National Association of Federally Impacted Schools

Dear Corrina Guardipee-Hall:

As the new President of the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) and Superintendent of Fort Leavenworth Unified School District 207 (Kansas), I write to introduce myself and to thank you for the hard work you do every day on behalf of your students and communities. My school district is located entirely on federal property. While we face the same challenges that all school districts do in efforts to ensure student well-being and academic success and recruit and retain a high-quality workforce, we – like all districts impacted by federal property – face additional challenges in securing the funds needed to run our schools. Impact Aid plays a critical role in supporting my students and community, and I know it also does in yours.

I hope you join me in renewing your NAFIS membership for the 2023-2024 membership year to protect and increase this vital program. Through NAFIS, we have a strong team of professionals advocating on your behalf daily, mobilizing school district leaders at appropriate times. NAFIS secured a \$61 million increase for Impact Aid in FY 2023. Since the convening of the 118th Congress in January, NAFIS has:

Hosted a standing-room-only briefing for congressional staff on the importance of Impact Aid Coordinated a legislative fly-in with leaders from the NAFIS Family meeting with nearly 20 key congressional offices, such as leaders of committees relevant to NAFIS advocacy Re-introduced the Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act with bipartisan support in the House and Senate

Looking forward, federal education funding is very uncertain. With proposed budget cuts for FY 2024, it is more important than ever that we have our NAFIS staff fighting for Impact Aid.

In addition, in the upcoming membership year, NAFIS will continue work to reintroduce school construction legislation. We will also continue to provide members with weekly and quarterly newsletters, Impact Aid payment reports, national conferences, regional workshops, personalized support and technical assistance, and many other benefits.

As we celebrate 50 years of Impact Aid advocacy in 2023, know that the NAFIS Family thrives because of your engagement. Please complete the enclosed NAFIS membership renewal form today. NAFIS also sent renewal notices to your school district via postal mail. If you have questions regarding your NAFIS membership or the renewal process, please contact Lynn Watkins at <u>lynn@nafisdc.org</u>. Thank you for your support. I hope to see you at the NAFIS Fall Conference, September 17-19, in Washington, DC.

Sincerely,

Keith Mispage

President, National Association of Federally Impacted Schools

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