

A RESOLUTION URGING THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF FEDERAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY CONGRESS AND APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 AND URGING ALL MEMBERS OF THE KENTUCKY CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO INTERCEDE WITH PRESIDENT TRUMP’S ADMINISTRATION TO EXPEDITE ACTION

WHEREAS, the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) withheld funding authorized by the Continuing Appropriations and Extension Act, which passed Congress and was signed by President Trump on March 15, 2025, to fund programs established in Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015; and

WHEREAS, this action by OMB has delayed the distribution to states of \$6.2 billion of funds duly authorized by Congress and approved by the President, which were scheduled to be disbursed on July 1, 2025, and may ultimately result in an attempt by President Trump’s administration to permanently and unconstitutionally impound these funds; and

WHEREAS, as a consequence, the Commonwealth of Kentucky is facing an \$87 million federal funding shortfall for fiscal year 2025-26, which the Kentucky Department of Education allocates to every public school district in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, this funding freeze, mere weeks before the beginning of the 2025-26 school year, will negatively impact the capacity of schools in every public school district in Kentucky and, indeed, the nation, to serve the needs of its student and families; and

WHEREAS, this withholding of funds from Kentucky includes:

- \$7,912,543 in Title I Part C. funds for Migrant Education;
- \$33,638,143 in Title II, Part A. funds for Supporting Effective Instruction;
- \$5,757,040 in Title III, Part A. funds for English Language Acquisition;
- \$20,290,765 in Title IV, Part A. funds for Student Support and Academic Enrichment; and

WHEREAS, based on the allocation of federal funds for fiscal year 2024-25, the financial impact of the withholding of these funds for the Fayette County Public Schools is estimated to be \$4,348,466, including:

- \$320,618 in Title I, Part C. funds for Migrant Education;
- 1,605,735 in Title II, Part A. funds for Supporting Effective Instruction;
- \$820,000 in Title III, Part A. funds for English Language Acquisition;
- 1,062,113 in Title IV, Part A. funds for Student Support and Academic Enrichment; and

WHEREAS, because the Fayette County Public Schools must follow strict federal reporting guidelines regarding how federal money is budgeted and spent, the District has detailed information regarding the direct negative impact on specific programs, with detrimental consequences to student success; and

WHEREAS, the impact of the \$320,618 being withheld from the Fayette County Public Schools for Title I, Part C. funds for Migrant Education, represents the 100 percent elimination of federal funding supporting:

- Supplemental academic support services in reading and math and

WHEREAS, the impact of the \$1,605,735 being withheld from the Fayette County Public Schools for Title II, Part A. funds for Supporting Effective Instruction, represents the 100 percent elimination of federal funding supporting:

- The New Teacher Pipeline, New Teacher Internship, National Board Certification Coaches, Principal Mentors, Aspiring Leaders and Math Coaches and

WHEREAS, the impact of the \$820,000 being withheld the from Fayette County Public Schools in Title III, Part A. funds for English Language Acquisition represent the 100 percent elimination of federal funding supporting:

- English language support staff directly supporting students and staff by providing specialized instruction, professional development for teachers, and resources for English Language Learners to ensure they achieve English proficiency and meet academic standards.

WHEREAS, the impact of the \$1,062,113 being withheld from the Fayette County Public Schools in Title IV, Part A. funds for Student Support and Academic Enrichment represent the 100 percent elimination of federal funding supporting:

- STEM (Science technology engineering and math) support, PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support) coaches, AP program/teacher training, music and creative arts experience ; and

WHEREAS, these funds are targeted to support strong and thriving learning environments for all students through professional development, academic enrichment, and English language acquisition, which are central to providing the quality education every child deserves; and

WHEREAS, these cuts are not replaceable with local or state funds because they come at very fiscally challenging time for public school districts across the nation, including the Fayette County Public Schools, as districts work to manage the fiscal cliff resulting from the end of federal COVID-19 Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds and increased operational costs;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Board of Education of Fayette County:

1. The Board of Education of Fayette County urges the immediate release of all federal education funds previously appropriated by Congress as required by law.

2. The Board respectfully requests that the entire Kentucky Congressional delegation communicate with President Donald J. Trump, the U.S. Secretary of Education Linda McMahon, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget Russell Vought on behalf of Kentucky’s children and families to advocate for the immediate release of these urgently needed funds.
3. The Board believes that the federal government has an important role to play in Pre K-12 education public working in partnership with states and local school districts to:
 - Support high quality educational opportunities for all students;
 - Protect all students from discrimination in education;
 - Provide free, nutritious high-quality meals to students; and
 - Respond to the needs of our nation’s most vulnerable students, including students with disabilities, students who are homeless or living in foster care, multilingual students, and students experiencing the multi-faceted impacts of poverty.

The Fayette County Public Schools looks forward to continuing that partnership for decades to come.

4. The Board believes that future federal funding for Pre K-12 public education must be significantly increased to the degree commensurate with the importance of high-quality public education to the future of our democracy and our nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands, and caused the seal of the Board of Education of Fayette County, Kentucky, to be affixed on the 28th day of July, 2025. This resolution shall take effect upon its passage. I, Demetrus Liggins, Assistant Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the above is a true and accurate copy of the resolution adopted at the July 28, 2025 meeting of the Board of Education of Fayette County at which a quorum was present and voted.

Demetrus Liggins, PhD
Superintendent
Fayette County Public Schools

Tyler Murphy
Chairman
Board of Education of Fayette County