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NAFIS Welcomes Leslie Finnan as Director of Policy & Advocacy

Washington, DC – January 7, 2019 – The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) is pleased to welcome Leslie Finnan as our new Director of Policy & Advocacy. In this role, Finnan will lead NAFIS policy and regulatory work with Congress and the Administration, manage the organization's grassroots advocacy efforts and cultivate relationships with key stakeholder organizations and coalitions.

Finnan comes to NAFIS from AASA, The School Superintendents Association, where she most recently served as Senior Legislative Analyst. In that capacity, she represented AASA advocating to Congress on a broad array of education policy issues, led a coalition of state policy advocates and managed research projects for the policy and advocacy team. She holds a Master of Public Policy (MPP) degree from George Washington University, with a concentration in education policy, and a BA from Skidmore College. She previously taught English as a Foreign Language as a Peace Corps volunteer in Kyrgyzstan.

"We are delighted to welcome Leslie to the NAFIS Family and excited about the experience and skills that she brings to NAFIS," said Executive Director Hilary Goldmann. "Her work on a wide range of education policy issues, as well as her relationships with Congress and others in the education community, will be a great asset as we continue to strengthen the Impact Aid program and support federally impacted school districts and the students they educate."

"As an advocate for public school districts and students, I am excited to join an organization with such a strong reputation as NAFIS," said Finnan. "I look forward to advocating for NAFIS member districts and ensuring that their students have access to well-resourced schools and quality educational opportunities."

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The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) represents the 1,200-plus federally impacted public school districts that together educate more than 10 million students across the nation. Federally impacted school districts are those located on or near nontaxable Federal property—including military installations; Indian Trust, Treaty and Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act lands; Federal low-income housing facilities; and national parks, national laboratories and other Federal buildings and property. These school districts, which are demographically and geographically diverse, receive Impact Aid, a Federal education program that reimburses school districts for the lost local revenue and additional costs associated with the presence of Federal property. To learn more, visit www.nafisd.org.