The Economic Stimulus and American K-12 Education

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2 p.m. EDT
Alyson Klein
Staff writer, Education Week
The Economic Stimulus and American K-12 Education

Expert Presenters:


**Ann Whalen**, Director, Implementation and Support Unit, U.S. Department of Education
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The Economic Stimulus and K-12 Education

Ann Whalen
Director, Implementation and Support Unit

U.S. Department of Education

September 27, 2011
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

- Save and Create Jobs
- Ensure Transparency and Accountability
- Thoughtfully Invest One-time Funds
- Advance Effective Reforms
ARRA State Fiscal Stabilization Fund
$48.6 Billion

- $12.6 B
- $8.0 B
- $28.0 B

- Education Phase One
- Education Phase Two
- Government Services Funds
ARRA Funding for Existing Formula Grants

~$26 Billion

- Impact Aid: $40 M
- Independent Living: $53 M
- Homeless Youth: $70 M
- Vocational Rehab: $540 M
- IDEA: $12.2 B
- Title I: $10 B
ARRA Race to the Top and other Discretionary Grants
$9.7 Billion

- Race to the Top
- School Improvement Grants
- Education Technology
- Investing in Innovation
- Teacher Incentive Fund
- Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems

Includes regular FY 09 appropriations
Did ARRA Save and Create Jobs?

Education’s Recovery funds combined with another smaller influx of federal assistance, through the Education Jobs fund, have helped save or create nearly **400,000 education jobs.**
Save and Create Jobs

State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF)- Snap Shot

- Annual Progress Report (APR)
  - States reported on data including uses of SFSF funds as well as the degree to which State tax increases were averted and services maintained because of the availability of SFSF funds
  - Period from the date of the State’s initial grant award through September 30, 2010

- States reported that¹—
  - Education Stabilization Funds (ESF) saved or created between 174,100 and 295,958 FTE jobs per quarter
  - Government Services Funds (GSF) saved or created between 43,770 and 59,220 jobs per quarter

¹For more detailed information, please see http://www.recovery.gov
Number of FTE Jobs Saved or Created Using ESF Funds Nationally by Quarter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Number of FTE Jobs in Thousands</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1 (Oct – Dec 2009)</td>
<td>249,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2 (Jan – Mar 2010)</td>
<td>295,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3 (Apr – Jun 2010)</td>
<td>269,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4 (Jul – Sep 2010)</td>
<td>174,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Individual State APRs.
Number of FTE Jobs Saved or Created Using GSF Funds Nationally by Quarter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Number of FTE Jobs in Thousands</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1 (Oct – Dec 2009)</td>
<td>43,770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2 (Jan – Mar 2010)</td>
<td>52,055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3 (Apr – Jun 2010)</td>
<td>54,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4 (Jul – Sep 2010)</td>
<td>59,220</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Individual State APRs.
Tax Increases Averted and Services Maintained

- Thirty States indicated that SFSF funds helped them maintain levels of services and activities in education and critical government services despite dramatic budget shortfalls
  - Kentucky reported that, having cut its General Fund spending in FY 2010 by $322 million, SFSF funds helped the State prevent additional cuts of $378 million to that Fund that would have resulted in significant reductions in non-education services.
  - Maine stated that, without SFSF funds, an equal amount would likely have been cut from the State's General Fund appropriations and subsequently result in cuts in education and human services funding, which account for nearly 80 percent of the State's General Fund appropriations.
  - Nevada estimated that the SFSF funds enabled the State to avert tax increases and/or service reductions totaling $396,582,797.
- SFSF funds also helped two States and the District of Columbia avoid tax increases entirely

Source: Individual State APRs.
“A key goal of Recovery Act funding was to create and retain jobs and, for SFSF, to advance education reforms, and our work has consistently shown that LEAs primarily used their funding to cover the cost of retaining jobs. Additionally, the transparency required by Recovery Act reporting allowed the public access to data on the number of jobs funded and the amount of funds spent…”

Supporting Reform

- Four Assurances Areas
  - Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
  - Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
  - Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
  - Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.
Supporting Reform

- **Race to the Top (RTT)**
  - 46 states have created statewide comprehensive reform programs around the four assurances. 11 of those states and DC have received grants and are in the midst of executing their reform work and several other states have implemented lasting changes.

- **Investing in Innovation (i3)**
  - Nearly 1,700 applicants applied for round one. 49 i3 grantees, including a cross-section of school districts, nonprofit education organizations, and higher education institutions across the country, are working to "scale-up," "validate" or "develop" promising, evidence-based education ideas to help accelerate student achievement.

- **Race to the Top Assessment (RTTA)**
  - Two grants were awarded to support consortia of States to develop the next generation of assessments that are valid, support and inform instruction, provide accurate information about what students know and can do, and measure student achievement against standards designed to ensure that all students gain the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in college and the workplace.
Supporting Reform

- **Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF)**
  - Over 95 Applications resulting in 62 grants to support projects that develop and implement Performance Based Compensation Systems (PBCSs) in high-need schools for teachers, principals, and other personnel in order to increase educator effectiveness and student achievement.

- **School Improvement Grants (SIG)**
  - The goal for the SIG program is to dramatically transform school culture and increase outcomes in each State’s persistently lowest-achieving schools, including secondary schools, through robust and comprehensive reforms.
Supporting Reform- Beyond the Grants

- 16 states change laws to increase their ability to intervene in their lowest performing schools
- 28 states enact laws to improve teacher quality, including alternative certification, effectiveness and evaluation systems
- 44 states and DC raise their standards to better prepare students to become college & career-ready at the end of their K-12 education
- 15 states alter laws or policies to create or expand the number of charter schools
Ongoing Work & Continued Investments

- Ongoing work--
  - Evaluations of programs and grants
  - Transparency
  - Accountability

- Continued Investment--
  - RTT-ELC, Race to the Top 3, Promise Neighborhoods, and i3
  - FY12 Budget Request
ARRA

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Local Application and Impact

in

Fort Smith Public Schools

Fort Smith, Arkansas

[Logos and websites]
Current Profile  2010-2011

- 27 Education Centers
  - 19 elementary schools  K-6
  - 4 junior high schools  7-9
  - 2 senior high schools  10-12
  - 1 adult education center
  - 1 alternative learning center  7-12

- 14,107 PK-12 students  October, 2010

- 1,800 staff  October, 2010
Census of Students
By Racial/Ethnic Status

- Caucasian: 47%
- African American: 12%
- Latino: 27%
- Asian: 6%
- Native Amer/Alas: 3%
- HI/Pac Is: 5%
- Two/More: 1%

October 1, 2010
Home Language Survey
Language Minority

2010-2011

- Spanish: 3409
- Laotian: 346
- Vietnamese: 356
- Other: 167

Total: 4,278
Family Socioeconomic Trends

Percentage of enrollment eligible for free and reduced-price meals in October of each year
FSPS Formula Allocations

- Title I, Part A       $ 4,363,049
- IDEA, Part B        $ 3,719,043
- IDEA, Preschool     $ 135,156
- Fiscal Stabilization $11,996,094

- Total Formula       $ 20,213,342
Important Pre-Planning Initiatives--State

- Meeting with Governor Mike Beebe
- ADE Informational Meeting
- ARRA Clearinghouse line/site for questions
- Accessibility by key staff
Communication Responsibilities and Opportunities

- Involvement of Instructional Staff
- Input from Community
- Information to Public
- Relationship to Existing Instructional, Facility, Technology and Operational Plans
- Transparent publication of projects through website
Planning Initiatives - Local

- Key staff information/brainstorm
- Presentations to employees
- Presentations to public
- Receipt of suggestions
- Development of Tentative Plans
Preparation for Implementation

- Presentation of proposed plan to Board of Education for Approval
- Submission to ADE/ARRA Office
- Preparation for Implementation by responsible staff
- Follow-up to ensure compliance
FSPS imperatives in using ARRA Funds

- Careful planning to ensure thoughtful projects which will provide maximum benefits
- Application of funds in compliance with state and federal guidelines
- Targeting student achievement initiatives by investing in research-based strategies which can be effectively implemented in the local setting
- Investing in facilities, equipment and technology/software which will have an effect on the school environment and instruction well beyond the expiration date of the program
Title I - ARRA Funds

- School Setasides: 27%
- Technology: 6%
- Morrison Sum.: 4%
- Prof. Dev.: 24%
- Supplies: 39%
Stabilization - ARRA Funds

- Career Tech. Equip.: 3%
- Building Construction: 59%
- Adult Ed. Equipment: 37%
- Technology: 1%
## American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stabilization Fund</td>
<td>$11,996,094</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title I</td>
<td>4,371,283</td>
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<tr>
<td>IDEA</td>
<td>3,719,043</td>
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<tr>
<td>IDEA-Preschool</td>
<td>135,156</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Nutrition Equipment</td>
<td>18,765</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homeless</td>
<td>68,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neglected &amp; Delinquent</td>
<td>8,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EETT</td>
<td>229,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$20,546,236</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
ARRA Investments with a tangible impact

At least $17.3 million in “hard assets”

Including new construction and renovation, technology of many kinds, electronic music labs, ADA modifications, handicapped transportation equipment and a variety of instructional equipment.
Challenges: Before, During and After???

- Incomplete Rules
- Davis-Bacon Act Rules
- Documentation Requirements which evolve
- Numerous Audits by several different agencies
Benefits: Now and in the Future

- Improved technology
- Improved facilities
- Upgraded equipment
- ADA Access
- Enhanced instructional opportunities
- Staff training
- Jobs
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