

BEMUS POINT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Maple Grove Junior/Senior High School
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Bemus Point Elementary School
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Superintendent of Schools

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School Principal

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December 14, 2021

To the Bemus Point Community,

Late last spring, we were notified of two federal stimulus programs that would provide additional funds to the district: the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The district's CRRSAA allocation is \$595,681. Its ARPA allocation is \$1,457,270. The ARPA fund has several mandated set-asides. \$151,564 is a federal minimum required set-aside to address "learning loss," \$100,002 is a state level reserve for summer enrichment, \$100,002 is a state level reserve for afterschool programs, and \$499,996 is a state level reserve for "learning loss." These funds may be used over a three-year period by the district. However, at the end of the third year, whatever is not spent will be returned to the state.

Our goal was to develop a spending plan for these funds that invests in our students, our staff, and our buildings. The initial guidance from New York State required district to prioritize spending on non-recurring expenses in the following areas:

- Safely returning students to in-person instruction;
- Maximizing in-person instruction time;
- Operating schools and meeting the needs of students;
- Purchasing educational technology;
- Addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on students, including the impacts of interrupted instruction, and learning loss and the impacts on low-income students, children with disabilities, English language learners, and students experiencing homelessness;
- Implementing evidence-based strategies to meet students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs;
- Offering evidence-based summer, afterschool, and other extended learning and enrichment programs; and
- Supporting early childhood education.

In addition, districts must identify programs and services that will continue beyond the availability of these federal funds and how local funds will be used moving forward to minimize disruption to core academic and other school programs.

We created a Learning Leaps Committee of teachers and administrators from across the district to meet and discuss how to best use these funds. A proposed spending plan was the result of those meetings. This plan was provided to parents, teachers, and other stakeholders for public comment in August. We have now received formal approval of our proposed spending plan. This will be posted on our Bemus Point District website.

Please contact the Bemus Point Central School Administrative Office if you have any questions regarding the proposed federal stimulus funds spending plan at (716) 386-2375.

With respect,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph P. Reyda".

Joseph Reyda, Superintendent of Schools

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Investing in our Students

We will be using a portion of our state allowances set aside for “learning loss” to help supplement the salaries of the teachers providing intervention services to students in Bemus Point Elementary School.

We will be offering the traditional summer school options for students at Bemus Point Elementary School and at Maple Grove Junior/Senior High School. We also intend to provide summer enrichment opportunities for students at both sites. Summer enrichment began for Bemus Point Elementary School students starting in the summer of 2021. It is scheduled to begin for Maple Grove Junior/Senior High School students in the summer of 2022.

We will be exploring how to extend the current after school program at Maple Grove Junior/Senior High School. Students at Bemus Point Elementary School would also have the option of staying after school until 4:30 PM on selected days. These students would have the opportunity to receive extra help or to participate in a new intramural program.

We will be partnering with Prevention Works, a contract agency with the Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene and the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, to provide intervention programming for students in grades Kindergarten through grade 12 over the next three years. The district will continue these services with general budget funds at the conclusion of the stimulus funds.

We intend to address the social emotional needs of our students by implementing the Move This World program. This will provide interactive videos, movement and creative expression to help students, educators and families develop emotional intelligence skills. We intend to use the stimulus funds to provide teacher training, modeling, and community program presentations.

The pandemic has impacted how we can provide music instruction to our students. Most significantly, the district was not able to provide traditional instrumental instruction to our grade five students. We want to use the stimulus funds to invest in musical instruments that will allow students to participate in instrumental lessons during their grade five year and reestablish the Bemus Point Elementary School Band. We will be able to assume the annual maintenance costs for these instruments in the general budget.

Investing in our Teachers

We will use a portion of the federal stimulus funds to provide specific professional development for our teaching staff. This will include opportunities to attend in-person and virtual conferences. Professional development opportunities will be aligned to the District Goals:

- **Future Ready Focus** - We will integrate life skills, rigorous learning, and innovative teaching methods into our instructional practices by providing relevant, real-world experiences that will prepare our students for any future.
- **Soft Skill Development** - We will develop the tools to effectively communicate with others and confidently interact in our global environment.

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- **Human-Technology Balance** - We will deliver quality academics, weaving human connections with state-of-the-art technology.
- **Social Emotional Supports** - We will cultivate and engage in positive relationships that foster student growth and build strong communities.

Professional development opportunities will also be aligned to the district's Professional Development Plan goals:

- **Establish a Data Driven Culture** - We will demonstrate a commitment to ongoing and continuous professional development that is based on the analysis of multiple sources of data.
- **Establish a Technology Rich Culture** - We will continue to integrate technology to consistently improve application, enhance student engagement, and maximize personalized teaching/learning across all curriculum areas.
- **Establish a culture of professional growth and development** - We will ensure growth and development of skills, knowledge, and strategies to implement curriculum and best instructional practices that focus on all student learning needs.
- **Establish a Healthy Environment for All** - We will establish a school community that identifies, promotes, and supports social and emotional development by designing systems and experiences that lead to healthy relationships and a safe, respectful environment that is conducive to learning for all.

Our goal is to identify specific professional development opportunities that align to our district and professional development goals and have an immediate and long-lasting impact on teaching and learning. The district will be able to utilize available Title and general budget funds to provide professional development opportunities once the stimulus funds end.

Investing in our Buildings

We intend to use the federal stimulus funds to improve the indoor air quality of the large gathering spaces at Maple Grove Junior/Senior High School. This will include replacing the air handlers that supply the ventilation to the cafeteria and the auditorium. The Maple Grove cafeteria ventilation project will also include air conditioning. We intend to include air conditioning in the Maple Grove auditorium in a future capital building project. The only ongoing expenses at the conclusion of the stimulus funds will be annual equipment maintenance costs.

We will be formally creating outdoor classroom spaces at Bemus Point Elementary School and Maple Grove Junior/Senior High School. These spaces will allow our students to have a safe and secure outdoor classroom option during the day. It also increases our available instructional spaces for our teachers. Once installed, there will be no additional costs other than annual maintenance costs.

We also want to address the safety and security of the Bemus Point Elementary School. We will use the federal funds to extend the walkways surrounding the elementary school so that they encompass the entire

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building. These new walkways will provide an uninterrupted path for students and staff to use during the day, but also provide our community with a new safe and secure walking path to attend sporting events or to use the existing playground facilities. Once installed, there will be no continuing annual maintenance costs.

A portion of our funds will be used to purchase necessary cleaning supplies for the district to utilize over the next three years. This will include hand sanitizers, disinfectants, classroom cleaning supplies, microfiber mop systems, restroom cleaners, hand soap, paper towels, and hand dryers. These supplies are a regular part of our general budget. We will continue to purchase them at the end of the grant cycle.



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Approved Budget - CRRSAA - GEER

Investment	Total
Musical Instruments	\$40,204
Total:	\$40,204

Approved Budget - CRRSAA - ESSER

Investment	Total
MG cafeteria air handlers (AC)	\$238,000
District cleaning supplies	72,533
Move This World - Mindfulness Training	9,684
BPE outdoor classroom	140,000
BPE walkways	62,860
Prevention Works	32,400
Total:	\$555,477



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Approved Budget - ARPA - Federal Allocation

Investment	Total
MG Auditorium air handlers	\$606,254
Professional Development – Speaker/Co-Teaching	112,500
Professional Development for Teachers - Conferences and Travel	39,064
Total:	\$757,818

Pending Budget - ARPA - State Allocation

Investment	Total
Summer enrichment programs	\$100,002
After school programs	100,002
MG outdoor classroom	200,000
Instructional Intervention Services	299,996
Total:	\$700,000

