



Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

Education For Children, Fairness for Taxpayers

FLISA Member Meeting Agenda
NAFIS SPRING Conference—Washington DC
MARCH 9TH—10:45-11:45 AM Congressional A Room
MARCH 10TH—8:30-10AM Congressional A Room

- I. Welcome Comments and Review of the Mission/Vision of FLISA – Christine Walker
 - A. Reviewed vision and mission
 - B. Introductions of attendees and executive committee officers
- II. FLISA Executive Director's Report – Tom Schneider
 - A. Overview and review of packet information
 - B. This is a member-led organization...we work together in advocacy
 - C. The success of this meeting is what you do between meetings to advocate for the goals of Impact Aid and FLISA
 - D. Horse in the hospital analogy - trying times for the country, FLISA is doing well
 - E. FLISA Organization is humming...Federal Government not so much.
 - F. Position is that Dept. of Ed is running efficiently, best it's ever run, and needs to be preserved
 - G. NAFIS and FLISA statements on Dept. of Ed
 - H. Budget process review - reconciliation process, continuing resolution strategies
 - I. DOGE and denigrating public employees
 - J. Supreme Court rulings helping, slightly, to reign in recklessness
 - K. Emphasized keeping all the FIA sections together - we do not want our subgroups to be separated into different departments - We are Title VII - one location that we can all advocate for collectively
- III. Approval of minutes from FLISA Winter Meeting—Stephanie Long
 - A. Posted on the FLISA website
- VI. Treasurer and Bookkeeper Report—Jerry Ellender
 - A. FY 26 Tentative Budget Presentation
 - a. Budget and dues overview - need to increase dues; proposal was approved to put to the vote to the membership (Action item)
 - b. Goal is to have one-year of expenses on hand.

VII. Messaging Committee Update - Mark Cross

- A. Aligned the FLISA talking points to NAFIS messaging
- B. Be calm, rational, and stick to facts to avoid responding emotionally to the political theatre of current administrative tactics
- C. Connect message to individual students regardless of section
- D. NAFIS will reintroduce the advancing toward full funding bill
- E. Reviewed the specifics of the funding ask - for our students

MONDAY - March 10th 8:30 - 10:00 am

VII. NAFIS Board and NAFIS Update— Craig Hutcheson/Tom Schneider/Christine Walker

- A. Strategic Plan at board level. Working with consultant Brian Riggs
- B. Board voted to require in-office work three days a week for all staff, including exec. director and offered Nicole a one-year contract
- C. Increase number of board meetings with the addition of zoom meetings in between quarterly board meetings
- D. Lots of support from sub-group partners; importance of staying together and not being parceled off to other departments
- E. Cuts is necessary will be catastrophic for most districts - classroom teachers and programs
- F. Christine Walker elected to NAFIS board, Tom moving off , Craig moves to VP role
- G. Tom Schneider ready to respond if 7002 eliminated and is acting now to line up support

VIII. Update from NAFIS Exec. Director - Nicole Russell

- A. Thank you for being here and importance of attending the conference
- B. Concerned about 7002 funding going forward. Need to share your stories on the hill. NAFIS supports our funding and whole program - stay united. Strongly oppose the dissolution of the 7002 as outlined in Project 2025. Uphill climb but FIA appears to be better poised to be okay than other sources of funding.
- C. Q: How is NAFIS adjusting to the threat of elimination? Break down to per-student allocation? A: Connect the funding to the students - stories how we are changing lives, humanize the funding, what would be cut if we lost funding. Ask legislators to put pressure on the top. OMB director pulling strings, how influence him?
- D. Nicole will ask Fatima to address why so many districts have not received any funding
- E. NAFIS ready to issue statements in the event worst case scenario - differentiate between posturing and executing - behind the scene coalitions working together. Staffers understand the impact of FIA to students. Hosting briefing to staffers- encourage your staffers to attend.
- F. Subgroups and NAFIS consistent in messaging
- G. Worst case scenario is a concern only for FY26. Education cuts currently focused on higher education funding. Stay focused - distractions on purpose. AASA champion of FIA and we work collaboratively with them
- H. Impact Aid Caucus still active- ask your reps to join the bi-partisan, bi-cameral group
- I. Grass Roots flood to our reps, specifically hand written notes from students

- J. Let NAIFS know how meetings go tomorrow and any follow-up that needs to happen
- IV. Share Your District's Newest Initiatives with NAFIS Staff for publication
- V. Fly-In Thanks
 - A. Wes, Mary, Christine, Stephanie, Jerry (and Schneider)
- VI. Anticipated NAFIS Dues Increase
- VII. Ad Hoc Committee on Distribution of Impact Aid Funds
- VIII. 119th Congress and FY 25—FY 26 NAFIS Appropriations Ask
- IX. Membership By-Law and Dues Structure changes (Action Items) Discussion
 - A. Desire to expand exec board leadership by adding one co-chair to each committee
 - B. Discussion to change dues structure
 - C. Invoices for dues will go out in June after summer meeting
- X. Committee Reports and Goals for Spring/Summer Meeting:
 - A. Mary Ticknor--Advocacy Committee and Status of "Leave Behind Packets"
 - a) for congressional offices who have not been contacted by members of our group to educate them on our program and solicit their support
 - b) Need volunteers to drop the packets on Hill day even if not in your state and leave your name and name of reps with Mary so they can follow up with those offices
 - B. Bob Reichert--Membership Committee. Review "Why Join" Brochure sent in Membership Letters in June
 - a) Continue focus on contacting non-member districts who receive funds but not participating
 - b) Website update - why join NAFIS
 - C. Mark Cross--Messaging Committee
 - a) Leave behind flyers to take by each team
 - b) Talking points - take those
- XIV. Recognition/Awards - Tom Schneider
 - A. Mark Naugle and Wes Eversole Recognition
 - a. Wes is retiring after 20 years and provided remarks on his experience as a NAFIS/FLISA board member and participant
 - b. Mark is retiring after 21 years and provided remarks on his experience as a board member and participant
 - B. Tom Madden Recognition Discussion

XV. Look Ahead: What do we need for a successful:

- A. Interim communications
- B. Summer 2025 FLISA Meeting Information—Newport Beach, CA

XVI. Next FLISA Meeting Dates/Locations

- A. FLISA Summer, 2025 Meeting—Hyatt Regency, Newport Beach, CA—June 19-20th—Registration Available Now/Attached and on website
 - c) Committee Work Thursday, June 19th—2PM-4PM
 - d) Board Meeting Thursday, June 19th —4PM-6PM
 - e) Membership Meeting Friday, June 20th—9AM-4PM

B. NAFIS Fall 2025 Conference: Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill—Saturday, September 13st thru Wednesday, September 16th

C. FLISA Winter, 2026 Meeting, Hyatt Regency Clearwater, Florida—January 29-30th—Registration Form Available June, 2025

- f) Committee Work Thursday, January 29th —2PM-4PM
- g) Board Meeting Thursday, January 29th —4PM-6PM
- h) Membership Meeting Friday, January 30th—9AM-4PM

D. NAFIS Spring 2026 Conference: Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill--TBD

E. FLISA Summer, 2026 Meeting—Park Place Hotel, Traverse City, MI—June 18-19th—Location TBD--Registration Available January, 2026

- a) Committee Work Thursday, June 18th—2PM-4PM
- b) Board Meeting Thursday, June 18th —4PM-6PM
- c) Membership Meeting Friday, June 19th—9AM-4PM

F. FLISA Winter, 2027 Meeting, Hyatt Regency Clearwater, Florida—January 29-30th—Registration Form Available June, 2026

- a) Committee Work Thursday, February 4th —2PM-4PM
- b) Board Meeting Thursday, February 4th —4PM-6PM
- c) Membership Meeting Friday, February 5th—9AM-4PM
- d) *Note that some changes to the NAFIS Closing Reception have been discussed to begin in 2027. More details to follow as the date gets closer.

XVII. Action Items:

17-A. Approval of FLISA Winter Meeting Minutes,
Mark Cross moved
Mary Tichnor seconded
Motion passes

17-B. Approval of By-Law Change Article V Section 2.f.

Brook Hazel-Massieux moved

Jerry Ellenger second

Motion carries

17-C. Approval of By-Law Change Article VII Section 5.

Mark Naugle moved

Shawn Stowe seconded

Motion Carries

17-D. Approval of Tentative FY 26 Budget

Kevin Feeney moved

Tim Paige seconded

Motion carries

17-E. Appointment of Jerry Ellender as Treasurer thru March, 2027

Exec board recommended

Wes Eversole seconded

Motion carries

17-F. Appointment of Sarah Wedge as Secretary thru March, 2027

Exec board recommended

Mary Ticknor seconded

Motion carries

XVIII. Adjournment

Mark Cross

Jason Misner seconded

Motion carries - adjourn at 10:01 am

XIX. Call for Presentations

- A. April Moore and her team from Sierra Sands, CA have volunteered for our FLISA Summer Meeting in 2025.
- B. Steph Long and her team from Leland, Michigan volunteered for our FLISA Summer Meeting in 2026.
- C. Winter FLISA Meeting 2026
 - a. Do you have important best practices to share with the educator community? Are you an expert on a cutting-edge issue in youth development or education? Can you captivate a crowd? Well, it's time to bring your ideas to a national audience – become a presenter at the FLISA Winter Conference in Florida.