Date: September 22, 2021
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School, Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To: ESEA Directors, Directors of Special Education, School Business Administrators
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services
Deadline: November 24, 2021

American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Funds Application Update

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is pleased to share with local education agencies (LEAs) the questions that will appear in the ARP ESSER consolidated application in the Electronic Web Enabled Grant (EWEG) system opening on September 29, 2021, for planning purposes. This information is intended to assist LEAs in forecasting the use of the additional ARP ESSER subgrants. The consolidated application in EWEG will also include components commonly found in federal formula grant applications, including detailed budget pages, needs assessments, and general assurances. LEAs are encouraged to review this document and begin gathering all relevant data in order to submit the application within the 56-day window from its opening on September 29, 2021, which closes on November 24, 2021.

Background:
As announced on August 12, 2021, the U.S. Department of Education has approved the NJDOE’s ARP ESSER State Plan. The approved plan reflects New Jersey’s commitment to supporting students, educators, and schools as they safely return to full in-person learning while addressing the academic, social, emotional, and mental health impacts of COVID-19. Additional information and guidance on ARP ESSER, including summaries of each subgrant, can be found on the NJDOE’s ARP ESSER webpage. As detailed in the September 15, 2021, broadcast memo, the NJDOE is making available additional ARP ESSER subgrants:

- Accelerated Learning Coaching and Educator Support Grant;
- Evidence-Based Summer Learning and Enrichment Activities Grant;
- Evidence-Based Comprehensive Beyond the School Day Activities Grant; and
Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

c: Members, State Board of Education
   Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education
   NJDOE Staff
   Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
   Garden State Coalition of Schools
   NJ LEE Group