

**From:** [Makin, Pender](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fw: notice to superintendents  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025 11:21:59 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Outlook-fyghiekj.png](#)

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**Pender Makin**  
**Commissioner**

Maine Department of Education  
23 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0023

**Email:** [pender.makin@maine.gov](mailto:pender.makin@maine.gov)

**Phone:** [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025 11:12 AM  
**To:** Makin, Pender <[Pender.Makin@maine.gov](mailto:Pender.Makin@maine.gov)>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: notice to superintendents

If possible to hold for a bit, I think that would be good for now.

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**From:** Makin, Pender <[Pender.Makin@maine.gov](mailto:Pender.Makin@maine.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025 11:02 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** notice to superintendents

Hi [REDACTED] -

I just read your message after sending the following through our workflow. It doesn't land anywhere related to the federal grant freeze other than to say we are monitoring and seeking clarity ... but do you want me to call the team to see if there's time to stop it from gong out?

*Dear Champions of Education,*

*As executive orders continue to flow out of DC, there is increasing misinformation, disinformation, and confusion impacting our schools. Our team at Maine DOE is working hard to get clarification and, as factual information becomes available, we will be sending it along through these priority notices.*

*As you likely learned late last night or early this morning, the Trump Administration has ordered federal agencies to “temporarily pause all activities related to obligations or disbursement of all Federal financial assistance.” The “pause” will begin at 5:00 p.m. ET today. Maine DOE is working to get clarity on what, if any, effects this will have upon K-12 federal programs. We will keep you updated as soon as more information is available. Here is the [memo](#).*

*Last week, we advised schools to adhere to the Maine Human Rights Act and your local school board policies related to nondiscrimination. We encourage you to continue to keep all people safe and we reiterate the fact that, at present, neither our state law nor your local policies are diminished by the executive orders directing action at the federal level.*

*While we are able to provide accurate interpretations and clarifications related to our state laws, most of the executive orders pertain to federal agencies and federal laws over which Maine DOE has no authority. For example, we have received many questions related to immigration and ICE. When it comes to this topic, we encourage school leaders and school board members to review your local policies related to interactions between law enforcement and the schools and to consult your attorneys for the most up-to-date advice related to federal laws.*

*We will continue to seek clarifications and will provide you with as much clear, factual information as possible.*

*Your leadership has never been more important. Thank you for all you do,  
Pender*

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**Pender Makin**  
**Commissioner**

Maine Department of Education

23 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0023

**Email:** [pender.makin@maine.gov](mailto:pender.makin@maine.gov)

**Phone:** [REDACTED]

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**From:** [Makin, Pender](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Priority notice!!  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025 10:55:35 AM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-hqa50q35.png](#)

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Hi [REDACTED],

Please send this to superintendents, assistant supts, principals, MSMA and any other groups asap:

Dear Champions of Education,

As executive orders continue to flow out of DC, there is increasing misinformation, disinformation, and confusion impacting our schools. Our team at Maine DOE is working hard to get clarification and, as factual information becomes available, we will be sending it along through these priority notices.

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We will continue to seek clarifications and will provide you with as much clear, factual information as possible.

Your leadership has never been more important. Thank you for all you do,

Pender

**Pender Makin  
Commissioner**

Maine Department of Education

23 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0023

**Email:** [pender.makin@maine.gov](mailto:pender.makin@maine.gov)

**Phone:** [REDACTED]

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