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Superintendent Wendell Waukau Named Region III Director of NAFIS Board

Washington, DC — March 25, 2019 – The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) is pleased to announce that Wendell Waukau, Superintendent of Menominee Indian School District (Wisconsin), has been re-elected to the NAFIS Board of Directors. He represents Region III, which includes Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa, Illinois, Missouri, Indiana and Ohio.

As a member of the NAFIS Board of Directors, Waukau will serve as a national leader advocating for school districts that receive Impact Aid. In this role, he will work with other board members from across the country to guide the association's public policy work and oversee 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 makes up approximately 30% of our district's annual operating budget," said Waukau. "Being a heavily impacted Indian land district in which 85% of our students are at or below the poverty line, Impact Aid is essential to providing our students with access to the best possible education."

Waukau has served as Superintendent at Menominee Indian School District for the past 15 years. He has extensive experience in the education field, having previously served as a principal, dean, athletic director, teacher and coach.

This will be Waukau's second term on the NAFIS Board – he also represented Region III for the past two years. He has served on the Bylaws and Goals & Strategic Plans Committees.

"The NAFIS Board is crucial in ensuring that students in federally impacted school districts receive the resources that they deserve," said NAFIS Executive Director Hilary Goldmann. "Wendell brings important insight into the needs of these school districts, their students and their communities, as well as a wealth of experience and expertise from which NAFIS will continue to benefit."

Waukau'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.nafisd.org.