WHO IS NIEA?

OUR MISSION

The National Indian Education Association advances comprehensive, culture-based educational opportunities for American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians.
WHO IS NIEA?

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
Promote new laws that provide opportunities and resources for Native students

APPROPRIATIONS PRIORITIES
Support the necessary funding to run and operate schools, programs, and resources that serve Native students

ADMINISTRATION PRIORITIES
Ensure that federal laws, programs, and funding are implemented and serving Native students

These areas often overlap and impact each other. For example, a law can require appropriations, or the Administration can pressure Congress to pass legislation according to the President’s priorities.
2020 NIEA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Higher Education Act
Improve access, accountability, affordability, and success of Native students in the higher education system

Teacher Preparation
Build a teacher workforce trained to deliver culturally responsive content for Native students

School Climate
Support culturally responsive trauma-informed education practices that address historical trauma

School Construction
Ensure tribes have equitable access to funding in appropriations and legislation in the 116th Congress
HIGHER EDUCATION PRIORITIES

Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act

Authorizes federal student aid and programs that support post-secondary education.


- Data Sovereignty
- Support & Fully Fund TCUs
- Support Funding & Accountability to Tribes at Native-Serving Institutions
### Native Educator Support and Training Act

Creates scholarships, loan repayment programs, institutional grants, and Native language program grants to attract teachers to Native majority schools.

*STATUS: Introduced in the Senate on April 11, 2019.*

### S. 3158 / H.R.5350 - Diversify Act

Seeks to diversify the teacher workforce by increasing the minimum TEACH Grant from $4,000 to $8,000.

*STATUS: Introduced in the House and the Senate on December 6, 2018 and January 8, 2020.*

### S.279 / H.R.895 - Tribal School Federal Insurance Parity Act

Ensures parity between federal health employee benefits at PL 93-638 schools and PL 100-297 schools.

*STATUS: Passed the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on July 9, 2019. Passed the House Natural Resources Committee on January 15, 2020. Included in the HEROES Act, which passed the House on May 15, 2020.*
SCHOOL CLIMATE PRIORITIES

H.R. 5325: Ending PUSHOUT Act
Reduces exclusionary discipline in schools, and strengthens the Civil Rights Data Collection.
_STATUS: Introduced in the House on December 5, 2019._

Congressional Oversight
Congressional leaders have begun to address gaps in trauma-informed education through hearings.
_STATUS: Hearing held on September 11, 2019._

Congressional leaders continue to examine troubling reports of disproportionate disciplinary action that resulted in a troubling trend of student expulsion, unhealthy learning environments, and student deaths at Chemawa Indian School.
_STATUS: Hearing held on May 16, 2019._
NEW NATIONAL LANDSCAPE – COVID-19

H.R.748 - Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

Passed Congress on March 27, 2020.
• Authorized over $2.2 trillion in emergency stimulus relief.
Department of Education

- **$153.75 million (0.5 percent)** set aside for schools and programs funded through the Bureau of Indian in the Department of Education's Education Stabilization Fund
- **$1.04 billion (7.5 percent)** for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority-Servicing Institutions (MSIs), including Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) in the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund.

Bureau of Indian Education

- **$69 million** for Bureau of Indian Education Operations
  - **$46 million** for K-12 school in the BIE system; and
  - **$23 million** for Tribal Colleges and Universities.
COVID-19 NATIVE EDUCATION PRIORITIES

SCHOOL OPERATIONS

$1.5 billion in direct funding to Bureau-funded schools, as defined in 25 U.S.C. §2021(3) to meet the health, safety, and educational needs of students due to the impacts of COVID-19.

SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE

$1 billion in emergency funding to address the backlog of unfunded repairs and renovations at Bureau-funded schools, as defined in 25 U.S.C. §2021(3).
BIE REOPENING PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Ensure schools close in accordance with tribal, local, and state guidelines.

2. Provide clear and consistent communication to all schools.

3. Expand guidance and professional development on distance education and hybrid education models.

4. Ensure high-quality trauma training and mental health services.

5. Provide high-quality guidance to support education services for all students, including students with disabilities.
BIE REOPENING PLAN

GOALS FOR REOPENING SCHOOLS

- Ensure the safety and wellness of students and staff
- Deliver high-quality instruction to students, regardless of delivery mode
- Provide equity for all students
- Optimize use of resources
- Communicate, Communicate, Communicate!
- Engage tribal community and stakeholders in planning and implementation
- Provide guidance and resources to support teaching and learning in a COVID-19 environment

6 STEPS TO SAFELY OPEN SCHOOLS 2020/21

STEP ONE
Symptom Screening at Home Before Coming to School
(for all Staff and Students)

STEP TWO
Physical Distancing and Clean Facilities

STEP THREE
Face Coverings

STEP FOUR
Hand Hygiene

STEP FIVE
Personal Protective Equipment

STEP SIX
Return to School After Illness Protocol
## ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS

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Questions?

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