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Superintendent Jim Sarruda Elected to NAFIS Board of Directors

Washington, DC – April 27, 2021 – The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) is pleased to announce that Dr. James Sarruda, Superintendent of Northern Burlington County Regional School District (New Jersey), has been elected to the NAFIS Board of Directors as an At-Large Member. The election took place at the 2021 NAFIS Spring Virtual Conference.

As a member of the NAFIS Board of Directors, Sarruda serves as a national leader advocating for school districts that receive Impact Aid. In this role, he works with other board members from across the country to guide the association’s public policy work and oversee plans for the organization.

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.

Sarruda has been active in NAFIS for more than 25 years, joining the Board of Directors in 2007 and serving in a variety of roles, including as President from 2017-2019. He has also been actively involved in the establishment and growth of Mid-to-Low LOT Schools, one of the subgroups that make up the NAFIS Family, and he has served as its President for the last six years. In addition, he has been engaged with the Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA) for over 25 years. He received a Governor’s appointment to serve as a member of the New Jersey State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

Sarruda has served as Superintendent of the Northern Burlington County Regional School District (NB), for the last 28 years. The NB school district proudly serves the families from Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

“At NB, 25% of our students are federally connected. Impact Aid is critical to our community,” Sarruda said. “Our programs in STEM, Agriscience, and Applied Technology have the advanced equipment and technologies they need because of the Impact Aid we receive. Impact Aid provides vital financial resources that allow us to maintain and grow all our comprehensive academic and extracurricular programs.”

Sarruda has a long background in education, having worked in both public and private schools and taught students at the elementary and secondary through doctoral levels.

“The NAFIS Board plays a critical role in ensuring students in federally impacted school districts have access to the opportunities they need to reach their full potential,” said NAFIS Executive Director Hilary Goldmann. “Jim brings important insight into the needs of these school districts, their students and their communities that will help shape NAFIS advocacy, as well as a wealth of experience and ideas from which the association will continue to benefit.”

Sarruda’s term will last for two years.

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The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) represents the 1,100-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.