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DeVos Defends Trump's Education Budget on Capitol Hill

Yesterday on Capitol Hill, U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos defended President Trump's education budget request for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, which proposes to cut discretionary funding—excluding Pell Grants—for the U.S. Department of Education from \$48.97 billion to \$41.53 billion in FY 2020.

“Since President Trump took office, Congressional appropriations for U.S. Department of Education programs have increased dramatically—in spite of the Administration’s call to slow spending,” DeVos said before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies. “We are not doing our children any favors when we borrow from their future in order to invest in systems and policies that are not yielding better results. Overwhelming federal debt may prove to be

the single greatest barrier that future generations will face in trying to achieve the full potential of the American dream, and we cannot continue to kick that can down the road.”

Given the size of Trump’s proposed cut to education funding, it was not surprising to see strong criticism from Democrats who now are the party in power in the U.S. House of Representatives.

“I believe this budget is cruel and reckless,” said Subcommittee Chairwoman Rosa DeLauro. “It will hurt the middle class and low-income families that most need our help. In fact, the proposed budget cuts nearly \$9 billion from the Department of Education – including the proposed \$2 billion Pell Grants rescission. Meanwhile, it proposes a new \$5 billion annual tax scheme – which is unregulated and unaccountable – to fund a private school voucher program that will undermine our public schools and it allows the unaccounted use of tax dollars.

“With provisions like that, I am left with a very serious question for you. How can you support this budget? I mean that genuinely. As secretary of the Department of Education, how can you support, even boast, about taking 10 percent, more than 12 percent if you count the Pell rescission, away from our teachers and students. It is beyond the pale.”

Stay tuned to the Alliance for Excellent Education's "Federal Flash" later in this week for a closer look at DeVos’s testimony before the House subcommittee, as well as her testimony before a [Senate appropriations subcommittee scheduled for Thursday, March 28](#).

Watch Video from the House Subcommittee Hearing



Screened Out? How Some States May Limit the Schools, and Students, Identified for Support

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), states have reimaged their school accountability systems and come up with new ways to identify schools for support and improvement. Although the federal law allows some flexibility in designing these methodologies, it requires states to identify schools for three categories of support: 1) comprehensive; 2) additional targeted support (ATS); and 3) targeted support and improvement (TSI).

According to a new analysis from All4Ed, some states have chosen such narrow definitions of a “consistently underperforming” subgroup needing TSI that ATS schools may be “screened out.” As a result,

schools with an individual subgroup doing as poorly as all students in the very lowest-performing schools in the state (the law's definition of ATS) may not be identified for ATS, because they do not also meet the state's definition for TSI.

Sound complicated? Let All4Ed's policy experts, Lindsay Dworkin and Anne Hyslop, break it down for you.

[Read More](#)

[Download the Analysis](#)

 [Click to Tweet:](#) New @All4Ed analysis shows how some states may limit the schools, and students, identified for support under #ESSA. bit.ly/2CDYBJL



Why Are Students Only Paying Attention to Each Other in Class?

Noticed that students are talkative in class? Are they paying attention to their friends and not engaging in the lesson? Check out this Science of Adolescent Learning infographic to understand why adolescents are motivated by their peers, and what you can do as an adult to provide them with the proper support for learning and growth.

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Deeper Learning Digest: How These High School Seniors Get Ready for College

A yearlong performance assessment may sound like a lot for a high school senior. But in Oakland, California, seniors are using their

capstone projects to solve problems facing their community while building critical skills for college and careers.

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Federal Flash ⚡



Examining President Trump's **EDUCATION BUDGET**

Federal Flash examines which programs are funded, cut, or eliminated in President Trump's education budget.

It also covers new action from Education Secretary Betsy DeVos that could prompt a lawsuit, as well as a separate court order ruling against the Education Department on students of color being disproportionately identified for special education services.

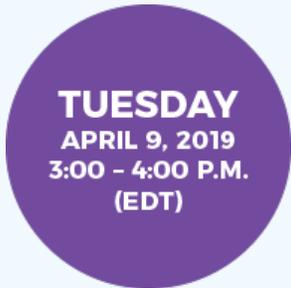
[Watch the Federal Flash](#)

 [Click to Tweet](#): What's funded, cut, or eliminated in President Trump's education budget? @All4Ed's #FederalFlash takes a look. Also, could new action from Education Secretary Betsy DeVos prompt a lawsuit? Watch at <https://youtu.be/FeOczKJSdKw>.

[Watch Previous Episodes](#)

Coming Soon

Improving Educational Experiences for Diverse Learners: Valuing Culture While Combating Stress, Inequality, Bias, and Discrimination



When students enter school, they don't leave part of themselves at the door. Instead, students walk into class carrying their cultural and community values with them. They bring pressures of social expectations and continue to feel the influence of poverty, prejudice, and inequity. These out-of-school influences and environmental factors play significant roles in adolescents' mindsets about learning, their motivation to learn, and their behaviors in schools.

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Why Schools Should Be Organized To Prioritize Relationships

KQED

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New teachers often get the students who are furthest behind — and that's a problem for both

Chalkbeat

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3:10 PM - 21 Mar 2019



Michelle Allen

@MichelleAllenMI

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"Kids don't leave their trauma at the door - they don't just come in ready to learn..."
powerful reminders from @DebDelisle at a joint @NAESP and @NASSP session!
[#principalsadvocate](#)



2:21 PM - 19 Mar 2019



Dana Rickman

@Data_Dana

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Rachel Bird Niebling @All4Ed talked higher ed reauthorization with Ga education policy fellows. @GAPartnership #gaepfp #epfp55wps



1:32 PM - 14 Mar 2019



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Fun day with NYC DOE school counselors and parent coordinators today at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn NY. That's how learning about the science of adolescent learning makes us feel. Happy! [@All4Ed](#) [@DebDelisle](#) [@robyntharper](#)



8:50 PM - 18 Mar 2019

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