In Spring 2021, the School District of Philadelphia was awarded $1.1 billion in ARPA federal funding. These funds are meant to be used for:

- Safely reopening and sustaining in-person learning
- Addressing students’ social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs resulting from the pandemic
- Maintaining operations, and delivery of services

Guiding Principles

The SDP is following federal guidance and best practices research to inform its investment of ARPA funds. In addition to meeting federal requirements, the SDP’s investments are aligned with the Board of Education’s Goals and Guardrails, from fostering safe, welcoming, and healthy school environments to ensuring equitable access to engaging learning opportunities. The allocations of ARPA funds will support the District’s efforts to meet these Goals and Guardrails set forth by the Board to improve outcomes for every student.

Community Engagement

To further inform spending of the ARPA federal funds, the District reached out to community members for input through surveys and focus groups in April 2021. The findings are aligned with the District’s priorities reflected by the Goals and Guardrails.

Focus Areas for Spending

Our investment strategy reflects four key areas of focus:

**Focus Area 1:** Support Educational Recovery and Learning
- $350M
- Focused on programs to support recovery such as: - Expanded summer learning programs - Before-school and after-school programs - Full-day kindergarten

**Focus Area 2:** Dramatically Expand Facilities Improvements
- $325M
- To support: - Improved social services at schools - Trauma response - Increased counselor support

**Focus Area 3:** Support the Significant Social and Emotional Needs of Our Students
- $150M
- To support: - Increased counselor support - Trauma response - Increased social work support

**Focus Area 4:** More Supports in Schools to Help All Learners and Educators Succeed Going Forward
- Additional funding
- To support student success, including: - Curriculum development - Information technology, data and technical support - Tutoring services - Investments to address Goals and Guardrails