Contact’s Name

Street Address

City/Town, State, Zip Code

Email Address

Insert Date

***Public Comment RE: American Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER III)***

Dear [insert name],

I am writing to provide input as you continue to plan for how to spend the $18 million in American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III (ARP ESSER III) funds our school district has received. Students with disabilities [like my child], were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and related education disruptions. It is important to families [like mine] that Rochester School District distribute these funds equitably.

Insert Your Story Here (When thinking about what to include, consider the following):

* *In what ways is your child having trouble succeeding in school and how did COVID-19 make it worse?*
  + *Did your child fall behind on their IEP goals?*
  + *Did your child miss out on needed assessments, transition services, or services like OT, PT, and speech therapy?*

I would like to see our district target its education relief funds to address:

Insert Your Priorities Here (When thinking about what to prioritize, consider how the school might address the issues you identified above including):

* *The social and emotional needs of your child.*
* *The educational needs of your child and other students with IEPs who were unable to meet their goals or who missed out on supports and services.*
* *The transition goals of your child and making sure your child is involved and supported in creating and implementing a meaningful and achievable transition plan.*
* *The staffing levels at your school and whether additional staff or staff training would be helpful to support students with disabilities.*

I would also like to ask: are there any formal opportunities in our district, such as surveys or meetings, for families like mine to provide our input on how ARP ESSER III funding is being spent? If not, I request that such opportunities be made available to us in the near future.

Again, I would like to stress that our district’s plan should distribute its funding in an equitable manner to assist the students who need it the most, including students with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Your Name and Contact Information