

Update to The Renaissance Charter School 2's (TRCS 2') ARP Spending Plan (July 2022)

TRCS 2 has updated its ARP Spending Plan, in compliance with NYS law, with this addendum to the original ARP Spending Plan posted on its website in December 2021. This update is based on the NYSED-approved activities and expenditures in TRCS 2' ARP application, the school's analysis of the implementation and effectiveness of ARP-funded supports and feedback from members of the school community regarding various ARP-funded supports.

Analysis of Public Comment

As described in the original ARP Spending Plan, TRCS 2' strategy for using ARP funds was developed with the input and involvement of key members of our school community, including school leadership, faculty and parents. As TRCS 2 established its ARP Spending Plan, it relied heavily on the stated preferences and recommendations of parents and teachers in online surveys and allocated funding to support activities and resources identified as "high-priority" by the school community. For instance, TRCS 2' allocation of ARP funds to strengthen its social-emotional supports for students by hiring a new social worker was recommended by nearly all of respondent parents and students.

TRCS 2 has engaged the school community in post-award planning and implementation of all ARP-funded activities, including the summer school program and the purchase of computers and related instructional technology. For instance, ARP funded programs and supports were discussed during virtual town hall meetings that were attended by parents and other school stakeholders. Use of ARP funds was an agenda item at the town hall meetings, and attendees were informed about implementation of ARP-funded activities and supports—e.g., ARP-funded summer school programs and the use of ARP funds to support hiring of a social worker. Parent comments during and following these town hall meetings were positive, and parents particularly expressed interest in having their children participate in summer school programs.

There is evidence of community support and satisfaction with ARP-funded activities. For instance, the ARP-funded summer program implemented jointly with partner school The Renaissance Charter School (TRCS) had full enrollment, and there were high levels of student engagement. This indicates that parents, who voluntarily enrolled their children, supported the program. Parents also expressed strong interest in continuing the summer school program in future years. In response to this demand, TRCS 2 will work with partner school TRCS to implement a summer school program in 2022 using private foundation funds.

Goals and Ratios for Pupil Support

Our key ARP spending goals are:

- 1) Accelerating Student Learning. ARP funds were used to cover costs of: a) Summer school programming (82nd Street Academics) in Summer 2021; b) Maintaining and enhancing instructional technology (IKON Business Group); and c) Improving access to and use of assessment data (Achievement Network—ANet)
- 2) Expanding Technology to Support Remote and In-Person Instruction. ARP funds were used to cover costs of purchasing technology. Specifically, ARP funds were used to cover costs of: a) Laptops for teachers; b) Chromebooks for students; c) Smartboards; d) Smartboard Mounts; and e) Upgrades and Licenses for Google Chrome Education and related technology.
- 3) Expanding Social-Emotional Support. ARP funds were used to cover the salary of a Social Worker for one year.

Pupil: Teacher Ratios

Goal 1—1 teacher per 9.5 students

Goal 2—NA

Goal 3—NA

Summaries of Investments in Current Year Activities

The ARP fund investments are summarized in the discussion of Program Goals.

Balance of Funds Spent in Priority Areas

All TRCS 2 ARP funded activities and supports were implemented during or prior to the 2021-22 academic year, and all TRCS 2 ARP funds have been allocated or spent.