

ARP ESSER Afterschool Round Two Recipients

The ARP ESSER Afterschool Round Two grant competition was launched on October 26, 2022 as a follow up to the [ARP ESSER Afterschool Round One](#) grant competition and as part of Vermont's Education Recovery Plan and aligned with the federal ARP ESSER legislation and its charge to fund "[e]vidence-based comprehensive afterschool programs." These SEA set-aside funds provide support to local education agencies (LEAs) 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. Eleven Supervisory Unions/Districts submitted applications in this grant cycle and ten grants were awarded totaling \$700,263. Through this grant afterschool programming was added or expanded for nearly 2,000 Vermont students. Between rounds one and two, the ARP ESSER Afterschool Set-Aside grants have expanded services in 44 afterschool sites and creating 10 new sites, together servicing roughly 5,000 Vermont students.

Champlain Valley - \$60,000

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. High-dosage instruction will be provided by licensed teachers receiving specialized professional training and working in concert with students' school day instructors.

Franklin Northeast - \$60,000

FNSU plans to use the awarded funds to expand access to its existing, successful, LEAPS Afterschool and Summer Program. With existing funding sources, the district is able to operate separate programs in five of their six served communities, this grant funding will allow for the creation of a dedicated center in the sixth community. This will level equity gaps and expand opportunities for participation. This funding will also be used to purchase new supplies to allow for enhanced STEM education in all served sites.

Kingdom East - \$48,575

KEUUSD plans to use the awarded funds to expand the outdoor recreation opportunities available to students participating in their existing afterschool programming. Through partnerships with local organizations, KEUUSD was able to secure donations of mountain biking and Nordic skiing equipment. Funds from this grant will allow the district to hire qualified instructors to guide students in their use and maintenance.

Mill River - \$60,000

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MRUUSD plans to use the awarded funds to expand the OST programming available to their high school students. This expanded program will provide two hours of service, four days a week, with a three-pronged focus on academic support, enrichment activities, and SEL. Licensed teachers will provide individualized tutoring and school staff will offer open workshop space for student-directed projects.

Montpelier Roxbury - \$105,500

MRSD plans to use the awarded funds to create a new afterschool program at an elementary school recently merged into their district. The new program will include structured literacy tutoring, high-interest small group activities informed by student surveys, and lessons and activities from guest speakers. The district is also planning to use outdoor recreation opportunities to connect students across their different elementary schools to improve the student transition experience to the shared middle school.

Orange Southwest - \$138,968

OSUUSD plans to use the awarded funds to launch a new afterschool program at one of their elementary schools. The new program will include arts, STEM, and athletic activities as well as high-interest math and ELA enrichment provided in developmentally appropriate grade banded groups.

Orleans Southwest - \$135,000

OSSU plans to use the awarded funds to revive an afterschool 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 afterschool planning to build cohesive connections with the school day.

South Burlington - \$60,000

SBSD plans to use the awarded funds to enhance their existing afterschool programming. This improvement will improve the services being offered to students in district in two distinct ways. First, the additional funding will be used to increase the overall capacity of afterschool programming to allow greater numbers of students to participate. Second, the additional funding will allow for the hiring of additional support staff to bring in skillsets needed to run high-interest activities identified by student participants.

St. Johnsbury - \$32,219

SJSD plans to use the awarded funds to pilot an experimental afterschool program that will partner elementary school students in need of targeted literacy support with high school mentors. Funding will support the delivery of specialized service-learning opportunities for the student mentors to equip them to support their young partners. Elementary school students

and their mentors will then meet weekly to practice reading and writing. At the end of the program, each partner pairing will select one of their written pieces to publish in a special edition mini-newspaper in partnership with the *Caledonian-Record*.

Windham Central - \$60,000

WCSU plans to use the awarded funds to expand their planned afterschool programming from two sites, to three. The addition of another site would close equity gaps and allow for greater participation from the full student population of the district. Programming offered at the new site will match that previously offered at the other two and will include diverse opportunities including: cooking classes, targeted high-dosage tutoring, workshops to write and illustrate a storybook, and place-based education opportunities with the Grafton Nature Museum.