


MEMORANDUM

March 17, 2017

TO: The Honorable Chair and Members of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida

FROM: Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools 

SUBJECT: **FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - PRESIDENT'S FY2018 BUDGET PROPOSAL**

The White House released its proposed budget to Congress on Thursday, March 16, 2017. The President's budget, "America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again," proposes a significant increase, \$54 billion, in military spending while eliminating or reducing longstanding domestic federal programs.

The President's budget provides \$59 billion in discretionary funding for the U.S. Department of Education which represents a \$9.2 billion, or 13.5 percent, reduction below the 2017 annualized Continuation Resolution level. More specifically, the proposed budget:

- Increases funding for public and private school choice by \$1.4 billion, including an increase of \$168 million, a 50 percent increase, for charter schools, and \$250 million for a new private school choice program;
- Increases Title I by \$1 billion to encourage school districts to adopt a system of student-based budgeting and open enrollment that enables funding to follow the student to the public school of their choice;
- Maintains level funding for IDEA at \$13 billion;
- Eliminates the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program, the District currently receives \$2.6 million in competitive grant funding from this source;
- Eliminates the \$2.4 billion Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants program or Title II, which the district receives approximately \$17 million; and
- Eliminates or reduces over 20 categorical programs such as Striving Readers, Teacher Quality Partnership, Impact Aid Support for Federal Property.

Other observations include:

- Elimination of funding for both the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for FY2018. This is the first time in history that a President has proposed zeroing out all funding for the nation's federal cultural agencies;
- Funding of \$1.5 billion for the U.S. Census Bureau to continue preparations for the 2020 Census;
- Elimination of over \$250 million in targeted National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) grants;
- Funding \$2.6 billion for infrastructure and border security technology, including funding to plan, design, and construct a wall along the southern border of the nation;
- Funding an additional \$1.5 billion for expanded detention, transportation, and removal of illegal immigrants;
- Reduction of grant funding for programs administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) by \$667 million; and
- Elimination of Community Development Block Grant Program.

Additional details on the Administration's FY2018 budget are scheduled to be released in May 2017. Furthermore, the President must negotiate a budget agreement by April 29th, when a temporary funding bill for FY2017 expires.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Ms. Iraida R. Mendez-Cartaya, Associate Superintendent, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Engagement, at 305 995-1497.

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cc: School Board Attorney
Superintendent's Cabinet