



I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **Waiting for election results** – The legislative agenda for the lame duck session and the 117th Congress next year depend on the outcome of the elections, which won't be known until every legally cast vote is counted. The uncertainty of the outcome is the only certain thing right now. One possible scenario is a Biden Administration with split party control of Congress, with a slimmer Democratic majority in the House and a slimmer Republican majority in the Senate than currently exist (that latter may not be settled, though, until after the January 5th runoff for one or two Senate seats in Georgia). We'll provide analysis of possible education agenda items once the election outcome is clear.
 - **What's likely in a lame duck session** – Meanwhile, Congress will shortly return to start holding caucus and leadership elections and act on still-pending legislation, including fiscal year 2021 appropriations and a COVID-relief bill. Senate leaders have expressed support for passing all 12 government funding bills and relief package before December 11, the expiration date of the enacted short-term extension of government funding at least year's levels. That's a heavy lift in a short period, given that the Senate hasn't produced any of the 12 funding bills yet and before the election there was wide disagreement between the parties about the size and scope of pandemic relief.
 - **What won't happen if the 117th Congress has divided control** – If the Senate remains Republican and the House remains Democratic, we're likely to see continued difficulty in passing legislation, which would stymie action on any Presidential priorities. Congress generally cannot pass a conference agreement on a budget resolution in years with different parties in control, which means there would be no reconciliation instructions that could provide protections for fast-track consideration of a big tax or spending package in the Senate. Without a budget conference agreement, the House and Senate are likely to have different assumptions about total discretionary appropriations for FY 2022, since the spending caps under the Budget Control Act end after FY 2021. Having different a different total for spending could mean very different totals for the appropriations bills, which makes it that much harder to reach agreement on final bills and making it less likely that the bills are enacted by the start of the new fiscal year on October 1.

II. CEF member information

- **Please take a moment to complete CEF's brief survey** – Thanks to those who have already taken CEF's annual membership survey – it takes only a few minutes, and all responses are anonymous. Each fall, CEF surveys its membership to ensure we are providing the benefits you want

and to ask for suggestions for improvement. Your feedback will help us tailor our activities, advocacy, and information to what you most value. Please take the time to respond and feel free to comment on areas that were not addressed. [Click here](#) to take the survey.

- **Welcome new CEF members! Updated CEF Directory attached** – We are pleased to welcome two new CEF members in the last month: [the Learning Disabilities Association of America and the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents](#). (They will introduce themselves in the “Spotlight on a CEF member” at upcoming Friday meetings.) The attached 2020 CEF Directory has been updated to include their information as well as other recent member staffing changes. The Directory is also on the member-only part of CEF’s website.

III. Events

- **CEF Briefing for congressional staff and CEF members on “State Education Budgets and the Impact of COVID-19”** – Thursday, November 12, 2-3:30 p.m. ET, via Zoom. Panelists will discuss how state education budgets work and why some states are already cutting budgets while others are able to hold off for now. Panelists will also address the impact of looming state revenue shortages on pre-K-12 education as well as the possible impacts on post-secondary education, both for students and institutions of higher education. Please [RSVP here](#) - you must register in advance to get the Zoom webinar link.
Panelists:
 - [Michael Griffith](#), Senior Researcher and Policy Analyst, Learning Policy Institute
 - [Dr. Jennifer Ma](#), Senior Policy Research Scientist, The College Board
 - [Elizabeth McNichol](#), Senior Fellow, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
- **NSLA’s “Summer Solutions Leadership Series” Nov. 16-20** – CEF member the National Summer Learning Association is holding a weeklong series of daily sessions from November 16 through 20 focusing on topics ranging from advancing equity, youth policy recommendations, a post-election debrief, community learning, and race and education. Details and registration are [here](#).
- **CEF’s schedule for November and December -**
 - **Friday, Nov. 6** – No CEF meeting during congressional recess.
 - **Thursday, Nov. 12** – 2:00 -3:30 p.m. ET, Briefing for CEF members and congressional education staffers on state education budgets and the impact of COVID-19. See registration and details above.
 - **Friday, Nov. 13** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker TBD.
 - **Nov. 16-20** – #HearOurEdStories week on social media.
 - **Tuesday, Nov. 17** – Twitterchat on priorities for education funding next year. We will share materials in advance.
 - **Friday, Nov. 20** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker TBD.
 - **Tuesday, Nov 24** - 2021 CEF Board nominations and recommended slate shared in advance of annual meeting on Dec. 11.
 - **Friday, Nov. 27** – No Friday meeting the day after Thanksgiving.
 - **Friday, Dec. 4** - 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker TBD.
 - **Friday, Dec. 11** - 9:30-11:30 a.m. ET, Zoom Annual Meeting (link to come). Attendance is important for elections and preview of CEF’s 2021 plans.