

# **Update from the Superintendent**

To: Parents and Guardians

From: Mark McQueen, Superintendent

Date: November 1, 2024

As a proud retired military officer, a former military dependent myself, and the father of two children who grew up as military dependents, I know firsthand the sacrifices our military families make. My wife also grew up in a military-connected family, so supporting military families and indeed our entire community is incredibly personal to me. That's why I want to reach out to you about Federal Impact Aid—a small step that can make a big difference for our schools.

Did you know that by completing a simple form, you can help bring in thousands of dollars to support our schools? It's true! Federal Impact Aid is a crucial resource for Bay District Schools, and it all starts with you filling out your Federal Impact Aid card.

Our district, home to military installations like Tyndall Air Force Base and Naval Support Activity Panama City, depends on these funds. Since military bases and federal properties don't contribute to local property taxes, Federal Impact Aid helps fill that gap. This funding is vital in a county like ours, where military families make up a significant part of the community.

## **How You Can Help**

If you're a parent or guardian, completing the Federal Impact Aid card is now easier than ever. You can do it all online through the FOCUS Parent Portal—just log in and fill out the form, and you'll significantly impact our district's funding in just a few minutes. Every card counts, and completing your card ensures Bay District Schools receives its fair share of federal support. If you're having trouble accessing the information through your Parent Portal account, you can request a paper questionnaire by emailing FINANCE@BAY.K12.FL.US or by calling 850-767-4210, 4211 or 4219.

#### Who Should Complete the Federal Impact Aid Card?

You should complete this form if:

- Your family lives on federal property, like military bases or federal housing.
- You are an active-duty U.S. military, Coast Guard, National Guard, or Reserves member.
- You are a civilian working on federal property, including federal contractors or employees.
- Your child attends school on a federally connected Indian reservation.

For more information, you can visit NAFIS Impact Aid Resources.

#### Why It Matters

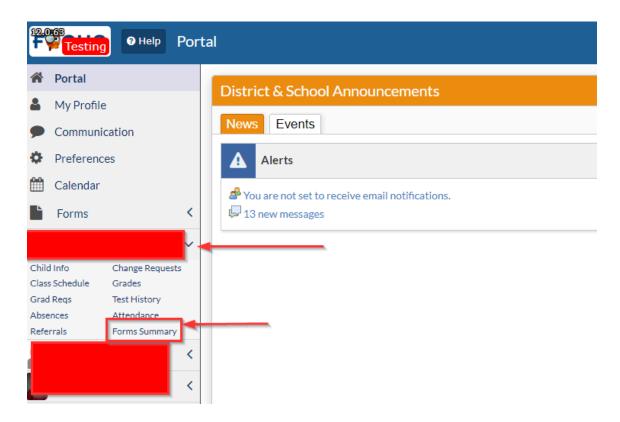
Federal Impact Aid directly supports the programs that benefit all of our students—both academically and through extracurricular activities. These funds also allow us to maintain and improve our school buildings, keeping them safe, modern, and well-equipped. Impact Aid also plays a crucial role in helping us meet the unique needs of military-connected students, providing tailored resources and support that would otherwise be out of reach.

This is more than just a form—it's an opportunity for our military families and community to make a real difference. By completing the Federal Impact Aid card, you're helping us ensure our students have access to the best educational opportunities.

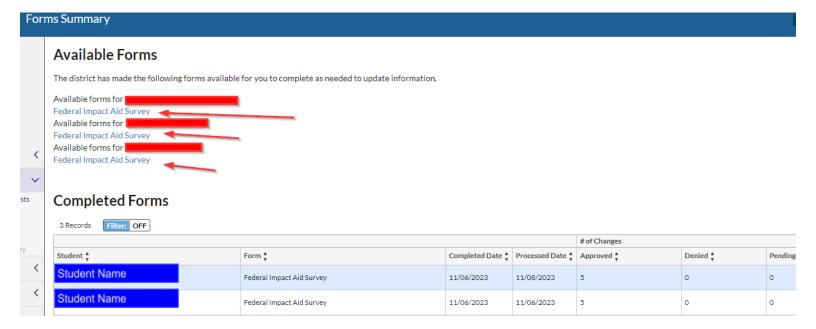
Thank you for your continued support as we all work together to put the "A" back in Bay.

### **Federal Impact Form Directions**

From Parent Portal, Click the drop-down on your student and select the Forms Summary Option.



This will bring you to the Forms Summary Page. Depending on how many students you have, you may have multiple forms to complete. Click on the Highlighted Federal Impact Aid Survey Link to be brought to the survey.



Once on the form, you will be greeted with three introduction pages. Read these instructions and click the blue "Next Page" button to continue to the actual application on page four.

Complete the application. Once all fields are completed, click on the green "Submit & Finish" button and your application will be completed. Repeat this process for any additional students.