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Our Children, Our Future!

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November 9, 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Each year, the Watertown City School District asks families to complete the Federal Impact Aid Survey, and once again, we need your help! Your participation plays an important role in securing federal funding that supports educational programs, services, and opportunities for students throughout our district.

Watertown is proud to serve a significant number of military-connected and federally connected families. Through the Federal Impact Aid Program (Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act), our district is eligible to receive funding that helps offset the loss of local tax revenue associated with federally owned property and other federal activities in our community.

Although Federal Impact Aid represents a relatively small portion of our overall district budget, every dollar makes a difference. With continued uncertainty surrounding federal funding, ensuring that Watertown receives its fair share of available resources is especially important.

Why Is Your Participation Important?

Federal Impact Aid funding is determined, in part, by the information families provide through this annual survey. Families with parents or guardians who serve on active military duty, work on Fort Drum, or hold qualifying federal employment may help our district secure additional funding.

These funds help support priorities outlined in our district's strategic plan, including:

- Maintaining high-quality educational programs and student services.
- Enhancing school safety and student well-being.
- Providing technology, arts, athletics, and extracurricular opportunities.
- Supporting student engagement, attendance, and academic success.
- Maintaining and improving our schools and learning environments.

What Do Families Need to Do?

We ask all families to complete the 2026–2027 Federal Impact Aid Survey through FOCUS as soon as possible, even if you are unsure whether your family qualifies.

Please complete one survey for each child enrolled in the Watertown City School District. A new survey is required each school year, and accurate, timely responses help us maximize the funding available to support our students.

Your Information Is Confidential

All information collected through the survey will be kept confidential and used for the purpose of determining eligibility for Federal Impact Aid funding, in accordance with applicable requirements.

By taking just a few minutes to complete this survey, you are helping strengthen our schools and support educational opportunities for all Watertown students.

If you have questions or need assistance completing the survey, please contact your child's school.

Thank you for your continued partnership, support, and commitment to our schools. Together, we are making a difference for every student.

Our Children. Our Future.

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.

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