



Thursday, May 6, 2021

## I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **Secretary Cardona hearing and congressional overview** – The Senate is not in session this week and the House is having a “Committee Work Week” with no floor votes. Yesterday Education Secretary Miguel Cardona testified on the President’s fiscal year 2021 request before the House Appropriations Committee. Chair Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) supported the unprecedented request for a 40.1% increase in discretionary funds, saying that “they are sure to go a long way to reverse years of underinvestment in our federal education system.” Subcommittee ranking member Tom Cole (R-OK) opposed the historic increase in funding as “simply unnecessary, irresponsible and unacceptable,” arguing that the \$29.8 billion increase would skyrocket the national debt. There were questions on reopening schools, the content of civics education, and transgender students. Until the Administration releases its complete budget – now expected in late May – we won’t know exactly how much it requests for every education program. The broad outline released last month included information on the total Education budget and key programs the Administration chose to highlight.
- **Upcoming congressional hearings** –
  - **Addressing the Impact of COVID-19 on Students with Disabilities** – House Education and Labor’s Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee, [today at 2:30pm ET.](#)
  - **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Reauthorization: Creating Opportunities for Youth Employment** – House Education and Labor’s Higher Education and Workforce Investment Subcommittee on [Thursday, May 13, at 10:15am ET.](#)

## II. CEF Member Items

- **CEF 2021 Directory (attached)** – This year’s CEF Membership Directory is attached and will shortly be posted on the Member Area of the [CEF website.](#) This is a useful reference tool that we provide to CEF members and congressional staff, with the key contacts for each CEF member listed in front and a page with information about each member. We’ll update it again this fall, so if you have changes to any information please send them to me.
- **Gala award nominations coming soon** – CEF members nominate champions of education to honor at our fall Gala, and we’ll start circulating the form for your input next week. [Past honorees](#) are a bipartisan panoply of Members of Congress, other education leaders, staff, and citizens who have

had an impact on education funding. Start thinking about whom you'd like to nominate this year! CEF's Gala Committee will review the nominations next month and make a recommendation this summer to the CEF Board of Directors for final approval (let me know if you'd like to join the Gala Committee and be part of the planning).

### III. Events

- **CEF's upcoming schedule -**
  - **Friday, May 7** – no CEF meeting.
  - **Friday, May 14** – 9:30-10:45 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker: Alex Ricci, House Education and Labor Committee Republican staff.
  - **Friday, May 21** – 9:30-10:45 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speakers: Peter Oppenheim and Lauren Schwensen, Senate HELP Committee Republican staff.
  - **Friday, May 28** – no CEF meeting (enjoy the Memorial Day break!)