



Monday, February 27, 2017

**CEF Hill Reception/Website and Advocacy Campaign Launch on  
Thursday, March 2, 8:30-10:30am  
See attached flyer for details  
Please RSVP to Janet Nice at [Nice@cef.org](mailto:Nice@cef.org)**

Dear CEF Members:

**I. Advocacy**

- **Seeking examples of impact of federal education cuts** – In our Hill visits we have been asked about the impact of federal education funding shortfalls, and we want to provide real world examples in terms of both quantity and quality of education services being provided. We want to create a fact sheet that includes examples across the education continuum. By the end of this week, please send examples to Sarah at [Abernathy@cef.org](mailto:Abernathy@cef.org) that lay out how the low level of federal education funding has affected local services.

**II. Policy Intelligence and Education News**

- **President's budget to slash non-defense discretionary (NDD) spending** – Today the Trump administration said its fiscal year 2018 budget request will include a \$54 billion increase in defense spending, offset with cuts to non-defense spending; that cut amounts to about 10% of all NDD spending. (Remember that the sequester caps spending for defense and non-defense, so if Congress wants to increase defense spending it will have to either first pass legislation that increases the defense cap, or provide the funding as emergency spending that is not subject to the cap.) The Washington Post [reports](#) that the Trump budget will focus on defense, law enforcement and veterans using money currently being spent abroad. Total spending for the international affairs budget function last year was about \$46 billion, with over half of that for international development and humanitarian assistance.
- This week marks the start of a compressed budget process. Agencies are told the parameters their budgets should follow and they then submit their requests to the

Office of Management and Budget (OMB). OMB then replies -- in a process known as “passback” – that normally occurs in the winter. This year all this is abbreviated due to the short timeline between when the new Administration arrived and when its budget outline – the so-called “skinny budget” -- will come out, which is expected the week of March 13. The more detailed budget will come later, possibly in late March but likely later. President Trump will address a joint session of Congress tomorrow night, so we expect to hear more then.

### III. Events

- **CEF Welcomes the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress/Advocacy Campaign Launch/Website Unveiling on March 2** – **See the attached flyer for CEF’s first big event of the year** welcoming Members of the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress and their education staffers as we launch our new advocacy campaign and unveil our website. Press is welcome. The event is 8:30-10:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 2, in 562 Dirksen Senate Office Building. Please RSVP to Janet Nice at [Nice@cef.org](mailto:Nice@cef.org).
- **Upcoming CEF schedule** – Below is a list of CEF events for the next few weeks:
  - **Thursday, March 2, 8:30-10:30am:** Breakfast reception for new Members of Congress and their staff and a launch of our new advocacy campaign and website (562 Dirksen Senate Office Building – see info above and attached flyer).
  - **Friday, March 3:** No CEF meeting
  - **Friday, March 10, 9-11am:** CEF meeting (NCSDAE, Hall of States, 444 N. Capitol St, NW, Room 333). Guest Speakers: David Pomerantz and Lisa Molyneaux, House Appropriations Committee Democratic staff.

My best,

Sheryl

Sheryl V. Cohen, Executive Director



COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION FUNDING

1800 M Street, NW  
Suite 500 South  
Washington, DC 20036  
T: 202-327-8125  
[cohen@cef.org](mailto:cohen@cef.org)  
[www.cef.org](http://www.cef.org)