



COMMITTEE FOR
EDUCATION FUNDING

Monday, January 25, 2021

I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **Kathy Valle moving to Domestic Policy Council** – Kathy Valle, the House Education and Labor Committee’s Education Policy Director who spoke to CEF’s Friday meeting on January 15, has taken a new job leading the higher education portfolio at the White House’s Domestic Policy Council. The Committee has not yet named a new education policy director but the remaining education staffers were listed with email addresses in the [CEF Update of January 5](#).
- **Congressional outlook** – The House is not in session this week, having swapped a planned week in session with next week’s planned Committee Work Week. The Senate is still negotiating a power-sharing agreement between both parties, which means that committees are still technically controlled by the Republican chairs installed in the 116th Congress. A couple committees, including Senate HELP and Budget, do not have a clear Republican leader as their 116th Congress chairmen retired. Committees could possibly operate with bipartisan agreement but it’s not clear what this limbo means for the HELP Committee hearings on cabinet secretary nominations, including that of Miguel Cardona for Secretary of Education. The Democratic Committee staff previously had said they were hoping to hold Dr. Cardona’s confirmation hearing this week or next week. The second week in February the Senate will be consumed with the impeachment trial, which will likely halt all other Senate work for a while.
- **Appropriations Subcommittee chairs** – We’re hearing that the House Appropriations Committee will organize its subcommittees this afternoon, with full Committee chair Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) planning to retain her position as chair of the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee. We should also see which subcommittees the six new Committee Democrats and six new Republicans are joining. I would not expect any new Democrats on the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee. The Senate Appropriations Committee has not yet settled its subcommittee chairs or added new members.
- **Reminder: it’s time to renew your CEF membership for 2021** – Thanks to the many who have already sent in membership renewal forms for 2021. The stronger we are, the more impact CEF can have towards the goal of increasing the federal investment in education. The membership renewal form is on CEF’s website [here](#) and is due by February 12. The renewal form is also an opportunity to tell us who you in your organization should receive the CEF Updates and to revise your description for CEF’s 2021 membership directory. Dues can be paid by check, credit card, or through the member page of the CEF website.

II. Advocacy

- **CEF Hill Teams meetings starting this week** – We are starting to hold CEF Hill Teams meetings with the education staffers of the new members of the House Appropriations Committee and the Education and Labor Committees. We've got meeting requests pending with most of the new Democrats who are not freshmen – we'll wait to request those meetings once their staff are in place – and will work our way through the roster. Our first meeting is Wednesday with the office of Rep. Susie Lee (D-NV), who just joined the Appropriations Committee. We send notice of these meetings to the Hill Teams and Advocacy Committee members who can then sign up to participate on a first come basis. If you're not on this Committee but would like to join, please email me and we can add you.

III. Events

- **Briefing on “Student Access to Well-Prepared and Diverse Educators During and Beyond COVID-19” on Feb. 4** – The Coalition for Teaching Quality – which has many CEF members in it – is holding a webinar on Thursday, February 4, 2-3:30 pm ET, on “Student Access to Well-Prepared and Diverse Educators During and Beyond COVID-19.” Registration and briefing details are [here](#).
- **CEF's upcoming schedule -**
 - **Friday, Jan. 29** - 9:30-11:30 a.m. ET, [Zoom quarterly committee meeting](#). This is the first chance for CEF's committees (Advocacy and Hill Teams, Social Media, Research, Membership and Bylaws, and Gala planning) to meet and work on plans for the year. We will hold monthly planning calls with each committee throughout the year.
 - **Friday, Feb. 5** - 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Tutorial on the budget reconciliation process and what it could mean for education.
 - **Thursday, Feb. 11** – 5-6:00 p.m. ET – [CEF Zoom happy hour](#). Join us to meet new CEF members and chat with your old friends!
 - **Friday, Feb. 12** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker TBD.
 - **Friday, Feb. 19** – No CEF Meeting during the congressional recess.
 - **(tentative) Thursday, Feb. 25** – virtual Hill reception (details still to come).
 - **Friday, Feb. 26** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker TBD.