

# Updates on Federal Budgets & Initiatives

For NIEA 2023 Hill Week

Presented by

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# Presentation Overview

- 1) Federal Budget Process and Timeline
- 2) Your Testimony Matters: Key Increases Achieved for the FY 2023 Enacted BIE Budget
- 3) Looking Ahead: Key Federal Issues Schools are Bringing Forward
- 4) Questions?

# Federal Budget Process and Timeline

- Each year, federal departments work with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to formulate their budget requests or “Greenbooks” for each Bureau and Office within their Department
- When OMB approves the final version, they can submit it to Congress as the President’s Budget Request (Feb./March)

# Federal Budget Process and Timeline

- Then, the House and Senate Appropriations Committees request testimony, hold hearings, and request priorities from Members of Congress (March/April)
- There are 12 Appropriations Subcommittees:
  - The **House and Senate Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Subcommittees** the bill that funds the BIE, BIA, and IHS (written testimony due March 17 for House Subcom. this year)
  - The **House and Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittees** write the bill that funds the Department of Education (written testimony due March 23 for House Subcom. this year)

# Federal Budget Process and Timeline

- After the Appropriations Subcommittees hold hearings, they start writing their bills and accompanying reports (spring) and then scheduling votes (spring/summer)
- Once the bills are voted out of Committee, they are supposed to be considered on the House Floor and Senate Floor (summer)

# Federal Budget Process and Timeline

- Then, there should be a conference process to create a compromise version of the bill and report, which needs to be voted on again by each Chamber
- Once passed by each Chamber, then the bill goes to the President for signature and the federal agencies start implementing it
- This is \*supposed\* to happen by Sept. 30, but often doesn't

# Federal Budget Process and Timeline

- In recent years, Congress could not come to an agreement by Sept. 30, so they pass a Continuing Resolution or “CR”
- This continues the previous fiscal year’s terms and spending levels temporarily into the new fiscal year
- This causes problems for federal agencies and for schools

# Federal Budget Process and Timeline

- While most BIE school operations accounts are forward funded (funding arrives July 1), some are not
- Non-forwarded funded school operations accounts include: Facilities Operations, Facilities Maintenance, Education IT
- Delays from CRs mean these funds are delayed and Tribal Grant Support Costs are also delayed
- Education Construction is not forward funded



# Federal Budget Process and Timeline

- After one or more CRs Congress usually works out some sort of deal that groups together the 12 appropriations bills into an end of year “Omnibus” package (December)
- Meanwhile, the federal agencies are trying to write their budget requests for the next fiscal year (!)

# Appropriations Testimony Matters:

## Key Increases Achieved for the FY 2023 Enacted BIE Budget

The FY 2023 omnibus provides \$1.4 billion for the BIE, an increase of \$119 million, or nine percent (9%) above the FY 2022 enacted amounts.

# Key Increases Achieved for the FY 2023 Enacted BIE Budget

- +\$40.8 million for *ISEP Formula Funds*
- +\$4.5 million for *Education Program Enhancements*, of which \$2.1 million is for “teacher recruitment and retention”
- +\$10.3 million for *Student Transportation*
- +\$6.3 million for *Tribal Grant Support Costs* (estimated to be full funding)
- +\$10.7 million for *Facilities Operations*
- +\$11.1 million for *Facilities Maintenance*

# Key Increases Achieved for the FY 2023 Enacted BIE Budget

Pay Parity. The [Explanatory Statement](#) accompanying the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Division of the FY 2023 omnibus continues to direct the BIE to appropriately display in their budget request the fixed costs increases needed in order for teachers and counselors in the BIE-funded school system be paid equivalent salaries to their counterparts in the Department of Defense Education Activity.

# Looking Ahead: Key Federal Issues Schools are Bringing Forward

# Key Issues

- Pay Parity for Teachers with their DoD counterparts
- Teacher & Staff Salary Increases
- Teachers & Staff at BIE Funded, Tribally Controlled Schools being able to participate in FERS
- Forward Funding for Facilities Operations and Maintenance OR Advance Appropriations for the entire BIE Budget
- Continued Education Construction increases to replace or repair aging school facilities

# Questions?

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