



Thursday, May 27, 2021

## I. Advocacy

- **Report and data request after two Hill Teams meetings this week** – This week Hill Teams members met with education staffers for two more Senate freshmen, one of whom has a request for data about educator shortages described below.
  - **Taylor Ware with Sen. Raphael Warnock (D-GA)** – The Senator is a TRIO alumnus. His priorities in addition to supporting TRIO funding include GEAR-UP, Title II-A, career technical education, after-school funding, and early childhood programs including Head Start and child care.
    - **Request for data on teacher shortage** - Taylor is seeking data about potential increases in educators retiring, or schools not being able to hire teachers for summer-school programs. If your organization/institution has data on these topics, please send it to me and I will aggregate the responses and forward them to Taylor, copying those who submitted material and sending your contact information for any follow up.
  - **Rebecca Kahn with Sen. Alex Padilla (D-CA)** – The Senator’s education priorities include COVID-19 recovery (getting children back in class, supporting summer programs – he is doing events next week on the importance of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers program), English language learners, STEM education (he is an engineer), support for college affordability (she mentioned the campaign to double the Pell Grant and efforts to cancel student debt). He is also interested in digital literacy.
- **Reminder: community sign-on to letter to Appropriations leaders about Labor-HHS-ED funding** – CEF, in conjunction with the Coalition for Health Funding, Coalition on Human Needs, and Campaign to Invest in America’s Workforce, is circulating our annual [sign-on letter](#) to secure a strong funding allocation for the House and Senate Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittees. We urge all CEF members to consider signing the letter and to share it with your networks. This letter about the Subcommittee’s 302(b) allocation is an excellent opportunity to show lawmakers the strength of support for the “People’s Bill,” which provides virtually all federal education funding. We have a very tight turnaround for collecting signatures this year. Individuals cannot sign the letter, but we accept signatures from national, state, and local organizations, institutions, businesses, companies, etc. (we are working to update the last box on the form that says it is only for national organizations). To sign, [CLICK HERE](#) by COB on June 9. (See all the details about this letter and background to share with your grassroots members in the CEF Update of 5.26.21.)

## II. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **ED issues FAQs on ESSER and GEER** – Yesterday the Department of Education (ED) released a [“Frequently Asked Questions” guidance document](#) for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) and Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER) funds updated to include the American Rescue Plan.
- **President to nominate Georgetown’s Lisa Brown as General Counsel of ED** – Yesterday President Biden announced that he will nominate Lisa Brown to be the General Counsel at ED. Education Secretary Miguel Cardona’s press release provides more information on her background, which includes past stints in the Clinton and Obama Administration, among other positions. She is currently Vice President and General Counsel of Georgetown University.
- **Reminder: President’s full FY 2022 budget to be released tomorrow** – We’ll send around links to education funding material as soon as it is published, and then send around CEF’s customary education funding table and analysis.
- **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. 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.

## 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.