

# ELIZABETHTOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

**Superintendent**

Mr. Gary French

**Board of Education**

Mrs. Dianne Cooper

Mr. Paul Godfrey

Mrs. Teresa Harris

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December 17, 2012

Senator Mitch McConnell  
361 A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-1702

Dear Senator McConnell,

As a resident of Elizabethtown, Kentucky and on behalf of the Elizabethtown Independent School's, I'm writing to express my deep concern about the pending cuts of sequestration, the looming fiscal cliff and how those cuts will negatively impact our school district.

Sequestration was designed as a consequence. The priority was for the Super Committee to identify a nuanced plan—one that would arguably combine spending cuts, revenue increases and mandatory program reform—to realize the required savings over the next decade. Failure to proactively plan would result in blunt cuts where everybody feels the pain, regardless of program demand, need or effectiveness. Perhaps even more alarming, the looming fiscal cliff fails to recognize that not every dollar in the federal budget is equal: investment in education has a proven return on investment and is a long-term path towards economic stability and growth for the individual, their community and the larger society.

To help illustrate what the cuts of sequestration mean in our school district, I have attached an invoice that calculates the impact of an 8.2 percent reduction. While the dollar amount alone is staggering, it is the context of the cuts that is most problematic.

Congress must acknowledge that sequestration is a problem, not a solution; a mistake that derails any hope of long-term, sustained economic well-being and growth. It is the responsibility of Congress to avoid the deep cuts of sequestration, and I urge you, as my elected Congressman, to work with your colleagues to help our country avoid the destructive reality of sequestration.

Sincerely,

Gary French  
Superintendent of Schools



# INVOICE

**DATE:** 12/12/2012 10:17

**TO:** Senator Mitch McConnell  
361A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-1702

**FROM:** Gary French, Superintendent  
Elizabethtown Independent Schools  
219 Helm Street  
Elizabethtown, KY 42701

**RE:** Sequestration Invoice

The failure of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction (Super Committee) to produce a bill identifying budgetary savings of at least \$1.2 trillion over ten years has triggered an automatic spending reduction process (called sequestration) that takes effect on January 2, 2013. For FY13, these cuts will be applied to most programs, including all discretionary education programs, except Federal Pell Grants. The depth of the cuts is estimated to be between 7.8% and 9.1%, which would reduce funding for the US Education Department by \$3.5 billion to \$4.1 billion, affecting millions of students and leading to potentially significant job losses and program eliminations for the nation's schools, the educators who run them, and the students they educate. This invoice uses an 8.2% cut, as reported in the administration's Sequestration Transparency Report. I am asking you to take immediate action, as a member of Congress, to work with your colleagues to avoid these deep cuts which would be devastating to our district and students.

Elizabethtown Board of Education submits the following invoice to provide an estimate of what the cuts would mean:

District:		State:
Program		11-12 Funding Level
		8.2% Cut
Title I Grant to LEA		\$ 529,347.00
Title II Teacher Quality State Grant		\$ 91,119.00
Title III		\$ 3,545.00
468,710.00		\$ 468,710.00
Career & Tech Ed State Grant		\$ 23,574.00
Head Start		\$ -
		\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>		\$ 1,116,295.00
		\$ 91,536.19

SUMMARY	
Program	Balance Due
	8.2% Cut
Title I	\$43,406.45
Title II	\$7,471.76
Title III	\$290.69
IDEA	\$38,434.22
Career/Tech	\$1,933.07
Headstart	\$0.00
	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$91,536.19</b>
<b>BALANCE DUE:</b>	<b>\$91,536.19</b>