Friday, September 22, 2017

Thanks to those who have already sponsored CEF's 2017 Gala!

Straight "A"s sponsor: American Federation of Teachers
Star Student sponsors: American Continental Group, Comcast, Lumina Foundation, National Association of Federally Impacted Schools, National Education Association, National Student Clearinghouse
Honor Roll sponsors: AASA/Consortium for School Networking/National School Boards Association; ACT; American Association of State Colleges and Universities; American Educational Research Association; American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees; Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities; Coalition on Adult Basic Education; Discovery Education; International Society for Technology in Education; Knowledge Alliance; MRM Associates; National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities; National Association of Secondary School Principals/National Association of Elementary School Principals/American Federation of School Administrators; National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators; National Council for Community and Education Partnerships; National PTA/National Association for College Admission Counseling; Service Employees International Union; Thayer Leader Development Group; Title IV-A Coalition; Washington Partners/Coalition for Higher Education Assistance Organizations; and Women in Government Relations

You can register for the gala here

Dear CEF Members:

I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **What we're hearing - Senate budget resolution** – The Senate Budget Committee is poised to mark up its fiscal year 2018 budget resolution next week – or not, depending upon the Senate's schedule with health care repeal legislation. The Committee will have to provide notice of the markup on Monday if it plans to proceed next week, so we'll know soon. The Senate wants a FY 2018 budget resolution that will include new reconciliation instructions to provide fast-track consideration for a tax reform package. The reconciliation instructions could also include spending cuts, which could ultimately affect student loans and other entitlement programs.

- **Senate HELP Committee hearing on Education Department nominee –** On September 19, the Senate HELP Committee held a hearing on the nomination of Carlos Muniz to be the Department of Education's General Counsel. Under questioning, he said he would advise states to follow the law in implementing the Every Student Succeeds Act; Secretary DeVos has said she encourages states to test how much flexibility they can get under the law. Other questions focused on the Department's plans to change its guidance on rights of transgender students. So far, the Senate has only confirmed Secretary DeVos and Peter Oppenheim to positions at the Department.

- **Chart on Education Department funding –** Attached is an updated chart showing that proposed FY 2018 funding levels for the Department of Education (excluding Pell grants) are still below the FY 2010 level. The chart now includes the Senate Appropriations Committee level, which is virtually identical to the FY 2017 level. For several reasons the Department and CEF often show both total discretionary funding as well as the total minus funding for Pell grants. First, in prior years Pell grant funding was often increased in one year to fill shortfalls from prior years, so including it in the total gave a misleading impression of how much new funding was available for programs in the coming year. For FY 2017 and for the FY 2018 proposals, including Pell grant funding means also counting the rescissions of previously appropriated funding – something that CEF's funding tables include and note, but then we also show the total without Pell grant dollars.

II. CEF Gala (October 3, 2017)

- **Primer on all CEF's events on October 3 –** we'll provide all the details in one Update next week.

- **Gala sponsorships and tickets –** Thanks to the many organizations listed above who have already sponsored CEF's gala! As a reminder, this year we are having a longer reception with a buffet in Union Station's Palm Court to maximize time for networking/socializing among the education community, followed by a seated awards ceremony in the East Hall and then coffee and dessert – with the promise to wrap up by 9 pm. You can purchase individual gala tickets or a sponsorship directly on CEF's website through CVENT, or you can contact any of the CEF staff for information or to buy tickets.

- **Hill/Administration staff guests** – As in the past, you may buy tickets for Hill staff that you'd like CEF to invite to join you at the gala; those staffers will be seated with you for the awards presentation. As the sponsor of the event, CEF must issue the invitation to Hill and Administration staff on your behalf. Please send the name, office, and email address of the staffers you'd like us to invite to Kate Gillespie (rsvp@cef.org). Once we invite the staffers, we'll keep you informed of all responses and we encourage you to follow up with the staffers directly.

III. Events

- **NAFIS briefing: "The Facilities Needs of Federally Impacted Schools," on 9/26** – CEF member the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools will hold this briefing based on the results of its recently released report, *Foundations for Learning: The School Facilities Needs of Federally Impacted Schools*. The briefing is on September 26, 9:30am-11am, in the Capitol Visitor Center, Room SVC-203. RSVP by September 22 to Intern1@NAFISDC.org

- **CEF's upcoming schedule –**

  - **Friday, Sept. 29, 9-11 am:** (NEA, 1201 16th ST NW, Chanin Auditorium). Guest speaker: Caitlin Wilson, Legislative Director for Rep. Charlie Dent (R-PA).

  - **Tuesday, Oct. 3**: Legislative conference, Hill Day, and gala (next week we'll send an Update providing the all details of the day)

  - **Friday, Oct. 6: No Friday meeting** – this is a change from the original schedule

  - **Friday, Oct. 13, 9-11am:** (AASCU, 1307 NY Ave, NW). Guest speaker: TBD

  - **Friday, Oct. 20, 9-11am:** (NEA, 1201 16th ST NW, Chanin Auditorium). Guest speaker: Karen Stratman, Director of National Engagement, U.S. Department of Education

  - **Friday, Oct. 27, 9-11am:** (AACTE, 1307 NY Ave, NW). Guest speakers: Stacy Rich (Staff Director for Senate Democratic Assistant Leader Patty Murray) and John Righter (Deputy Staff Director, Senate HELP Committee). Note that our guests will be speaking at 9:30am.

My best,

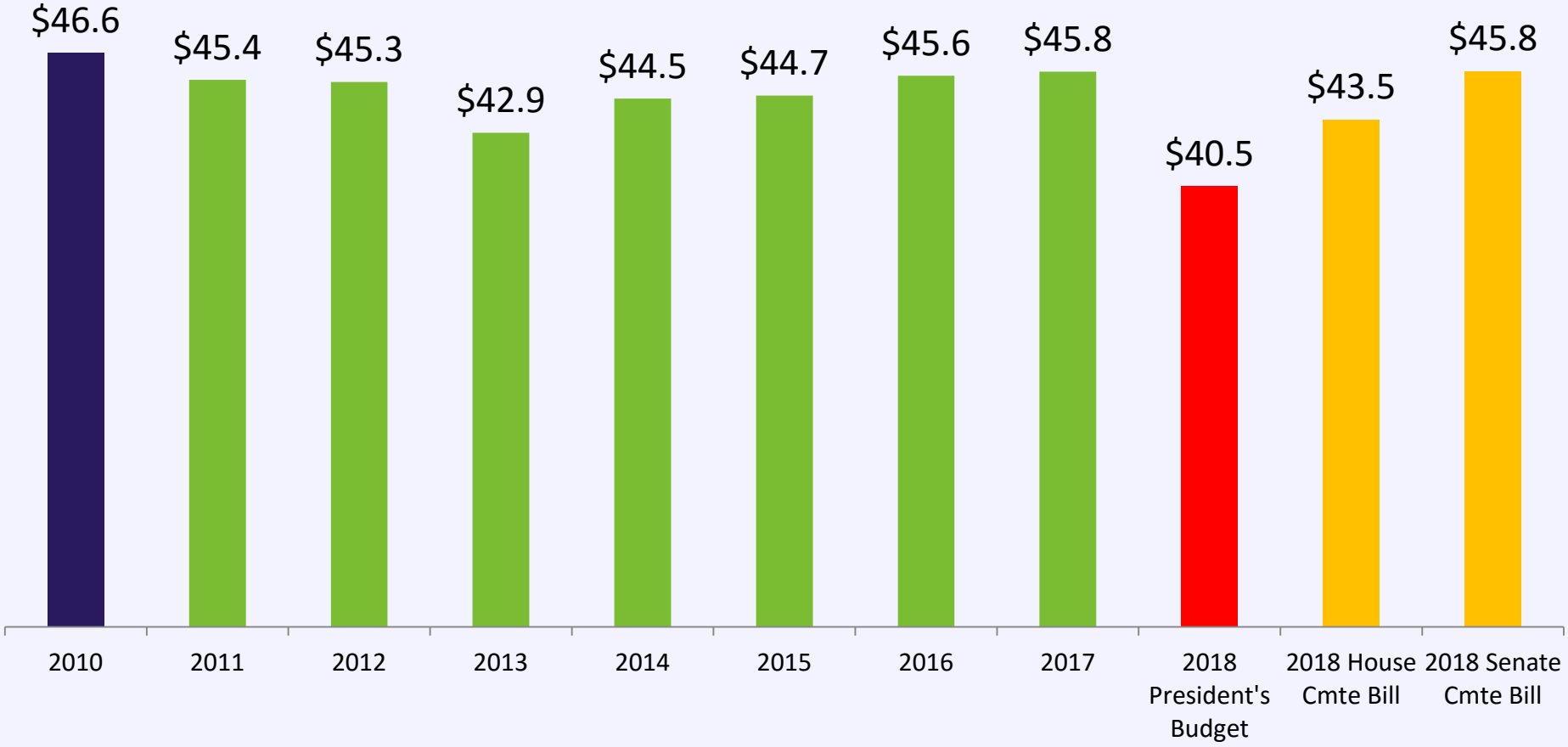
Shery

Sheryl V. Cohen, Executive Director

1800 M Street, NW
Suite 500 South
Washington, DC 20036
T: 202-327-8125
cohen@cef.org
www.cef.org

2018 Education Funding Far Below 2010 Level Excluding Pell Grants

(Department of Education discretionary funds in billions)



COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION FUNDING

CEF:9/19/17