

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 3, 2025

The Honorable Russell Vought  
Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
725 17th St NW  
Washington, DC 20503

The Honorable Linda McMahon  
Secretary of Education  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Ave SW  
Washington, DC 20202

Director Vought and Secretary McMahon,

We write to you regarding the more than \$118 million<sup>1</sup> of frozen grant funding to Arizona schools—funding appropriated by Congress—and urge you to immediately release these funds.

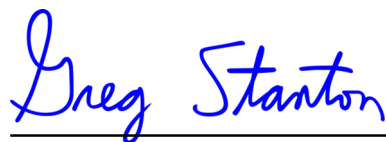
The timing of this withholding is particularly serious for Arizona schools that begin the new school earlier than many schools across the country. One school district in Arizona begins the term on July 16, 2025. This freeze is putting Arizona school districts in an impossible financial situation, as school districts have already adopted their annual budgets and signed contracts for the upcoming school year.

These investments are essential for student success—supporting critical afterschool programs, student support staff, teacher onboarding and professional development, and English language learning programs. The impacts of withholding this funding include:

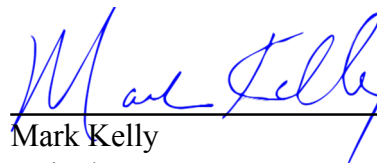
- Mesa Public Schools losing \$4.2 million in funding they have planned for and allocated to signed contracts. More than 70% of this funding goes directly to compensate staff who support student learning every day.
- The Boys and Girls Club of Arizona (BGCAZ) losing \$1.3 million of their operating budget. Potentially forcing BGCAZ to reduce programs, to close summer camps early, and even to shut down facilities.
- Arizona’s federal education funding being reduced by 11.9%. The loss of these funds leaves school districts across the state in an unsustainable period of limbo.

To minimize harm to students, teachers, and families and to uphold the Constitution, we urge you to immediately release these congressionally appropriated dollars as required by law.

Sincerely,



Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



Mark Kelly  
United States Senator

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<sup>1</sup> DiNapoli, Michael A, and Michael Griffith. “States Face Uncertainty as an Estimated \$6.2 Billion in K–12 Funding Remains Unreleased: Here’s the Fiscal Impact by State.” *Learning Policy Institute*, 30 June 2025, [learningpolicyinstitute.org/blog/states-face-uncertainty-k-12-funding-remains-unreleased](https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/blog/states-face-uncertainty-k-12-funding-remains-unreleased).