



Federal Lands Impacted Schools Association

Education For Children, Fairness for Taxpayers

FLISA Member Meeting Agenda
NAFIS Fall Conference—Washington DC
Sunday, March 15th—10:45-11:45AM Congressional A
Monday, March 16th—8:30-10AM Congressional A
Minutes follow each agenda item in *Bold and Italics*

Our new NAFIS Executive Director, Cherise Imai, will be attending one of our meetings as her time permits to introduce herself and provide a brief NAFIS overview and answer questions.

I. Welcome Comments and Review of the Mission/Vision of FLISA – Frank Sheboy

Our Mission: To ensure the reimbursement of funds lost due to the federal government's removal of land from local tax rolls, paid to eligible public school districts, with 100 percent of the revenue used for the education of students.

Vision: Advancing towards 100% full-funding for the 7002 program.

Guiding Principles:

- *Section 7002 Impact Aid Funds will be distributed in a fair and equitable manner,*
- *Membership in the FLISA Organization will be expanded,*
- *Safeguard the financial interests of all Section 7002 Impact Aid districts.*

II. Introduction of FLISA Board and Past-Presidents

Current FLISA Board (voting members) consists of:

Frank Sheboy (President thru March 2026, Past-Pres thru March 2028)

Christine Walker (Vice-President thru March 2026)

Jerry Ellender* (Treasurer thru March 2027)

**Retains Non-Voting Member-at-Large Status after this appointment*

Sarah Wedge (Secretary thru March 2027)

Craig Hutcheson (Past President thru March 2026)*

**By-laws state that if the Past President cannot serve for whatever reason, we go back to the previous Past President. In this case, Mark Naugle (retired).*

Mike McElduff Advocacy Chairperson (Thru March 2026)

Sally Crowser—Advocacy Committee Member-At-Large (Co-Chairperson)

Bob Reichert*** Membership Chairperson (Thru March 2026)

Jason Misner—Membership Committee Member-At-Large (Co-Chairperson)

Mark Cross Messaging Chairperson (Thru March 2026)

Kevin Feeney—Messaging Committee Member-At-Large (Co-Chairperson)

Non-Voting Members-Bookkeeper—Cathie Pezanoski (Past President)

Past-Presidents—Non Voting:

Terry Tamblyn	Tom Madden	Sandy Doebert	Tom Davenport
Tom Schneider	Bob Reichert***	Craig Hutcheson	Mark Naugle
Cathie Pezanoski			

Section 3 By-Laws Excerpt:

- a. *Terms of Office: Executive Board members shall be elected at large for two-year terms with the exception of the member elected to the office of President who shall serve a four-year term, two years as President, followed by two years as Immediate Past President. [...] Executive Board members shall be elected at the spring meeting. The President, Vice-President and At Large Members shall be elected during even numbered years. The Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected during odd numbered years. Newly elected Executive Board Members shall take office upon the conclusion of the final FLISA meeting of the spring NAFIS conference.*

III. Introduction by Those in Attendance

- A. Name, Title, Location and Impacted Land – ***See attendance sheet***
- B. Recognition of New Attendees—Frank Sheboy ***New attendees were greeted and invited to meet informally with members prior to opening reception***

IV. FLISA Executive Director’s Report – Tom Schneider

- A. Overview – ***Introduced Cherise, NAFIS Executive Director. Cherise greeted the membership and encouraged them to work together, to share stories, to create relationships, and to advocate on Hill. Cherise added she is excited to be back in the NAFIS family and work together again; she encourages building lasting relationships and invited membership to reach out to NAFIS staff directly for any assistance or questions***
- B. This is a member-led organization...we work together in advocacy. ***Committee work is critical but hard to do in DC, winter and summer meetings are important as they focus on committee work***
- C. The success of this meeting is what you do between meetings to advocate for the goals of Impact Aid and FLISA – ***Mentioned importance of speaking with a loud, unified, and informed voice since FLISA is a small subgroup; power of positive messaging; Summer meeting registration is available in packet and on website; September DC visit will be critical and message will be crafted at summer meeting – FLISA needs to be prepared for upcoming changes in DC including representation and funding***

V. Approval of minutes from FLISA Winter Meeting—Sarah Wedge

- A. Posted on the FLISA website and in packet

VI. Treasurer and Bookkeeper Report—Cathie Pezanoski/Jerry Ellender

- A. FY 27 Budget Update – ***Expenses from winter meeting have not been included; draft FY27 budget is in handout, final budget will be approved at summer meeting; revenue is higher than projected due to updated dues schedule***
 - a. Goal is to have one year of expenses on hand ***to allow for continued operations if funding does not come through in any given year***
 - b. Includes Miscellaneous Line-Item (\$600) for Awards/Recognition ***Forkenbrok scholarship was approved at Winter Meeting as an addition to budget expenditures***
- B. Membership: ***71 active, dues-paying Members***
 - a. Welcome New Members



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C. Motion needed to continue Cathie as our Bookkeeper under Action Items.

VIII. Review of Executive Board Membership and Proposal of Slate for March 2026 Election—Frank Sheboy (President)

Recommended Slate FLISA Board (voting members) consists of:

Christine Walker (President thru March 2028, Past-Pres thru March 2030)

Jason Misner (Vice-President thru March 2028)

Jerry Ellender* (Treasurer thru March 2027)

**Retains Non-Voting Member-at-Large Status after this appointment*

Sarah Wedge (Secretary thru March 2027)

Frank Sheboy (Past President thru March 2028)

Mike McElduff Advocacy Chairperson (Thru March 2028)

Sally Crowser—Advocacy Committee Member-At-Large (Co-Chairperson—Thru March 2028)

Bob Reichert*** Membership Chairperson (Thru March 2028)

Brooke Hazel-Massieux - Membership Committee Member-At-Large (Co-Chairperson--Thru March 2028)

Mark Cross Messaging Chairperson (Thru March 2028)

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

- A. Update on NAFIS Organization –***NAFIS Board met Saturday and welcomed new member. Membership has increased by 4. NAFIS office is doing a great job reaching out to recruit new members and past members. Developing new procedures for state chairs – a more unified method for selecting a state chair with the intent of increasing involvement. FLISA suggests each state chair needs education about all four sub-groups in advocate equally. May 11 and 12 Fly-In with all subgroups to target various districts at Capital – Dr. Schneider will reach out to membership for interest. NAFIS is making concerted efforts to make more Hill visits and confirms that in-person visits are far more effective. Targeting three offices a week. Current office is two blocks from Capital and is expensive; signed 10-year lease with AASA in Alexandria but are trying to break lease and keep office closer to Hill. Working on updating Value Statement. Forkenbrock scholarship is national this year, so encourage your district students to apply. NAFIS is making positive changes under Imai leadership – office is more involved and collaborative, board is looking forward to future. Board now meets monthly. Hill visits have included FLISA districts and have personally visited FLISA districts. Imai is actively engaged in including FLISA in all processes and decisions. No current update on where Impact Aid office will land (DOL, HHS) when DOE is dissolved.***
- B. NAFIS Conference: Suggestions? Call for Presenters
- C. Department of Education Staffing Status ***No firm directive to move DOE to Dept of Labor at this time, NAFIS board recommends all systems and staff stay in place if move occurs***
- D. Share Your District’s Newest Initiatives with NAFIS Staff for publication
- E. Anticipated NAFIS Dues Increase ***Delayed***
- F. Note that some changes to the NAFIS Closing Reception have been discussed to begin in 2027.
- G. Forkenbrock Scholarship (Christine Walker) ***Multiple one-time scholarships will be available to any impacted student starting April 1st. Scholarships will be awarded over the summer.***

IX. Executive Director: Legislative Update

- A. FLISA Organization is humming...Federal Government not so much.
 - i. ***Schneider led by sharing that Senators Thune and Cole are supportive of keeping Impact Aid program together and functioning efficiently regardless of what Department their office is in.***
 - ii. ***Fly-In in May - looking for 4 volunteers from membership – it is a great opportunity to understand and learn more about other subgroups and members of other subgroups.***
 - iii. ***NAFIS staff making more Hill visits which was one of the goals of hiring new director – networking has positive effects.***
 - iv. ***ISSD Director Max Schochenmaier has been huge asset to FLISA, has strong contacts all sub-group leaders, has personal and***



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positive relationship with Senator Thune – please thank her if you see her.

- v. *Application for Forckenbrock National scholarship will be posted on website April 1st and will be sent to all NAFIS districts.*
- vi. *Senate expects to call vote on SAVE act today after passing in the House. Talking filibuster is expected.*
- vii. *Second reconciliation bill is expected now that we are at war with Iran. Will need to pay for unexpected war expenses. Reconciliation not subject to 60 vote threshold. Anticipating request of \$100 Billion which will expand deficit and potentially reduce funds for education, health care, etc. Congressmen up for reelection might not be in favor of huge bill but would support smaller, more local bills. Outcome will affect November election and FY27 appropriations*
- viii. *Offsets – Cost of war will require offsets from other areas – education funding (Title, SPED, etc.) is a likely area for cuts. Republicans would need to pre-agree on all cuts in order to pass reconciliation.*
- ix. *Views on election season – less than 30 seats are toss-ups; over 30 Republican retirements have been announced, 39 total not seeking reelection; Florida expected to pass redistricting prior to November election; potential for increased Democratic seats in both houses. House has 219 Republicans which allows for leverage for each member*
- x. *Current DOE has not filed any civil rights complaints since McMahan was named Secretary.*

B. Legends in Advocacy (the Kevin Feeney) *Not discussed*

X. Review of 119th Congress and FY 26 NAFIS Appropriations Ask History and FY 27 Ask Discussion

Section	FY21 Final	FY22 Final	FY23 Final	FY24 Final	FY25 Senate Proposal
Federal Property	\$76.31 M	\$77.31 M	\$78.31 M	\$79 M	\$81 M
Basic Support	\$1,354.24 M	\$1,409.24 M	\$1,468.24 M	\$1,474 M	\$1,490.50 M
Disabilities	\$48.32 M	\$48.32 M	\$48.32 M	\$48.32 M	\$48.32 M
Construction	\$17.41 M	\$17.41 M	\$18.41 M	\$19 M	\$20.5 M
Facilities	\$4.84 M	\$4.84 M	\$4.84 M	\$4.84 M	\$4.84 M
Total	\$1,501.12 M	\$1,557.12 M	\$1,618.12 M	\$1,625.15 M	\$1,645.15 M

From Jayson Schimmenti in February 3rd e-mail on the NAFIS FY 27 Ask:

NAFIS board discussed our impact aid funding request for FY27. They opted to request an increase of \$71.5 million, consistent with our FY25 and FY26 asks. Attached is an updated draft letter reflecting the \$5 million increase in Impact Aid funding.

XI. Other NAFIS Legislation for 119th Congress:

From NAFIS Talking Points on Impact Aid Funding:

Future of the Department of Education

- NAFIS opposes any attempt to dismantle the U.S. Department of Education and is deeply concerned by the Trump Administration's recent statements.
- Specifically, we are concerned that any reduction in staff at the Impact Aid office or transfer of authority over the program will negatively impact the program and staff's ability to disseminate payments in a timely manner and provide necessary technical assistance to school districts.

FLISA Department of Education statement (See Attached)

Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act—September 5, 2025, from NAFIS Staff

The introduction of the updated Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act in the House on Monday and hope to have the Senate version dropped shortly after. We're just waiting on the final sign-off from our Republican co-lead in the Senate. As such, we wanted to request the official endorsement of the subgroups. Here is the breakdown of the adjustments made to the bill this Congress.

- Sec. 7002 - Federal Property – the end goal is \$250 million. This would cover about 25% of the unmet need. This represents an increase of approximately \$100 million over the last Congress, primarily to underscore our commitment to the Federal property line, which has experienced limited growth in recent years, and to provide clearer messaging for the bill as we establish a goal of 25% of the unmet need.
- Sec. 7003 - Basic Support – the end goal is \$2,347,658,000, which would fully fund this line based on our estimate of unmet need based on FY24 data from the Department. This is \$105,988,246 less than the bill from last Congress, which represents a decrease in federally connected students and thus a decrease in the unmet need in the program.
- Sec. 7003(d) – Children with Disabilities – the end goal is \$120 million. This is a slightly decreased and rounded-off update of the \$120,316,000 goal from last Congress for ease of messaging.
- Sec. 7007 – Construction - the end goal is \$45 million. This is a slightly decreased and rounded-off update of the \$45,406,000 goal from last Congress for ease of messaging.

FLISA (Unedited) Statement in Support of Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act:

"This legislation represents the clearest path to making things right for the students, communities and taxpayers impacted by a federal presence within their school boundaries. It is time to fully fix these problems that were created for the past seven decades. This legislation is the best way to get it done, and now is finally the time."



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--Tom Schneider, Executive Director FLISA

Impact Aid Caucus

- The bipartisan and bicameral Congressional Impact Aid Caucus, formerly the House and Senate Impact Aid Coalitions, were established in the 1990s and have since led successful efforts to protect and prioritize the Impact Aid program. There are nearly 100 current Members of Congress in the caucus, and we hope to continue to grow these numbers. If you talk to a member who is not currently in the caucus, suggest that they join. It is an easy way to show your support for federally impacted schools and Impact Aid.
 - Contact JSchimmenti@nafisd.org to join.

XII. Committee Updates and Committee Work (See Below)

A. Mike McElduff --Advocacy Committee

a. "Leave Behind Packets" - **Prepared 20 folders for congressional offices that do not have current FLISA representation to encourage all FLISA districts to advocate for all FLISA students**

- b. Fairness in Education Funding Act*--**GENIUS Idea Alert**
*Still need a copy of actual legislative language.

Mike McElduff, Highland Falls: *Rep. Ryan was looking for a co-sponsor (hopefully Republican) to sign on to the Fairness in Education Funding Act. (Information Attached). Stephanie Long has reached out to Rep. Bergman (R-MI).*

*Congressman Pat Ryan's **Fairness In Education Funding Act** introduced in June 2025, aims to protect Impact Aid for school districts that lose revenue due to the presence of tax-exempt federal lands. The legislation ensures, in particular, that this funding remains stable during potential federal budgetary changes. The legislation will protect the integrity of the Impact Aid program and keep its functioning intact during the Trump years, despite Trump Administration attempts to dismantle the Department of Education (for example, by issuing an executive order directly saying so, by firing department staff.*

NAFIS Efforts with Rep. Ryan staff (E-mail from January 7, 2026):

Rep. Ryan's staff. They are interested in doing more with this bill, but it has been pushed down their to-do list over the past few months by the other fires that keep popping up. We're going to work with them on shopping for more cosponsors and perhaps a Senate companion as they have more bandwidth.

- B. Bob Reichert--**Membership** Committee
 - 1. Review “Why Join” Brochure sent in Membership Letters in June – ***Mission is to increase membership – have been improving website, updating information, reaching out to non-member districts; currently have 71 of 200 potential members***
- C. Mark Cross--**Messaging** Committee
 - 1. Review Leave-behind and messaging Congress/OMB – ***Updated to ensure consistency with NAFIS messaging; Updated talking points behind messaging; 7002 gets \$80M smallest sub-group - messaging spread importance of FLISA and with NAFIS; updated talking points and leave-behinds were distributed***
 - 2. Invite a Senator to a School Opening-- **GENIUS Idea Alert**
 - 3. Town Hall Event to Spread Awareness of Impact Aid—**GENIUS Idea Alert**

for 119th messaging and leave and is the helps equality

XIV. Nominations for FLISA Recognition:

- A. Extra Mile Award
 - 1. Steph Long, Summer, 2026
- B. Nominations from the floor ***Nominations to be shared with Executive Director by email***
- C. ***Recognition of President Frank Sheboy for his service as President and service to the FLISA organization.***

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

- A. Interim communications
- B. Summer 2026 FLISA Meeting Information—Traverse City, MI
*Registration Information Attached
- C. **FLISA Winter, 2027 Meeting**, Hyatt Regency Clearwater, Florida—January 28-30th—*Registration Form Available June, 2026*
- D. Discussion on Summer 2027 Locations: **Board recommends Nashville, TN**
- E. Discussion and Approval of **FLISA Winter 2028** Location: Clearwater Beach, FL

XVI. Next FLISA Meeting Dates/Locations—Note Winter and Summer 2027 Dates

- a. **FLISA Summer, 2026 Meeting**—Park Place Hotel, Traverse City, MI—June 18-19th—Location TBD--*Registration Available January, 2026*
 - 1. Committee Work Thursday, June 18th—2PM-4PM
 - 2. Board Meeting Thursday, June 18th —4PM-6PM
 - 3. Membership Meeting Friday, June 19th—9AM-4PM
- b. **NAFIS Fall 2026 Conference:** Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill—Saturday, September 19th thru Wednesday, September 22nd
- c. **FLISA Winter, 2027 Meeting**, Hyatt Regency Clearwater, Florida—January 29-30th—*Registration Form Available June, 2026*
 - 1. Committee Work Thursday, January 29th —2PM-4PM
 - 2. Board Meeting Thursday, January 29th —4PM-6PM
 - 3. Membership Meeting Friday, January 30th—9AM-4PM



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- d. **NAFIS Spring 2027 Conference:** Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill—Saturday, March 13st thru Wednesday, March 17th
- e. **FLISA Summer, 2027 Meeting**—June 24-25th—*Nashville, TN - Registration Available January, 2027*
 - 1. Committee Work Thursday, June 24th —2PM-4PM
 - 2. Board Meeting Thursday, June 24th —4PM-6PM
 - 3. Membership Meeting Friday, June 25th—9AM-4PM
- f. **NAFIS Fall 2027 Conference:** Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill—Saturday, September 18^h thru Tuesday, September 21st *
 - 1. *Closing Reception Moved to Monday, September 20th
 - 2. Hill Visit Day, Tuesday, September 21st

XVII. Action Items: Votes recorded as Motion/Second. All carried unless otherwise noted

17-A. Approval of FLISA Winter 2026 Meeting Minutes : Jason Misner/Anne Lawless

17-B. Approval of Tentative FY 27 Budget with Final Approval at Summer Meeting noting possible changes Shawn Stowe/Mark Cross

17-C. Approval of FLISA Bookkeeper Job Description as presented *Tabled*

17-D. Approval of Cathie Peznowski as Bookkeeper to be reviewed annually as presented Ann Lawless/Brooke Hazel-Massieux

17-E. Nomination and election of FLISA President thru March, 2028, Christine Walker -**

17-F. Nomination and election of FLISA Vice-President thru March 2028, Jason Misner

17-G. Nomination and election of Advocacy Chairperson thru March 2028, Mike McElduff

17-H. Nomination and election of Membership Chairperson thru March 2028, Mark Cross

17-I. Nomination and election of Messaging Chairperson thru March 2028, Robert Reichert

17-J. Nomination and election of Advocacy Co-Chairperson thru March 2028, Brooke Hazel-Massieux

17-K. Nomination and election of Membership Co-Chairperson thru March 2028, Sally Crowser

17-L. Nomination and election of Messaging Co-Chairperson thru March 2028, Kevin Feeney

17-M. Approval of FLISA 2027 Winter Meeting Location of Clearwater Beach, FL January 27-28, 2028 Jason Misner/Christine Walker

**** Nominations for candidates presented as one slate – Mike McElduff/Craig Hutchinson**

Department of Education Impact Aid program director Faatimah Muhammad greeted the group and thanked them for their participation and attendance

XVIII. Reception Reminder to Attend/Adjournment *Craig Hutchinson/Kevin Feeney 9:47am*

***Call for Presentations—Winter 2027FLISA Meeting**

Enhancing the FLISA Meeting Agenda –We are now looking for volunteers for 2027 Winter Meeting, in Tampa/St. Pete in 2027.

*Step Long and her team from Michigan have already volunteered for our **FLISA Summer Meeting in 2026**. Be sure to reserve your presentation date as soon as possible.*

***Call for Presentations—Winter FLISA Meeting 2027**

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.