

From: Superintendent <Superintendent@sde.idaho.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 11:07 AM
Subject: U.S. Dept. of Ed. Changes

Dear Superintendents and Charter Administrators,

As many of you know, the U.S. Department of Education took steps yesterday to reduce its workforce. The reduction in force will result in the department retaining about half the employees who were on staff two months ago.

The department announced the cuts in a news release, which you can read [here](#). Secretary of Education Linda McMahon also discussed the action in further depth during an [interview](#) last night.

Please note: I have not received additional communication from the department on this step but am hopeful to learn more in the coming days and weeks. I will share information with all of you as I receive it.

Finally, I anticipate receiving media questions and will issue this statement in response:

As Idahoans, we have not looked to Washington D.C. to guide our decisions regarding our public schools, so we are well positioned for this type of change. I'm a firm believer that the more control states have over their schools, the better off our students will be. Regarding federal funds, those dollars make up about 10 percent of the money spent on K-12 public education in Idaho. If we as a state can have more say in how they're allocated to our local schools, I welcome that change.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and, again, all the work you do for your students and communities.

-dc



Debbie Critchfield
Superintendent of Public
Instruction