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Chad Blotsky Elected President of NAFIS Board

Washington, DC — March 25, 2019 — The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) is pleased to announce that Chad Blotsky, Finance Director of Todd County School District (South Dakota), has been elected President of the NAFIS Board of Directors. The election took place at the 2019 NAFIS Spring Conference.

As President of the NAFIS Board, Blotsky will serve as a national leader advocating for school districts that receive Impact Aid, the students they educate and the communities they serve. Blotsky assumes the presidency after 10 years on the NAFIS Board, during which time he has served in a variety of capacities, including as Secretary and Vice President. He has also played a critical role as a member of the NAFIS Data Verification Group, analyzing data in the U.S. Department of Education's Impact Aid database to help develop NAFIS policy positions. The NAFIS Board guides the association's public policy work and oversees plans for the association.

Impact Aid reimburses school districts for the loss of revenue caused by the presence of nontaxable Federal property, including military installations; Indian Trust, Treaty and Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act lands; Federal low-income housing facilities; and national laboratories and other Federal buildings and property. It helps ensure students who attend schools on or near Federal property have access to a quality education.

"Impact Aid is a critical program that ensures students are not disadvantaged due to the Federal government owning land in their communities," Blotsky said. "I look forward to leading NAFIS as we continue efforts to strengthen and protect the program, and I am excited about the opportunity to make connections with school districts across the Impact Aid community, learning more about the unique challenges that all federally impacted school districts face."

"Impact Aid is very personal to me, as 80% of our district's students live on Indian lands," Blotsky continued. "Impact Aid funds make up about 40% of the district budget and give our students access to opportunities that would otherwise be unaffordable. I am committed to ensuring that they – and all students living in federally impacted school districts – have the resources they need so they can have the education they deserve."

Blotsky has been the Finance Director at Todd County Schools for 18 years. Prior to that, he worked as a supervisor at a national CPA firm for eight years. In addition to serving on the NAFIS Board of Directors,

he serves on the boards of the National Indian Impacted Schools Association (NIISA) and Impact Schools of South Dakota (ISSD).

“Chad’s long history working on Impact Aid policy and his dedication to serving the entire NAFIS Family are important qualities as he advances to this new leadership role,” said Executive Director Hilary Goldmann. “Chad brings a unique and valuable perspective to our Board of Directors, and I look forward to working with him in his new role as President.”

Blotsky’s term will last for two years.

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The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) represents the 1,300-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.nafisdc.org.