



NATIONAL
PARENTS
UNION
Sindicato Nacional de Padres

EVERYDAY
PARENTS
IMPACTING
CHANGE

FACT SHEET

Families in communities across the country are very concerned about how the pandemic is impacting student learning. Right now, states and school districts across the country are deciding how to spend \$122 billion in federal education aid - called the American Rescue Plan - that's supposed to help students recover from the pandemic.

The majority of families support this investment in public education, but there are few strings attached for how the \$122 billion is to be spent by states and school districts.

As families and advocates, we will hold school boards accountable for how they invest this funding - the largest ever in history - on the education of our children.

We don't want to return to "normal."

We want bold changes in how our kids are educated and how we as their families are engaged in their education.

We want our school board to be transparent about how ARP funds will be used, and we want them to provide updates on how the funding impacts our students over time.

ARP funding decisions must be centered on equity and access.

New ARP funding must flow to our students and families most in need.

Join us to Disrupt the Status Quo: School Board Edition!

Learn more about how you can get involved!

<http://epic.nationalparentsunion.org>

About the American Rescue Plan (ARP)

In March 2021, the U.S. Department of Education [announced](#) \$122 billion in relief for K-12 schools nationwide under the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund.

Districts will ultimately decide how the ARP funding is spent (not the federal government). But very limited guidance is available on what needs to be included in district plans, and how these plans will be evaluated. What we do know:

- State and school district funding is based on Title I status.
- Ninety percent (90%) of ARP funds must flow directly from states to school districts,
- Twenty percent (20%) of district funds are to be spent to help kids recover academically from school closures and remote learning.

As part of this planning process, school districts must engage a variety of stakeholders including parents and show they are able to:

- Meet students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs.
- Prioritize equity and engagement.
- Address learning loss – or unfinished learning – and the opportunity gaps that existed before, and were exacerbated by, COVID-19.
- Maintain safe schools.

About the National Parents Union

The [National Parents Union](#) (NPU) is a group of highly effective parent organizations and grassroots activists across the country that is united behind a set of common goals and principles to channel the power of parents.

We are partnering with local families and communities across the country to:

1. Call for transparency from federal, state and local elected officials on spending ARP funds.
2. Hold local school boards/districts accountable for authentically engaging families in the decision-making process.
3. Help ensure ARP funding is spent on student-centered investments.

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