Fairfax County School Board 2027 Federal Priorities Discussion Draft

Fairfax County School Board (FCSB) supports full and adequate funding to implement federal mandates~~, such as those found in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA),~~ as well as broad flexibility to empower states and localities to fulfill mandated program requirements. In addition, the FCSB supports preservation of the role played by the U.S. Department of Education in K12 policy implementation, as well as existing funding for all federal programs, including disbursement of all Congressionally authorized appropriations.

The FCSB supports:

Title I

Increased funding for the federal Title I, Part A grant within the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) that serves schools with the highest percentage of children from low-income families.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Mandatory funding for chronically underfunded special education programs to meet the federal commitment to fund 40 percent of the "excess costs" of special education, as promised but never realized since the 1975 adoption of federal special education laws.

Federal Meals Reimbursement

Restoration of enhanced United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) federal reimbursement rates to provide high-quality and nutritious free meals to all students.

Impact Aid

Full funding for the federal Impact Aid program, which is intended to offset the local impact of Fairfax's federally connected students.

Title III (Limited English Proficient students)

Continued funding for the Title III program, which supports students in attaining English language proficiency.

Medicaid

Continued funding for the medicaid reimbursement program, allowing public schools to receive partial reimbursement for providing eligible health-related services to students with disabilities.

Title II (Teacher and Principal Quality)

Continued funding for the Title II program, which increases student achievement by elevating teacher and principal quality through recruitment, retention, and high-quality professional development.

E-Rate (educational technology)

Continued funding for the E-Rate program, which helps to improve internet access and digital equity across FCPS schools.

Perkins (Career and Technical Education)

Continued funding for the Perkins V program, which supports career and technical education (CTE) programs to enhance student academic knowledge, technical skills, and employability.