

Action Alert

Kansas PTA
January 29, 2025

Protect Kansas Students, Class Sizes & the Lunch Program

Contact our 6 U.S. elected officials from Kansas

Monday January 27, end of day, President Trump issued an unprecedented funding freeze, by way of a [memo](#). Agencies were ordered to “pause all activities [within 24 hours] related to obligation or disbursement of all Federal financial assistance,” such as grants and loans. Federal K-12 education *grants* include *title programs* that fund services for students with disabilities and at-risk youth living in poverty, along with related programs like Head Start and teacher preparation grants. On Wednesday January 29, the order was rescinded.

These 48 hours of reckless uncertainty have consequences. Kansas school districts can no longer rely on roughly 10% of their operating budgets. The likelihood of another budget upheaval is not zero, particularly with this administration’s stated intent to [abolish the U.S. Department of Education](#). **If you have concerns or need more certainty, we encourage you to reach out to our federal elected officials today.**

Let our elected officials know that this series of directives has disrupted efforts to minimize barriers to learning for struggling students, and that our school districts must now consider the need to sweep general education dollars to backfill a potential federal funding gap. Our public schools must now consider pausing related staff recruitment and professional development activities (e.g., helping struggling students strengthen their reading skills). Our districts must consider adjusting 2025-2026 staffing plans for potential permanent cuts, in which Kansas students stand to lose hundreds of teachers and educational support staff across the state. Ask your district’s superintendent about the potential number of positions that could be eliminated from cuts to these federal programs.

ACTION: Call and/or email the six U.S. members of Congress from Kansas:

Senator [Roger Marshall](#), 202-224-4774

Senator [Jerry Moran](#), 202-224-6521

Representative [Tracey Mann](#), (202) 225-2715

Representative [Ron Estes](#), (202) 225-6216

Representative [Derek Schmidt](#), (202) 225-6601

Representative [Sharice Davids](#), (202) 225-2865

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS:

- Urge Congress to affirm their approval for the federal education funds, that were just unfrozen, to ensure opportunities for success among youth with special needs.
- Urge Congress to fully fund the special education grant program for youth with disabilities.
- Urge Congress to continue investing in the free and reduced price lunch program, because hungry children struggle to learn.
- Urge Congress to adjust the federal education budget for inflation, to allow public schools to at least maintain current purchasing powers.
- Urge Congress to hold states and school districts harmless, if drastic budget changes are made mid-school year, to allow for planned adjustments at the local level.

Contact our U.S. elected officials today. Let them know your questions and concerns

Note. This Action Alert is in keeping with the [Kansas PTA legislative platform](#).