



Monday, May 24, 2021

## I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **This week in Congress** - The House is having a Committee work week (no votes) and the Senate is in session.
  - **Infrastructure** - Bipartisan negotiations on an infrastructure package are ongoing, but it's not clear where the President's proposed spending for education related infrastructure – for child care facilities, school modernization, and for community college facilities – as well as workforce development fits in. On Friday, the Administration cut its proposal down to \$1.7 trillion, lowering the proposed investment in broadband access from \$100 billion to \$65 billion, among other changes. (This is separate from the highway bill, legislation to reauthorize the surface transportation act that may be marked up in House and Senate committees as soon as next week.)
  - **President's budget** - This Friday we're expecting the release of the President's detailed fiscal year (FY) 2022 budget – not sure yet what time materials will be public. We'll send around links to the materials as soon as we can, and then follow up with CEF's analysis and funding table.
  - **Hearings** - Both House and Senate Appropriations Committees are holding a lot of hearings this week, but not focusing on education. The main education-related hearing this week is:
    - **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Reauthorization: Creating Employment Pathways for Dislocated Workers** – House Education and Labor's Higher Education and Workforce Investment Subcommittee on [Thursday, May 27, at noon ET](#).
- **Reminder: nominate someone to honor at this year's CEF Gala** – Here's your chance to suggest a champion of education to receive an award at CEF's 2021 gala. Past [awardees](#) comprise a bipartisan roster of leaders of efforts to provide federal education funding, including Members of Congress, Administration officials, congressional and administration staff, and others working outside of government on national funding initiatives that help students and promote learning. Is there someone who was instrumental in drafting and shepherding through education support in the COVID bills? How about someone who is crafting new avenues to increase education funding? The attached nomination form lets you detail your nominee's accomplishments in advancing education funding for the Gala Committee to consider when making its recommendation for a slate of honorees. Nomination forms are due to [Gala Committee co-chair Peter DeYoe](#) at [peter\\_deyoe@harvard.edu](mailto:peter_deyoe@harvard.edu) by June 11.

## II. Advocacy

- **Hill Teams meetings last week and this week** – The CEF Update on 5.20.21 summarized [CEF Hill Teams meetings with the staff for Sens. Mark Kelly \(D-AZ\) and Sen. Martin Heinrich \(D-NM\)](#) early last week. [The report from the three other meetings that CEF Hill Teams members held on Thursday and Friday is below.](#) This week Hill Teams members are continuing to meet with Senate freshmen by meeting with education staffers for Sens. Alex Padilla (D-CA) and Raphael Warnock (D-GA). (If you'd like to join the Hill Teams and Advocacy Committee and participate in future Hill meetings, send me an email and we'll add you to that committee.)
  - **Alanna Purdy Montesinos with Sen. Ben Ray Luján (D-NM)** – The Senator is on the HELP and Budget Committees. He is particularly interested in full funding for IDEA and Title I, Impact Aid, Pell grants, research and development funding at minority-serving institutions, Hispanic-Servicing Institutions and Tribal Colleges and Universities, and child care wages and child welfare.
  - **Hannah Berner with Sen. John Hickenlooper (D-CO)** – The Senator is on the HELP Committee. His focus includes literacy efforts, STEM education, mentorships – especially for girls and students of color – and apprenticeship efforts.
  - **Burke Smith with Rep. David Joyce (R-OH)** – The Representative is a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee who has a reputation for bipartisanship. He is the new Republican co-chair of the [Congressional Independent Colleges Caucus](#) (and works with CEF-member NAICU). His pre-pandemic focus was on career technical education and linking schools with employers needing skilled workers.
- **Coming this week – community sign-on letter urging high Labor-HHS-ED allocation** – CEF is working on the [annual community sign-on letter](#) to Congress that is sent by several coalitions that advocate for funding in the Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill asking for the highest possible allocation for the FY 2022 bill. [Stay tuned for the opportunity to sign on to this year's letter, which we'll aim to send in the first half of June, so it's a tight turnaround.](#)

## III. Events

- **CEF's upcoming schedule -**
  - **Friday, May 28 and June 4** - no CEF meetings (enjoy the Memorial Day break!)
  - **Friday, June 11** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Quarterly Committee meeting](#) – includes training for summer interns and new staff on Hill visits, and all other committees will meet to discuss plans for the rest of the year.
  - **Friday, June 18** – 9:30-10:45 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker TBD.
  - **Thursday, June 24** – 5:00 p.m. ET – in-person happy hour outdoors in DC (venue TBD).
  - **Friday, June 25** – 9:30-10:45 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker TBD.