data at the elementary level and Lexia screening data at the middle school level were used to identify students and monitor their progress pre and post summer programming and throughout the school year.
			Targeted high school students participated

Student Group	Area of Focus	Number of Students Served	Provide specific strategies that were used or will be used to identify and measure impacts
Major Racial and Ethnic Groups	Academic Growth	352	in the Summer High School Credit Recovery Program. Students who failed core content areas were invited to attend the program. Student performance on class assignments and local assessments will be used to identify and measure the impact of the summer programming.

3. Describe the evidence-based resources that will be used to support student growth during the summer school program.

The Bethlehem Area School District (BASD) provided a July 2021 Summer Enrichment Program and an August 2021 Summer Ramp-Up Program to meet the instructional and social emotional needs of students. After thirteen months of providing a hybrid instructional schedule the July 2021 Summer Enrichment program allowed students, faculty, administration and community partners to reconnect and engage in fun activities in whole and small group settings to develop and strengthen relationships. Research shows that "strong teacher-student relationships are crucial to student academic achievement at all grade levels. Students need to know that teachers care. Caring teachers hold students to high expectations but also give them the support they need to reach those expectations", (Stipek, D.; Educational Leadership, v64 n1 p46-49 Sep 2006). During the July Summer Enrichment Program students engaged in STEM activities, attended field trips and participated in after summer school programming to address the social, physical and mental health. The August Ramp-Up program addressed students' academic needs. The Summer Ramp-Up employed teachers and teacher assistants to provide whole and small group literacy and math instruction to address learning gaps and learning loss. The Summer Enrichment Program was open to all students, while the Summer Ramp-Up program were targeted to students who failed courses, showed a decline in progress monitoring data or who were not at benchmark by the end of the year.

4. Describe the staff that will provide the summer school program (i.e., internal staff or outside resources).

Number of Staff Members	Internal/Outside Provider	Role
163	Internal Provider	Classroom Teacher
12	Internal Provider	Teacher Assistant
5	Internal Provider	Community School Coordinator
23	Outside Provider	Community Partner
3	Internal Provider	General Duty Aides
2	Internal Provider	Student Teachers



a. The LEA assures it understands it is responsible to offer the work to its internal employees prior to engaging outside entities.



b. The LEA assures it understands it is responsible to ensure that all summer school program staff hold the appropriate certifications for the program that is being delivered.

5. How will the LEA assess the success of the summer school program? Please identify the tool, frequency of use, and expected results.

Tool Used to Evaluate Success	Frequency of Use	Expected Results
Teacher and Peer Interaction and Teacher Observation	Daily	Students will begin to show growth in their comfort level being back in the school building, taking risks, completion of assignments and growth in student learning.

Tool Used to Evaluate Success	Frequency of Use	Expected Results
Acadience Screening & Progress Monitoring	Weekly/Bi-Weekly and Monthly	Student growth in elementary student literacy and closing achievement gaps
Lexia Screening & Core Content	Weekly/Bi-Weekly/ Monthly and Quarterly	Student growth in middle and high school student literacy and mathematics and closing achievement gaps

6. How will the LEA engage families in the summer school program?

BASD engaged families in the summer program by providing information about program/course offerings and removing barriers for students to attend the program and sharing volunteer opportunities to chaperone trips and participate enrichment activities. COVID mitigations for student, teacher and community partner participation were outlined and distributed. Families were informed about summer programming during Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences and Spring Incoming Kindergarten Open House. BASD removed barriers to student participation by providing the High School Credit Recovery program at no cost to families, transportation was available and accessible for all students in need, and meals were provided throughout the summer.

Section: Budget - Instruction Expenditures

Instruction Expenditures

Budget

\$356,845.00

Allocation

\$356,845.00

Budget Over(Under) Allocation

\$0.00

Budget Summary

Function	Object	Amount	Description
1400 - Other Instructional Programs – Elementary / Secondary	100 - Salaries	\$35,195.00	Salaries for August Ramp-Up Program
1400 - Other Instructional Programs – Elementary / Secondary	200 - Benefits	\$5,209.00	Benefits for August Ramp-Up Program
1400 - Other Instructional Programs – Elementary / Secondary	100 - Salaries	\$154,232.00	Salaries for July Enrichment Program
1400 - Other Instructional Programs – Elementary / Secondary	200 - Benefits	\$63,795.00	Benefits for July Enrichment Program
1400 - Other Instructional Programs – Elementary / Secondary	300 - Purchased Professional and Technical Services	\$62,415.00	Camp Invention STEM Program for July Enrichment Program

Function	Object	Amount	Description
1400 - Other Instructional Programs – Elementary / Secondary	600 - Supplies	\$14,493.00	Supplies for Summer Enrichment and Ramp-Up Programs
		\$335,339.00	

Section: Budget - Support and Non-Instructional Expenditures

Support and Non-Instructional Expenditures

Budget

\$356,845.00

Allocation

\$356,845.00

Budget Over(Under) Allocation

\$0.00

Budget Summary

Function	Object	Amount	Description
2400 - Health Support Services	100 - Salaries	\$1,894.00	Nurse Salaries for July Enrichment Program
2400 - Health Support Services	200 - Benefits	\$831.00	Nurse Benefits for July Enrichment Program
2400 - Health Support Services	100 - Salaries	\$438.00	Nurse Salaries for August Ramp-Up Program
2400 - Health Support Services	200 - Benefits	\$192.00	Nurse Benefits for August Ramp-Up Program
2700 - Student Transportation	100 - Salaries	\$14,362.00	Salaries for Transportation for Summer Programs
2700 - Student Transportation	200 - Benefits	\$3,789.00	Benefits for Transportation for Summer Programs
		\$21,506.00	

Section: Budget - Budget Summary
BUDGET SUMMARY

	100 Salaries	200 Benefits	300 Purchased Professional and Technical Services	400 Purchased Property Services	500 Other Purchased Services	600 Supplies 800 Dues and Fees	700 Property	Totals
1000 Instruction	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1100 REGULAR PROGRAMS – ELEMENTARY / SECONDARY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1200 SPECIAL PROGRAMS – ELEMENTARY / SECONDARY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1300 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1400 Other Instructional Programs – Elementary / Secondary	\$189,427.00	\$69,004.00	\$62,415.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,493.00	\$0.00	\$335,339.00
1600 * ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1700 Higher Education Programs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1800 Pre-K	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2000 SUPPORT SERVICES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2100 SUPPORT SERVICES – STUDENTS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2200 Staff Support	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

	100 Salaries	200 Benefits	300 Purchased Professional and Technical Services	400 Purchased Property Services	500 Other Purchased Services	600 Supplies 800 Dues and Fees	700 Property	Totals
Services								
2300 SUPPORT SERVICES – ADMINISTRATION	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2400 Health Support Services	\$2,332.00	\$1,023.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,355.00
2500 Business Support Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2600 Operation and Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2700 Student Transportation	\$14,362.00	\$3,789.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,151.00
2800 Central Support Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3000 OPERATION OF NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3100 Food Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3200 Student Activities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3300 Community Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4000 FACILITIES ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT SERVICES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

	100 Salaries	200 Benefits	300 Purchased Professional and Technical Services	400 Purchased Property Services	500 Other Purchased Services	600 Supplies 800 Dues and Fees	700 Property	Totals
	\$206,121.00	\$73,816.00	\$62,415.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,493.00	\$0.00	\$356,845.00
Approved Indirect Cost/Operational Rate: 0.0000								\$0.00
Final								\$356,845.00