

DR. LARRY C. SCHMIEGEL

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November 3, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Once again, we need your assistance. Based on the number of federally connected students attending Watertown City School District, our district is eligible to receive Federal funds under Title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (the Federal Impact Aid Program) to support the operation of our schools and the maintenance of our facilities.

Currently, Watertown proudly serves 23% military and federally connected families, and Federal Impact Aid accounts for *only a very small* portion of our budget, making this funding vital to our ability to sustain educational programs and services for all students. However, with the current funding uncertainty, completing this year's Federal Impact Aid Survey is more critical than ever. These funds help offset the loss of local tax revenue from federally owned property, directly benefiting our students and classrooms. **Completion of this survey can help us close this funding gap.**

Families must complete a survey at least once each school year. The amount of Federal Impact Aid received depends on the *accurate and timely completion* of these surveys. For every student whose parent(s) or guardian(s) are active-duty military, work on Fort Drum, or are employed in positions connected to federal agencies or contracts, the district may receive federal reimbursement. Every single form submitted helps ensure that Watertown receives its fair share of this essential funding, all while helping to support our district's strategic plan.

These Federal funds are critical to Watertown's ability to maintain quality educational programs, enhance school safety, support student services, provide technology, arts, and athletic opportunities, and make important facility improvements, all of which align with our district strategic plan.

We ask that all families complete the accompanying ParentSquare Survey as soon as possible. If you have more than one child enrolled in the Watertown City School District, please complete a separate survey for each student.

Please note that the information you provide is confidential and used *solely* to secure federal funding for our schools. Your cooperation helps ensure we can continue offering the strong educational experiences our students deserve—even during times of federal funding uncertainty.

Should you have any questions or require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact your child's principal or the District Office at 315-785-3700.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support for all our students and schools.

Sincerely,

Dr. Larry C. Schmiegel
Superintendent of Schools

Watertown City School District is committed to building a caring culture
that fosters lifelong learners and responsible citizens.