

# **ARP ESSER Summer Set-Aside Recipients**

The ARP ESSER Summer grant competition was launched on October 26, 2022, as part of Vermont's Education Recovery Plan and aligned with the federal ARP ESSER legislation and its charge to fund "[e]vidence-based summer enrichment programs." These SEA set-aside funds provide support for local education agencies to address "students' academic, social, and emotional needs" with a focus on the "disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic" on students in historically marginalized or underserved populations. Twelve Supervisory Unions/Districts submitted applications and eleven grants were awarded, which added or expanded services for nearly 2,000 Vermont students.

#### Caledonia Central - \$150,000

CCSU plans to use the awarded funds to expand their Summer Learning Program. The primary focus of the program will be providing high-quality, engaging learning experiences for students of all grade levels. Funds will allow the district to support additional full-time tutors to expand their capacity, to hire three behavioral interventions to support individualized learning plans and professional development for all summer staff, and to extend their ability to offer transportation to close equity gaps across the district.

### Champlain Valley - \$150,000

CVSD plans to use the awarded funds to develop and run an Intervention Lab to provide direct targeted instruction to students in greatest need of additional support in a dedicated small group setting. Programming will alternate between weeks focused on math instruction and weeks focused on literacy instruction with high-dosage tutoring provided by licensed teachers receiving specialized professional training.

### **Colchester - \$150,000**

CSD plans to use the awarded funds to run two distinct summer programs. The first will be a middle grade summer program designed for their general student population and featuring weekly choices of high-interest activities and project-based learning. This program will be designed to alleviate some of the worst access issues caused by poverty in their district. The second program will be a targeted summer program for ELL students, designed to help ELL students prepare for the school year academically as well as emotionally.

### **Essex North - \$150,000**

ENSU plans to use the awarded funds to continue a successful summer program that had previously been developed and run using other grant funds, which have since expired. This program combines half-day academic enrichment with half-day recreational programming to provide students with an enjoyable and educational summer program. Academic enrichment

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will feature project and activity-based learning across several different subjects supported by targeted 1-on-1 math and ELA support from interventionists. The recreational programming will include a mix of athletic and artistic activities.

#### Lamoille North - \$150,000

LNSU plans to use the awarded funds to continue and expand the work that has been funded through local ESSER dollars the last two years. This program will focus on offering elementary students instruction in new skills, project-based STEM and arts learning, and high-quality tutoring in math and literacy. The aim of this initiative will be to position students to start the next grade with higher confidence, deeper understanding, and more developed academic skill than they ended the last.

#### Milton - \$150,000

MTSD plans to use the awarded funds to develop new summer programming for their student population. These funds will support centers at the elementary and middle schools focusing on age-appropriate SEL and building positive relationships through outdoor recreation, art projects, and activity-based STEM and ELA learning. The district will also run special introductory summer programs for rising kindergarteners to introduce them to the school community and rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders to help prepare them for high school.

#### Missisquoi Valley - \$64,000

MVSD plans to use the awarded funds to expand the availability and grow the capacity of the summer programming already being offered in their district. These funds will allow for the district to run two dedicated busses during the summer to drastically increase the number of students who are able to participate in the programming being offered and they will fund the addition of a second meal to allow programming to run full day.

## Orange Southwest - \$150,000

OSUUSD plans to use the awarded funds to develop and run a new comprehensive summer program. This summer program will include transportation to and from, two meals onsite, and a mix of tutoring, STEM and arts activities, and club sports. Licensed teachers and paraprofessionals will be supplemented in running the program by a cohort of counselors selected from applicants in the upper grades and trained for the opportunity.

#### Orleans Southwest - \$150,000

OSSU plans to use the awarded funds to revive a summer program that had been previously operated in the district but did not survive the COVID-19 pandemic. The new program has been designed to re-capture the assets of the previous program, while also centering three strategies to increase quality and reduce the burden on staff; distributing duties among a greater number of staff, leveraging strong community partnerships to increase offerings, and actively involving school-based leadership teams in summer planning to build cohesive connections with school year aims.



#### South Burlington - \$150,000

SBSD plans to use the awarded funds to enhance the district's existing summer programming through the addition of more experiential and place-based activities. These additions will be supported by transportation spending to allow for field trips away from the main location and the hiring of additional staff with specialized knowledge and expertise in the areas of technology, nature, and art. It is the district's hope that these programmatic improvements will make the summer offerings more engaging and, ultimately, more popular with their students.

#### Windham Southeast - \$150,000

WSSU plans to use the awarded funds to build capacity for a summer program established with local ESSER funds and focused on recovery of academic skills, re-engaging students, and building deeper relationships with students, families, and the school community. Funding from this grant will allow for the hiring of additional staff to increase capacity and the running of district transportation to increase access.

