



CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Dukes, Rebecca

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Priority Goals

Amistad Academy District (000000279-00) Public Charter School District - FY 2021 - ARP ESSER Funds (29636) - Rev 5 - ARP ESSER Funds (29636)

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- [ARP Letter to Superintendents 05-09-21](#)
- [Benchmark Assessment Guidance to LEAs](#)
- [ARP ESSER Guidance](#)

PRIORITY 1: Learning Acceleration, Academic Renewal, and Student Enrichment (Required)

Advancing equity and access in education for students in Connecticut remain top priorities. Resources must focus on academic supports and recovery to accelerate learning for

*** My district is using ARP ESSER funds for Priority 1 purposes.**

Minimum 20% required set aside for Priority 1 (select Priority 1 budget tag in Budget Details): \$893,262.00

SMART Goal

In the space below, provide a S.M.A.R.T. goal (i.e., specific, measurable, actionable, realistic, and time-bound) that is aligned to priority 1 and is tied to applicable district ESSA EXAMPLE: *By hiring additional staff to support summer learning, extended day, credit recovery and the targeted needs of special populations, the district will increase its District Performance from 68.7 to 70.3 by 2024.*

Click to view ESSA Milestones for your district: [ESSA Milestone](#)

* (Use ESSA Milestone Target) By 2024,

Amistad Academy will reduce the number of students who are reading below grade level by 10% at EOY in June 2022 by ensuring that school leaders and teachers collaborate and communicate with parents and the community to ensure students are engaged at an individual level, reading intervention blocks are high-quality and 75% of scholars identified as needing a reading extends beyond the traditional school year and/ or day. Amistad Academy will maintain this improvement strategy through June 2024.

As a result, Achievement First Bridgeport Academy will increase its District Performance in ELA from 64.0% in 2018-19 to 70.3%, and District Performance in Math from 64.0% to 70.3% by 2024.

Needs Assessment

My district is continuing to use the Needs Assessment from ESSER II.

My district is updating the Needs Assessment documented in the ESSER II application.

Priority 1 Strategies

What/How	Innovative Strategy?	When	Who
What is the strategy? How do you envision its implementation?	Is this an innovative strategy that can be shared?	When will this strategy be implemented?	Who is the person(s) coordinating monitoring?
* Support students and families outside the traditional school year and day by leveraging external tutoring and instructional program partnerships to bridge instructional guidance and student engagement in mitigating learning loss among vulnerable youth who are at-risk-of-failure. Amistad Academy HS will also provide	<input type="checkbox"/>	* This small-group tutoring program will be launched at beginning of year in SY22 in August 2021 . Achievement First and Amistad Academy will begin the development of a job description for the HS Director of Student Support in May 2021.	* Amistad Academy Principals Deans will own implementation and communication. Achievement First's Superintendents and Regional Superintendents including Team Senior Systems and Data and Achievement First
* Provide strong reading intervention to students who are below triggers in all academies (with a prioritized effort in grades 5-12) and begin the work to develop a K-12 approach to developing strong, thriving readers. Reading is foundational and impacts all subjects. Reading is foundational and the cornerstone of	<input type="checkbox"/>	* Schools will use existing reading data to anticipate the approximate number of students who will require reading intervention, including which reading intervention in June 2021. Amistad Academy MS and HS will administer reading screeners and secondary assessments to place students in the right reading interventions by	* Achievement First network will collaborate closely with Principals, Dean Services Leaders at Amistad Academy to implement this strategy and make necessary adjustments to ensure positive outcomes. The team will analyze data in summer 2021 (screeners and
* Amistad Academy will provide extended learning by way of a K-12 Summer Academy and the Change Summer AF Camp to re-engage youth who have largely been in remote or hybrid learning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	* This strategy will be implemented in July 2022 and 2023 with both the Summer Academy and AF summer camp ending in August.	* Achievement First network will own registration and implementation of summer staff. Summer Program Leads (principals and Deans) will own implementation of School Operations.
* Stocking and distribution of individual sets of instructional and curriculum supplies. ARP ESSER funding will assist with purchasing individually packaged student instructional supplies to mitigate the spread of disease among scholars and teachers via shared classroom resources.	<input type="checkbox"/>	* This strategy has been implemented since March 2020 and will continue into the beginning of SY23 with modifications as needed. School leaders and network experts/ team leads are continuously reviewing emerging guidance from the CDC and local departments of health, and consulting with families and staff to	* Strategies to ensure the physical and emotional well-being of students implemented by Directors of Amistad Academy and their teams also supported by other Achievement First teams coordinating and executing

Priority 2: Family and Community Connections

The complex issues brought about by the pandemic have made it clear that the success of schools, families, and communities are interdependent and all have a stake in student only support students to achieve their full potential, but it will also strengthen families and stabilize communities.

My district is using ARP ESSER funds for Priority 2 purposes.

SMART Goal

In the space below, provide a S.M.A.R.T. goal (i.e., specific, measurable, actionable, realistic, and time-bound) that is aligned to priority 2 and is tied to applicable district ESSA EXAMPLE: *The percentage of parents participating in High Impact Family Academic Engagement events will increase from less than 10% to at least 75% of parent/guardian pc 2024.*

Click to view ESSA Milestones for your district: [ESSA Milestone](#)

* (Use ESSA Milestone Target) By 2024.

The Directors of Family Engagement and Community Programs will ensure that the school will have increased family participation in the Family Engagement sur support principals and regional superintendents with improving positive two-way communication with all families by developing an authentic family engagement p only reaching out with negative or challenging information by establishing at least two new, routine methods of obtaining actionable student, parent and communi scholars of academic progress and well-being at Achievement First by the end of the upcoming school year in June 2022. Amistad Academy will maintain this imp

As a result, Achievement First Bridgeport Academy will increase its District Performance in ELA from 64.0% in 2018-19 to 70.3%, and District Performance in Ma

Needs Assessment

Priority 2 Strategies

What/How	Innovative Strategy?	When	Who
What is the strategy? How do you envision its implementation?	Is this an innovative strategy that can be shared?	When will this strategy be implemented?	Who is the person(s) coordinating monitoring?
* Hiring Directors of Family Engagement and Community Programs. These dedicated resources will: 1. Determine and operationalize a cohesive vision for amplifying family voice and experience. 2. Articulate a cohesive roadmap including strategies and tactics to increase authentic family enqagement leveraging our	<input type="checkbox"/>	* This strategy will be implemented prior to the beginning of the SY22 school year.	* This strategy will be impleme Achievement First network V Student Experience who will schools and our principals wi network's Teams Talent Oper
* Hiring Supplementary Operations Staff. In order to address expected coverage shortages in the middle school due to estimated increased staff absences due to COVID illnesses or quarantines, as well as increased communication and coordination with families and other stakeholders Amistad will hire hourly School Operations staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	* This strategy will be implemented prior to the beginning of the SY22 school year.	* This strategy will be impleme School Operations with the s Teams Talent Operations anc

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Priority 3: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health of the Students and of our School Staff:

The school community experience during the pandemic has been one of collective challenge and trauma. We must be prepared to use strategic wraparound social, emotional, ar

My district is using ARP ESSER funds for Priority 3 purposes.

SMART Goal

In the space below, provide a S.M.A.R.T. goal (i.e., specific, measurable, actionable, realistic, and time-bound) that is aligned to priority 3 and is tied to applicable district ESSA EXAMPLE: *By hiring additional School Social Workers and School Counselors, the district will decrease its Chronic Absenteeism from 7.5% in 2019-20 to 5.0% by 2024..*

Click to view ESSA Milestones for your district: [ESSA Milestone](#)

* (Use ESSA Milestone Target) By 2024.

Amistad Academy will ensure the safety and well-being of all staff and students by improving access to effective academic and providing social emotional suppor COVID-19 enforcing compliance with mask wearing at all school sites, physical distancing protocols, limiting the sharing of resources and tools, and facilities' upc projects mitigate spread via high-touch surface and high-traffic areas through June 2022.

As a result, Achievement First Bridgeport Academy will increase its District Performance in ELA from 64.0% in 2018-19 to 70.3%, and District Performance in Ma

Needs Assessment

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My district is updating the Needs Assessment documented in the ESSER II application.

Priority 3 Strategies

What/How	Innovative Strategy?	When	Who
What is the strategy? How do you envision its implementation?	Is this an innovative strategy that can be shared?	When will this strategy be implemented?	Who is the person(s) coordinating monitoring?

<p>* Investing in additional, ongoing and culturally-responsive ad trauma-informed social emotional and mental health supports for scholars and staff. This includes hiring additional social workers for Amistad schools, and expanded and targeted SEL programming and Professional Development to ensure that school community members are</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>* This strategy will be implemented at the beginning of the upcoming 2021/22 academic year and will become part of the new Achievement First model.</p>	<p>* Strategies to ensure the emc well-being of members of our are implemented by our prin of Student Experience at Am the support of the Achievem Chief Equity Officer and Vice Student Experience.</p>
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Priority 4: Strategic Use of Technology, Staff Development, and the Digital Divide

Applying what we have learned during the pandemic requires careful consideration of the importance of student access to in-person learning and enrichment balanced with the s be allocated to maintain or upgrade access to technology and connectivity for the long term and to ensure that technology training and support is provided to students, school sta

My district is using ARP ESSER funds for Priority 4 purposes.

SMART Goal

In the space below, provide a S.M.A.R.T. goal (i.e., specific, measurable, actionable, realistic, and time-bound) that is aligned to priority 4 and is tied to applicable district ESSA EXAMPLE: *By providing targeted professional development on virtual learning platforms, the district will increase its District Performance Index in ELA from 67.5 in 2018-19 to*

Click to view ESSA Milestones for your district: [ESSA Milestone](#)

* (Use ESSA Milestone Target) By 2024,

Amistad Academy will ensure the safety and well-being of all staff and students preventing all cases of in-school transmission of COVID-19 by enforcing physical including Chromebooks, ensuring connectivity and a consistent learning experience and improving access to effective academic supports and academic enrichment

As a result, Achievement First Bridgeport Academy will increase its District Performance in ELA from 64.0% in 2018-19 to 70.3%, and District Performance in Mat

Needs Assessment

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Priority 4 Strategies

What/How	Innovative Strategy?	When	Who
<p>What is the strategy? How do you envision its implementation?</p>	<p>Is this an innovative strategy that can be shared?</p>	<p>When will this strategy be implemented?</p>	<p>Who is the person(s) coordinating monitoring?</p>
<p>* Stocking and distribution of Chromebooks and laptops preloaded with instructional and engagement software, providing reliable and stable internet access (MiFi devices and plans) to scholars as needed to facilitate hybrid and remote instruction as well as access to additional digital resources to support academic recovery</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>* This strategy has been implemented since March 2020 and will continue into the beginning of SY23 with modifications as needed. School leaders and network experts/ team leads are continuously reviewing emerging guidance from the CDC and local departments of health, and consulting with families and staff to</p>	<p>* Strategies to ensure the phys and emotional well being of c implemented by Directors of at Amistad Academy and the are also supported by Team Technology and other Achiev teams coordinating and exec</p>

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Priority 5: Building Safe and Healthy Schools

Ensuring our school buildings are safe and healthy environments that enable all of our students to excel remains an important aspect of recovering from COVID-19. Resources n facility repairs and improvements, such as improving ventilation and providing more space for distancing. Resources should continue to be allocated to support the physical heat equipment).

My district is using ARP ESSER funds for Priority 5 purposes.

No SMART Goal required for this priority area

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My district is updating the Needs Assessment documented in the ESSER II application.

Priority 5 Strategies

What/How	Innovative Strategy?	When	Who
<p>What is the strategy? How do you envision its implementation?</p>	<p>Is this an innovative strategy that can be shared?</p>	<p>When will this strategy be implemented?</p>	<p>Who is the person(s) coordinating monitoring?</p>
<p>* Stocking and distribution of PPE and sanitizer. ARP ESSER funding will assist with purchasing adequate supplies of alcohol-based hand sanitizer, sanitizing stations and handwashing units to promote good hand hygiene and ensure the hands of scholars and staff are cleansed between washina. reusable protective face</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>* This strategy has been implemented since March 2020 and will continue into the beginning of SY23 with modifications as needed. School leaders and network experts/ team leads are continuously reviewing emerging guidance from the CDC and local departments of health, and consulting with families and staff to</p>	<p>* Strategies to ensure the phys and emotional well being of c implemented by Directors of Amistad Academy and their t also supported by other Achi teams coordinating and exec</p>

Priority Goals

<p>* Facilities sanitization, improvements, upgrades and maintenance to mitigate spread via high-touch surfaces and ensure that all Amistad classrooms maintain adequate air flow for air quality standards in-keeping with CDC guidance and to reduce any risk of airborne spread of COVID-19 inside school facilities. 1. The funding</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>* Portions of this strategy (specifically building cleaning and disinfecting, and indoor air quality and HVAC maintenance protocols) have been implemented since August 2020 and will continue into the beginning of SY23 with modifications as needed. Additional facilities improvements including the</p>	<p>* Strategies to ensure the built ongoing maintenance to mitigate COVID- 19 and other harmful implemented by Directors of at Amistad Academy and the are also supported by Team Management and other Achie</p>
<p>* Planning and investing in supports to maintain and monitor the physical health of scholars and staff that are in- person: 1. Asymptomatic testing for staff return to work after extended breaks and ongoing surveillance testing. Asymptomatic testing allows us to monitor our community and prevent positive cases from entering the building/</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>* This strategy has been implemented since March 2020 and will continue into the beginning of SY23 with modifications as needed. School leaders and network experts/ team leads are continuously reviewing emerging guidance from the CDC and local departments of health, and consulting with families and staff to</p>	<p>* Strategies to ensure the physical of our schools are implemented School Operations at Amistad teams.</p>
<p>* Achievement First's employee data indicates that there continues to be an increased number of teacher and staff absences and this is expected to be of concern in SY22 as staff and teachers will: (1) be encouraged not to go in to school if they are exhibiting flu- like symptoms and (2) likely need to take time-off if their children's</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>* This strategy will be implemented prior to the beginning of the SY22 school year.</p>	<p>* This strategy will implement principals and Academic Dea interview and hire substitute support of the Achievement F Team Recruit and Team Tale</p>

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