



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Anne O'Brien, Director of Communications, National Association of Federally Impacted Schools  
202-624-3611  
[anne@nafisdc.org](mailto:anne@nafisdc.org)

## **Superintendent Helen Payne Named Region I Director of NAFIS Board**

**Washington, DC – May 7, 2019** – The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) is pleased to announce that Helen Payne, Superintendent of North Hanover Township Schools (New Jersey), has been re-elected to the NAFIS Board of Directors. She represents Region I, which includes the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions of the United States. The election took place at the 2019 NAFIS Spring Conference.

As a member of the NAFIS Board of Directors, Payne will serve as a national leader in advocating for school districts that receive Impact Aid. In this role she 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.

"North Hanover Township School District is approximately 70% military connected. Impact Aid comprises between 30% and 40% of our operating budget, and as such pays for salaries, facilities, instructional supplies, special programming to meet the needs of transitional students, and every other expense associated with providing a high quality education to all students," said Payne.

"It is a privilege to serve as a member of the NAFIS Board, to participate in policymaking decisions, problem solve with dedicated colleagues from across the country who are committed to advocating for federally connected students in all sections of the Impact Aid program, and provide leadership and representation for Region 1," she continued.

Payne is in her eighth year serving as Superintendent for North Hanover Township Schools. She also served as a Superintendent in Monmouth County, NJ, for six years. Prior to the superintendency, she served in many capacities, including as an elementary teacher, principal and assistant superintendent.

Payne has served as the NAFIS New Jersey State Chair for seven years and been a member of the NAFIS Board of Directors since 2015. She is also involved in the Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA), a NAFIS subgroup, and has served on their Executive Board since 2017.

"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. "Helen 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."

Payne's term will last for two years.

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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.nafisdc.org](http://www.nafisdc.org).