



Valdez City Schools
PO Box 398
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June 7th, 2021

Dear VCS Families and Community Members:

On behalf of Valdez City Schools, we would like to say thank you to all the parents, staff, students, administrators, school board members, and community members for supporting and helping in making 2020-2021 a successful year regardless of the pandemic challenges and other changes that occurred at the district level.

VCS is now preparing for the transition to the 2021-2022 school year. There is one essential detail we would like to bring to your attention. The American Rescue Plan (ARP) was signed into law in March by President Joe Biden. This plan included \$122 billion in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds for school districts across the country. Valdez City Schools is scheduled to receive one-time funding of \$502,434.00 through the ARP on July 1st, 2021. The District must utilize 20 percent of the funding to address the academic impact of lost instructional time by providing summer learning or summer enrichment opportunities, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs. The District will have until September 2024 to make use of these funds.

The following are the responsibilities of the district:

1. Develop and make publicly available, on the district website, the prevention and migration plan (due date June 23rd);
2. Obtain stakeholder input;
3. Complete program details in the Grant Management System (due August 23).

VCS's current Smart Start Plan can serve as a starting point for developing our prevention and mitigation policies. As we move forward with planning and completing the program details, we will also be seeking your input. VCS will post a survey link on the district's website and Facebook for all the parents' and community members' input by **Tuesday, June 8th**.

Thank you again for supporting our schools and students. We would greatly appreciate your ideas and thoughts on utilizing the ESSER III funds, so please keep a look out for the survey.

Please contact me if you have any further questions or need additional information about any other items noted in this letter.

Sincerely,
Suzie Michaud, Director of Special Services
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