

ROCHESTER'S PLAN FOR HOW TO SPEND FEDERAL AID TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS OUT.

NOW WHAT?

Rochester schools are slated to receive an additional \$324.5 million in state and federal aid. All districts were required to publicly post their spending plans for this new funding on or before July 1.

With nearly 700 school districts in New York State, we need your help to determine whether YOUR district's plan adequately addresses the needs and demands of families, educators and students in your community.

HOW DOES ROCHESTER'S PLAN MEASURE UP?

You can review Rochester's spending plan on the district's website by [clicking here](#).

What's included, and what's missing

+ Support Staff and Mental Health

"Social Emotional Learning" under \$69M for "High-Quality Teaching and Learning for All"

- Smaller Class Sizes

+ Technology

\$49M for "District-Wide Infrastructure Improvements" that included technology improvements to support students and families

+ Infrastructure

"High School Redesign" under \$69M for "High-Quality Teaching and Learning for All"; \$49M for "District-Wide Infrastructure Improvements"

+ Summer Programs & Accelerated Learning

"Summer School and Expanded Learning" and "Academic Support & Enrichment" under \$69M for "High-Quality Teaching and Learning for All"

- Community Schools

+ Anti-racism/restorative practices

"Restorative Practices" under \$69M for "High-Quality Teaching and Learning for All"

+ Recruit & retain diverse staff

"Recruiting diverse staff" under \$69M for "High-Quality Teaching and Learning for All"

+ Culturally responsive & sustaining education

"Culturally Responsive Curriculum and Instruction" under \$69M for "High-Quality Teaching and Learning for All"

+ Broad & Continual Community Engagement

"Parent & Family Engagement" under \$69M for "High-Quality Teaching and Learning for All"; \$2.5M for "Participatory Budgeting" involving Parents/Students/Community Members



LEARN WHAT YOU CAN DO ►

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- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

STEP 2 TAKE ACTION

Share your community's feedback and concerns with your local school district's decision makers. Remember to report back on the meeting with district leaders to community members that are not able to attend.

For each of the programs you identified in Step 1, use the questions below as a guide for what to ask district leaders during the meeting.

- How many students will this program serve?
- When do you expect to roll out this program?
- How will you measure the effectiveness of this program?

In addition, consider the below questions to evaluate your district's plan:

- Are there any strategic investments missing from your district's plan? If yes, inform district leaders of what essential programs are missing.
- Do you want the district to reallocate resources from another program to support this initiative? If yes, please explain.



MEET WITH YOUR SUPERINTENDENT & CFO

Use this [sample letter](#) to request a meeting with your superintendent.



SPEAK UP AT A LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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ORGANIZE A PTA/PTO MEETING

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STEP 3 BUILD PUBLIC SUPPORT & ENGAGEMENT

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Statewide

Stevie Vargas
stevie@aqeny.org
321-318-1287

BUFFALO'S PLAN FOR HOW TO SPEND FEDERAL AID TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS OUT.

NOW WHAT?

Buffalo schools are slated to receive an additional \$333 million in state and federal aid. All districts were required to publicly post their spending plans for this new funding on or before July 1.

With nearly 700 school districts in New York State, we need your help to determine whether YOUR district's plan adequately addresses the needs and demands of families, educators and students in your community.

HOW DOES BUFFALO'S PLAN MEASURE UP?

You can review [Buffalo's spending plan](#) on the district's website by [clicking here](#).

What's included, and what's missing

+ Support Staff and Mental Health

~\$39M for "Student Support/Social Emotional" priority between 2021-2024 that includes additional funding for social emotional support staff

- Smaller Class Sizes

+ Technology

~\$38.1M for upgrades on "Information Technology" between 2021-2024 to establish "initiatives identified to support the needs of teachers and students"

+ Infrastructure

~\$38.9M for "Covid/Operations/Facility" improvements between 2021-2024 to reduce student and school-personnel risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental hazards

+ Summer Programs & Accelerated Learning

~\$173.4M for "Expanded EB [Education Bargain] Instructional Initiatives" between 2021-2024 that include summer 2021 learning programs across all grade levels

+ Community Schools

Existing community schools will be enhanced under the priority of family and community engagement

+ Anti-racism/restorative practices

The "entire ESSER funding ... will be aligned to the [Board's] equity goals" - including anti-racist focus in mental health supports and professional development, among many other initiatives

+ Recruit & retain diverse staff

Using Education Bargain funding, BPS commits to recruiting and retaining a diverse and effective body of school personnel

+ Culturally responsive & sustaining education

Using Education Bargain funding, BPS commits to ensure culturally and linguistically responsive resources and programming for students and staff

+ Broad & Continual Community Engagement

commits to engaging "students, teachers, families, school leaders, board members, parent leaders," etc. in the implementation of their plan



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stevie@aqeny.org
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UTICA'S PLAN FOR HOW TO SPEND FEDERAL AID TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS OUT.

NOW WHAT?

Utica schools are slated to receive an additional \$95.7 million in state and federal aid. All districts were required to publicly post their spending plans for this new funding on or before July 1.

With nearly 700 school districts in New York State, we need your help to determine whether YOUR district's plan adequately addresses the needs and demands of families, educators and students in your community.

HOW DOES UTICA'S PLAN MEASURE UP?

You can review [Utica's spending plan](#) on the district's website by [clicking here](#).

What's included, and what's missing

+ Support Staff and Mental Health

~\$6.5M for "meeting student social, emotional and mental health needs" - that includes ongoing school personnel training and PD in socioemotional and mental health competencies

- Smaller Class Sizes

+ Technology

~\$12M for "Addressing Achievement Gaps and Learning Loss" that includes upgrading instructional technology to improve specialized instruction delivery

+ Infrastructure

~\$20.4M for "Safely returning students to full-time in-person instruction" that includes upgrading HVAC systems and other safety improvements to buildings & additional instructional supply purchase under the ~\$12M for addressing learning loss

+ Summer Programs & Accelerated Learning

Expanded credit recovery and course offerings under addressing learning loss dollars & \$7M for "Raise the graduation rate" that includes increased internship programming for students

- Community Schools

+ Anti-racism/restorative practices

UCSD was not explicitly clear on this point, but they did commit to provide staff development on "differentiated instruction and inclusive practices" with the \$6.4M for "Providing resources and support for English Language Learners (ELLs), Students with Disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness"

- Recruit & retain diverse staff

+ Culturally responsive & sustaining education

UCSD did not explicitly use CRSE language, but they did commit to: provide specialized resources, programming and supports to address the needs ELL and bilingual students and families under the previously mentioned \$6.4M

- Broad & Continual Community Engagement



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Stevie Vargas
stevie@aqeny.org
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KINGSTON'S PLAN FOR HOW TO SPEND FEDERAL AID TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS OUT.

NOW WHAT?

Kingston schools are slated to receive an additional \$25.8 million in state and federal aid. All districts were required to publicly post their spending plans for this new funding on or before July 1.

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HOW DOES KINGSTON'S PLAN MEASURE UP?

You can review [Kingston's spending plan](#) on the district's website by [clicking here](#).

What's included, and what's missing

+ Support Staff and Mental Health

District-wide support staff and mental health approach, including on-site mental health clinics, social workers in each school, and "expanded trauma-informed training."

+ Smaller Class Sizes

Class size reduction among grades K-3, and to lowering class sizes below 20 students across elementary grades

+ Technology

Includes distributing more devices to students and increasing tech support for staff.

+ Infrastructure

Address all HVAC issues with incoming federal dollars

+ Summer Programs & Accelerated Learning

Addressing learning loss through summer programming for three years, in addition to extended credit recovery for secondary grades and after-school programming in all schools.

- Community Schools

+ Anti-racism/restorative practices

Will establish by June 2024 a Restorative Practices Program - K thru 12" per its "Social Emotional and Physical Well-Being" Commitment

+ Recruit & retain diverse staff

In the upcoming year, KCSD has committed to creating a plan for staffpersons to "proportionately reflect the diversity of our student body" by 2024, and to establish a DEI department

+ Culturally responsive & sustaining education

"Will conduct a thorough curriculum review and adopt culturally relevant curricula and provide teacher support in the implementation of this curricula" by June 2022

+ Broad & Continual Community Engagement

Creation of more "parent academies" for the unique needs of ELL-students, students with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged students.



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Stevie Vargas
stevie@aqeny.org
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ALBANY'S PLAN FOR HOW TO SPEND FEDERAL AID TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS OUT.

NOW WHAT?

Albany schools are slated to receive an additional \$55.9 million in state and federal aid. All districts were required to publicly post their spending plans for this new funding on or before July 1.

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HOW DOES ALBANY'S PLAN MEASURE UP?

You can review [Albany's spending plan](#) on the district's website by [clicking here](#).

What's included, and what's missing

+ Support Staff and Mental Health

Committed to investment in a "social-emotional learning curriculum" and "staffing to support social-emotional learning."

- Smaller Class Sizes

+ Technology

Designated an entire priority, labeled "Educational technology," that includes "classroom upgrades," administrative support upgrades," and [tech]"infrastructure upgrades."

+ Infrastructure

Designated priority labeled "HVAC (ventilation/air filtration)"

+ Summer Programs & Accelerated Learning

Designated funding to before- and after-school tutoring/mentoring, Saturday enrichment programming, and to intramural and extracurricular activities under their "accelerated learning and academic support" priority.

- Community Schools

+ Anti-racism/restorative practices

Under their "social-emotional and mental health supports" priority, Albany leadership has included "Restorative practices" as a sub-priority.

- Recruit & retain diverse staff

- Culturally responsive & sustaining education

- Broad & Continual Community Engagement



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