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## **NAFIS Supports President's FY22 Education Budget Request**

*Administration's proposal provides \$40 million increase to Impact Aid*

**Washington, DC – May 28, 2021** – The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) strongly supports President Biden's FY22 education budget request, released earlier today. NAFIS is thrilled the request calls for dramatic increases in federal education spending. In total, the request calls for an unprecedented 41 percent increase for the U.S. Department of Education – the largest increase to any agency.

For Impact Aid, the President's budget request calls for \$1,541,112,000 for Impact Aid. That includes \$1,394,242,000 for Basic Support – a \$40 million increase over FY21 funding. His request calls for all other parts of the program to be funded at FY21 levels. This is the first Presidential budget request in nearly a decade that does not call for the total elimination of Federal Property funding.

NAFIS is pleased to see the Biden Administration's support for public schools, as evidenced by the large increases requested for programs throughout the Department. By providing a \$20 billion increase to Title I (more than 1.5 times the current allocation) and a \$2.6 billion increase to IDEA, all school districts would see dramatic increases in Federal dollars to help educate their entire community.

Impact Aid is the Federal Government's reimbursement to school districts for the presence of nontaxable Federal property (i.e. military installations, Indian Lands, Federal low-income housing, national laboratories and grasslands) and federally connected students. Funding appropriated annually by Congress goes directly to school districts for any general fund purpose, including academic materials, technology, staff or transportation, supporting all students.

"Students attending federally impacted schools should not be disadvantaged in their learning opportunities because of the presence of nontaxable Federal property in their school district," said NAFIS Executive Director Hilary Goldmann. "In addition to the significant resources requested by President Biden to help all students learn and thrive, Congress and the Administration should continue to prioritize students in these districts, which include large numbers of Native American and military-connected children."

“Since 1950, Congress has recognized its responsibility to support schools and communities affected by a Federal presence,” Goldmann continued. “NAFIS calls on Congress to meet this responsibility by building upon the President’s request and providing a \$2 million increase to Federal Property and a \$100 million increase to Basic Support. These increases would help to fund school districts newly eligible for Federal Property payments as a result of the Federal Government acquiring more land. They would also fund Basic Support at a level that matches the rising costs of education, allowing school districts to provide the programs and opportunities that students need to meet their full potential.”

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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

<https://www.nafisdc.org/>.