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Fwd: LPI Blog Posts

1 message

Jason Bauer <jbauer@panaschools.com>
To: Nicole Blodgett <nblodgett@panaschools.com>

Thu, May 7, 2020 at 2:54 PM

May board meeting

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools <execdir@airssedu.org>

Date: Thursday, May 7, 2020 Subject: LPI Blog Posts To: jbauer@panaschools.com



What Will It Take to Stabilize Schools in the Time of COVID-19?

As a member of the National Rural Education Association Executive Board, AIRSS receives information from NREA in periodic e-mails. This is an interesting read from the Learning Policy Institute (LPI) and worth sharing. It makes a significant case for the amount of funding that will be required to stabilize our schools in this COVID-19 period.

Embedded in the information below you will find three links, the first is an article entitled "What Will It Take To Stabilize Schools in the Time of COVID-19?" The second link is an article from Chalkbeat regarding school funding in the last recession and the last two links are part of the series from LPI regarding the impact of the CARES Act funding and the projected educator pipeline position eliminations.

Read as you find time, not an endorsement by AIRSS of LPI or the content in the articles, just good information to share and consider.

Be well, be safe and thank you for your work.

David M. Ardrey - Executive Director Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools

From Jessica Cardichon, Ed.D., J.D. Learning Policy Institute

I hope this email finds you safe and well. I wanted to share an LPI blog released today (and forthcoming interactive) demonstrating the need for at least \$230 billion for K-12 education in the next aid package to stabilize the public education sector.

Key findings from today's blog – "What Will It Take to Stabilize Schools in the <u>Time of COVID-19?</u>" – include the following:

- At least \$230 billion is urgently needed to stabilize state education budgets. This is based on a conservative estimate of a 5% decrease in state funding for education in FY20 and a 20% decrease in FY21 (totaling \$188.5 billion) combined with the effects of a select group of increased costs (totaling \$41.2 billion).
- The CARES Act funding an average of only \$286 per student is nowhere near sufficient to stabilize the k-12 public school system over the next 18 months.
- While this model does not examine how state cuts will impact individual districts, wealthy districts with high levels of local property tax revenue will be less impacted by the downturn as these revenues are more stable in the short run than income and sales taxes. Low wealth districts that have a greater reliance on state revenue will be hit particularly hard by this recession, as they were in the last recession. These low-wealth districts are the most likely to see the loss of a large number of their programs and teaching positions.
- At a 20% decrease in state funding alone, we project a loss of more than 450,000 school positions, or 12.2% of the nation's education workforce, a far larger number than were lost in the last recession.

This blog is the third COVID fiscal-analysis blog released by LPI. The first blog on the impact of CARES on state budgets can be found here and the second blog on the projected educator position eliminations can be found <u>here</u>.

We will be sharing state-specific information next week.

Best,

Jessica

Jessica Cardichon, Ed.D., J.D. Director of Washington, D.C. Office and Director of Federal Policy Learning Policy Institute

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