

**American Rescue Plan
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (ARP IDEA)**

Bethel-Tate Local Schools received a non-competitive grant to address the impact of COVID-19 on our students with disabilities. One of the requirements of the grant is to give the community the opportunity for public comment. The planned use of these funds will be shared at the Bethel-Tate Board of Education meeting on October 19, 2021 at 6:00p.m. at Bethel-Tate High School. If you have a comment on the planned use of these funds, you can either attend the Board of Education meeting on October 19, 2021 or email you comments to wagner_m@betheltate.org.

During this pandemic our students with disabilities have been greatly impacted by the loss of quality instructional time. To address both the learning loss and social emotional impact of the COVID-19, Bethel-Tate Local Schools plans to use these funds in the following ways. Funds will be used to train kindergarten through 8th grade reading teachers and intervention specialists in Orton-Gillingham. Orton-Gillingham is a multi-sensory approach to teaching reading skills to students. This will benefit students with disabilities in both the general education reading classrooms as well as when special education services are provided in other settings.

The funds will be used to purchase sensory equipment to create calming rooms in each of our schools. This equipment will include balls, mats, swings, balance beams, social skills games, etc. When over stimulated or just needing a break, students with disabilities will benefit from the calming effects of using this equipment.

The funds will be used to purchase iPads for the intervention specialists to use to progress monitor our students with disabilities. Additionally, these iPads will be used by students with disabilities to reinforce skills in academic subjects.

The funds will be used to purchase materials for use in our multiple disabilities classrooms. These materials will include fidgets, calming tools, pop-its, stretch bands, weighted vests, etc. At times our students with disabilities need these items to either stay focused or calm themselves down.

The funds will be used to purchase school wide common assessments for academic subjects in grades 6-12. Teachers will be able to use the information generated by these assessments to better identify the academic needs of students with disabilities thus targeting instruction to improve student learning.

ARP IDEA Early Childhood

During this pandemic our pre-school students with disabilities have also been greatly impacted by the loss of quality instructional time. To address both the learning loss and social emotional impact of the COVID-19, Bethel-Tate Local Schools plans to use ARP IDEA Early Childhood funds in the following ways. We plan to purchase center materials for use in our pre-school program. Our plan is to purchase materials to update our pre-school academic, gross motor, fine motor and social emotional centers.

Additionally, we will purchase sensory equipment for use in this classroom. The sensory equipment will include fidgets, calming tools, pop-its, stretch bands, weighted vests, balls, mats, swings, balance beams, social skills games, etc. These items will benefit students needing a sensory break to calm down and refocus.