

# FOCUS on the FUTURE FOR KIDS

Community Input Process

September 1, 2021

Dear CCSD Community,

I am pleased to share CCSD's draft American Rescue Plan spending priorities that were informed by the community input we gathered as part of the Focus on the Future for Kids: Community Input Process this summer.

I would like to take this moment to share my deep gratitude for the more than 2,200 community members who engaged in conversations and shared their hopes for the future of CCSD. I'd like to thank Opportunity 180 and the Public Education Foundation for their leadership in this effort and their partnership as we gathered input from our community. I'd also like to commend the Community Advisory Committee for the many hours and thoughtful approach they took to reviewing and synthesizing our community's input.

We are partners in this work and I look forward to more opportunities to hear from you through the ongoing Focus on the Future for Kids initiative. I commit to using your input as a guide for future decision-making and look forward to building on the vision we've started to create together for our children and our schools.

In partnership,



Dr. Jesus Jara

Superintendent, Clark County School District



MEMO TO THE COMMUNITY  
CCSD'S COMMUNITY-INFORMED AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN SPENDING PRIORITIES  
PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

## Overview

Our community rallied around public education during the pandemic, and our community is playing a major role in identifying how we move forward.

CCSD partnered with the community over the last two months to gather input from a diverse set of stakeholders as we plan for what's next. The Focus on the Future For Kids: Community Input Process united the community to answer several questions, including:

- What do we want for our CCSD schools?
- How can we utilize upcoming federal funds to jumpstart our long-term, shared community vision for our schools?

CCSD is using the community input to inform spending of the \$777 million in federal funds provided through the American Rescue Plan (also known as ESSER III).

## Synthesis Process

With a goal of convening a representative cross-section of our diverse community, three community members from each CCSD Region were selected to serve on a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) to help synthesize the input received. The CAC met to review the community input and developed a synthesis report that captures the topics and themes they observed.

**Community Advisory Committee Final Synthesis Report (dated August 26, 2021)**  
can be found here: [future.ccsd.net/synthesizing-input](https://future.ccsd.net/synthesizing-input)

CCSD has reviewed the community input synthesis and used the topics and themes to inform the draft ARP spending priorities that are contained in the following pages.

## Appreciation

CCSD sincerely appreciates the more than 2,200 community members who provided input through the first round of the Focus on the Future for Kids: Community Input Process. CCSD is also incredibly grateful to the CAC for their extensive time, passion, and commitment to synthesizing our community's input.

## Next Steps

- On September 1, 2021, CCSD will release a community survey giving all stakeholders an opportunity to provide feedback on CCSD's community-informed spending priorities, which are outlined on the following pages of this memo. [SURVEY HERE](#).
- On September 9, 2021, the final community-informed spending priorities will be presented to The Board of School Trustees.
- On Sept 10, 2021, CCSD will submit to the Nevada Department of Education both a budget and a use of funds plan that will share in greater detail what is included in the spending priorities and how they were informed by the community. This information will be posted for public review.

**This memo is meant to serve as an update to the community and is part of an ongoing effort to increase transparency and strengthen communications.**

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**CCSD American Rescue Plan Community-Informed Spending Priorities**

CCSD has aligned its ARP spending priorities to the District's strategic plan, [Focus: 2024](#). In the coming months and years, CCSD's work will be guided by the strategic plan and informed by community input identified through the Focus on the Future for Kids: Community Input Process.

**STUDENT SUCCESS**

**How CCSD Prioritizes Student Success:** Students who are the most impacted by the pandemic and those who have consistently experienced lack of access to resources and opportunity will be prioritized for the additional supports outlined below. CCSD will consider academic achievement data, social-emotional needs, and equity and access data.

**Alignment to Themes Identified by the Community:** Equity; Health and Wellness; Professional Learning Wraparound Services; Support, Strengthen, and Promote Culturally Responsive Community Engagement and Partnerships; Special Education; Localized Decision-Making and Autonomy; College & Career Readiness; Extracurricular & Enrichment; After-School Programs; Tutoring and Mentoring; Quality of Education; Curriculum; Culture; Distance Education and Hybrid Learning; Technology; COVID-19 Impacts; Early Childhood Education, Early Intervention

**Student Success Spending Priorities:**

- **Expand Pre-K** to ensure every CCSD school has at least one general education Pre-K classroom and expand programs in the coming years, based on student need
- **Literacy Professional Learning** to ensure every educator who teaches reading is well-trained in the fundamentals of literacy instruction
- **Tier I Instructional Materials for English Language Arts and Social Emotional Learning, Including Supplemental Instructional Materials** to provide for a quality education in every CCSD classroom and ensure educators have supports they need to deliver high-quality, standards-based, differentiated instruction to all learners
- **6-Week Summer Career Courses** for students, especially those furthest from opportunity, to gain exposure and connections to career options that both meet the business community's hiring needs and feed into CCSD's high-demand jobs
- **Paid Professional Credentials for Students** to reduce barriers to entry and ensure any student who completes a career course of study can pursue that career
- **Mental Health Services** to provide more dedicated staff and resources to ensure students who are struggling socially and emotionally receive the supports they need
- **Upgrade Technology** to provide for a consistent learning experience across schools, including the infrastructure, staffing, and resources required for CCSD to deliver effective 1-1 instruction and prepare our students for the careers of tomorrow
- **Community Partnerships for Learning Acceleration and Wraparound Supports** that will include allocations directly to community organizations to support students who have been most impacted by the pandemic
- **Direct Allocation to Elementary Schools** to address pandemic learning loss, in the manner each school believes will best meet the needs of their individual students
- **ELL Endorsement for All Teachers** to ensure every CCSD teacher has the knowledge and skills to support English language learners

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**TEACHERS, PRINCIPALS, STAFF**

**How CCSD Prioritizes Teachers, Principals, Staff:** The following priorities were developed with a commitment to recruiting, retaining, and ensuring adequate staffing with a focus on increasing the diversity and representation of our educators.

**Alignment to Themes Identified by the Community:** Equity; Staffing and Personnel; Professional Learning; Quality of Education

**Teachers, Principals, Staff Spending Priorities:**

- **Teacher Leadership Pathway** that will create formal, long-term pathways that will enable educators to grow in their careers while also providing meaningful, job-embedded professional learning to their peers
- **Educator Pipeline** opportunity for CCSD paraprofessionals to earn a teaching credential that will allow them to grow professionally in the District while addressing CCSD's persistent teacher shortages
- **Pipeline into Administration for Black and Latino Male Educators** that will provide a sustainable pathway for more Black and Latino male educators to grow into school administration roles via a masters degree and cohort experience

**BALANCED GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP**

**How CCSD Prioritizes Balanced Governance and Leadership:** CCSD will seek to increase communications and transparency with regards to its plans and progress toward its goals.

**Alignment to Themes Identified by the Community:** Equity; Transparency and Accountability; Long-Term Vision

**Balanced Governance and Leadership Spending Priorities:**

- **Strategic Planning** to ensure CCSD can track and share progress toward its goals and refresh plans, as the pandemic evolves and CCSD plans for the future

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**PARENT AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

**How CCSD Prioritizes Parent and Community Support:** CCSD seeks to create more meaningful engagement opportunities with families and community members to support our shared goals; and, CCSD commits to providing information to the community that will increase transparency and accountability.

**Alignment to Themes Identified by the Community:** Equity; Transparency & Accountability; Wraparound Services; Support, Strengthen, and Promote Culturally Responsive Community Engagement and Partnerships; Distance Education and Hybrid Learning; Technology; COVID-19 Impacts

**Parent and Community Support Spending Priorities:**

- **Parent Technology Training** that will offer targeted digital literacy training to parents and caregivers so they can support students at home and have the opportunity to utilize that technology to advance their lives as well
- **Data Transparency and Accountability** will include building and launching a comprehensive, publicly accessible data dashboard system that will provide timely and transparent student achievement data, equity and access data, and overall CCSD performance in an effort to continue to build trust throughout the community

**COVID-19 MITIGATION**

**How CCSD Prioritizes COVID-19 Mitigation:** CCSD's top priority is to ensure the health and safety of its students and staff

**Alignment to Themes Identified by the Community:** Equity; COVID-19 Impacts

**COVID-19 Mitigation Spending Priorities:** Will include a range of health, safety, and student support measures so CCSD can respond to the evolving nature of the pandemic

**What's Next: Finalizing The Spending Priorities**

A use of funds plan will be produced and submitted with the final budget to the Nevada Department of Education on September 10, 2021. The plan will include additional information related to spending decisions, including more detail about other revenue sources to support major themes that were identified through the community input process.

Superintendent Jara will hold several in-person and virtual town halls in late September to present the spending priorities and continue a conversation with our community about what we want to see in our schools. CCSD looks forward to sharing more information with the community in the weeks and months ahead, as additional community feedback will be considered and plans are finalized.