

To: Board of Education, School District of Bayfield
From: Randi Johnson
Date: April 18, 2016
RE: April Finance Manager Report

NAFIS Spring Conference – Washington DC

Anne Sullivan and I had the extreme pleasure of attending the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) in Washington DC. We were joined by schools from around the country and from every state. We were proud to represent the State of Wisconsin along with schools from the Menominee Indian School District and the Lac du Flambeau Public School District.



Impact Aid is the Federal Government's obligation to school districts financially burdened by the presence of nontaxable Federal property and/or the costs of enrolling federally connected children. Funding is appropriated annually by Congress and goes directly to school districts for use in any general fund purpose.

NAFIS Spring 2016 Talking Points

- Impact Aid is a reimbursement for lost tax revenue due.
- School Districts were encouraged to join the House or Senate Impact Aid Coalition.
- Sequestration returns next year (Fiscal Year 2018). Congress must eliminate sequestration altogether to prevent future funding cuts and stagnation for Impact Aid.
- REJECT the elimination of Federal Properties, SUPPORT a \$31 million increase for impact aid.
- Basic support for program funding is currently funded at about 55% of need for the current fiscal year.

7002 Federal Property Payments

The 7002 Federal Property part of the Impact Aid Program was also designed to provide payments in lieu of taxes to school districts that have had large parcels of land taken off the tax roles after 1938 as a result of a federal action. Currently the School District of Bayfield does not apply for any payments in this part of the Impact Aid Program. The Apostle Island National Lakeshore was created in 1970 and encompasses almost 70,000 acres of land. During our trip to Washington DC I learned that we can apply for funding under the 7002 Federal Property Program. It is not a guarantee that we would be accepted into this part of the funding program but it could be worth our time and effort to try. I am always up for a challenge.