



WCPSS Federal Funding Update

Joint BOC/BOE Meeting

October 27, 2025

Federal Funding Update

Today

- Provide a brief overview of the status of federal funding for 2025-26
- Two federal grants terminated
- Title II, Title III, and Title IV back & forth
- Magnet Grants
- 2026-27?

Federal Funding Update

Federal Funding – Grants Terminated

- February 17 – Teacher and School Leaders Grant (TSL) terminated (\$11.8 million over three years)
- TSL Grant provided resources to target hiring for high needs schools
- Response included staff placements
- April 29 – School-Based Mental Health Grant terminated (\$14.2 million over five years)
- Grant funded school-based student behavioral health positions

Federal Funding Update

Federal Funding – Title II, Title III, Title IV

- June 30 – U.S. Department of Education (USD OE) announces freeze on 2025-26 education funding, including funds for migrant education, professional development, English learner services, academic enrichment, and before- and after-school programs. (Title II, Title III, Title IV-A, & Title IV-B)
- July 14 – Multiple states including NC file lawsuit for the release of federal funds already approved by Congress
- July 18 – Administration announces release of funding for after-school and summer programs
- July 25 – Administration announces release of public education funding frozen on June 30

Federal Funding Update

Magnet Schools Assistance Program (MSAP) Funds

- March 30 – Project NEXUS Year 5 MSAP grant funds scheduled to be released. The scheduled \$2.4 million not released due to all MSAP funds being withheld by administration.
- Mid-June – WCPSS received notification of an Office for Civil Rights (OCR) review of the MSAP Nexus Annual Performance Report.
- July 31 – U.S. Department of Education announced that MSAP funds had been dispersed; however, WCPSS' MSAP funds were withheld pending the OCR review.
- September 29 – Grant award notifications for MSAP Nexus, Synergy, and Elevate released.

Federal Funding Update

2025-26

- Federal funding currently appears to be ok for remainder of current year
- Subject to change & closely watching

Federal Funding Update

Next Year

- Possible reductions in education funding in 2026-27?
 - Title I – School Improvement
 - Title II – Supporting Effective Instruction
 - Title III – English Language Acquisition
 - Title IV – Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant
- Positioning to push funding responsibility for programs to states
- Potential for shifting in structure of the funding / block grants?
- Other changes?

Federal Funding Update

Next Year

- Timing of federal decisions may impact timing of 2026-27 budget development
- Changes in federal funding structures may require changes by the state legislature further prolonging uncertainty
- Amounts are significant:
 - \$178 million of federal revenue in the board's proposed 2025-26 operating budget
 - That includes \$59 million in USDA grants supporting CNS
 - 83% of overall operating budget supports *staff*

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Q&A



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