

SOUTH CAROLINA
SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

2019 LEGISLATIVE
ADVOCACY

C • O • N • F • E • R • E • N • C • E

& DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

DECEMBER 6-8
CHARLESTON MARRIOTT
CHARLESTON, SC



The leading advocate for public education

Federal Update

December 7, 2019

Deborah Rigsby, Program Director, Lobbying and Federal Legislation



Agenda

- FY2020 Appropriations
- Special Education
- Higher Education Act
Reauthorization and PREP Act
- Broadband and E-Rate
- Advance Refunding
- Child Nutrition

Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations

- Second Continuing Resolution (Public Law 116-69) enacted to fund government operations through December 20, 2019.
- Senate Appropriations Committee would almost level fund education programs.
- Earlier vote to increase overall non-discretionary funds by \$27 billion. However, the increase was not applied to the Senate Appropriations Committee mark for education programs.
- Without targeted program increases, the Senate funding bill would level fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and other programs, and would actually mean a budget cut for school districts.

FY2020 Appropriations

- House-passed Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations bill (H.R. 2740) would provide more than a \$3 billion increase to K-12 programs, including a \$1 billion increase to IDEA Part B Grants.
- **ASK:** Urge your senators to strengthen support in a final FY2020 funding bill for education programs by prioritizing the federal investment in IDEA.
 - ✓ Highlight school district success stories.
 - ✓ Mention the amount of funding your district dedicates to IDEA, noting that the average federal share per child is \$1,770 for 2019 and would decrease to \$1,758 if IDEA is level-funded.



IT'S TIME FOR A
GREAT
IDEA!

nsba
National School Boards Association



#NSBA4IDEA

Current IDEA Legislation

- **H.R. 1878 and S.866 – IDEA Full Funding Act**
 - 129 Representatives and 11 Senators are co-sponsors.
 - House and Senate bills are bipartisan.
- **H.R. 4107 – Funding Early Childhood Is the Right IDEA Act**
- **IDEA High Cost Pools Funding Act**

The IDEA Full Funding Act:



Ensures that all children have access to a first-rate, quality education



Forces Congress to address the funding shortfall in IDEA



Invests in the potential of every child



NSBA's Five Guiding Principles for IDEA Reauthorization and Funding

NSBA's Five Guiding Principles for IDEA Reauthorization

1. High Expectations and Accountability, Not Bureaucratic Procedures, Deliver Positive Outcomes for Students with Disabilities



NSBA's Five Guiding Principles for IDEA Reauthorization

2. Effectively Serving Students with Disabilities and their Families is a Shared Financial Responsibility



NSBA's Five Guiding Principles for IDEA Reauthorization

3. Positive Engagement and Collaboration with Families Helps Students with Disabilities Succeed



NSBA's Five Guiding Principles for IDEA Reauthorization

4. The Success of Students with Disabilities Depends on Access to Effective Teachers and other Special Education Professionals



NSBA's Five Guiding Principles for IDEA Reauthorization

5. Expanded Supports Directed at the Youngest Students with Disabilities Will Place More Learners on an Earlier Path Toward Academic and Life Success



IT'S TIME FOR A **GREAT IDEA!**



NSBA SPECIAL EDUCATION LEADER: GREENVILLE COUNTY SCHOOLS, GREENVILLE SC

NSBA SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFILE SERIES

School districts across the United States are expanding and improving educational opportunities for students with disabilities and their families. As Congress begins to focus on improving the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), NSBA is highlighting school districts that are demonstrating special education innovation, improvement, and leadership. The exciting work in these districts offers useful insights for legislators seeking to better understand how the next IDEA can better help school districts promote positive outcomes for all special education students. This edition of the exemplar series focuses on Greenville County Schools in Greenville, South Carolina.

Local Impact: Culpeper, VA

- ▶ IDEA VI-B funds cover about **11%** of the cost of special education in Culpeper.
- ▶ **\$1,636,778** for Part B, Section 611 - entire amount goes for salaries & benefits of special education teachers, paraeducators, and support staff.
- ▶ **\$43,371** for Part B, Section 619, Preschool - pays for part of the salary of an Early Childhood Special Education teacher.
- ▶ Increased cost of salaries & benefits far out-pace any increases in VI-B grant amount.

WHAT DO IDEA FUNDS LOOK LIKE FOR
CULPEPER?

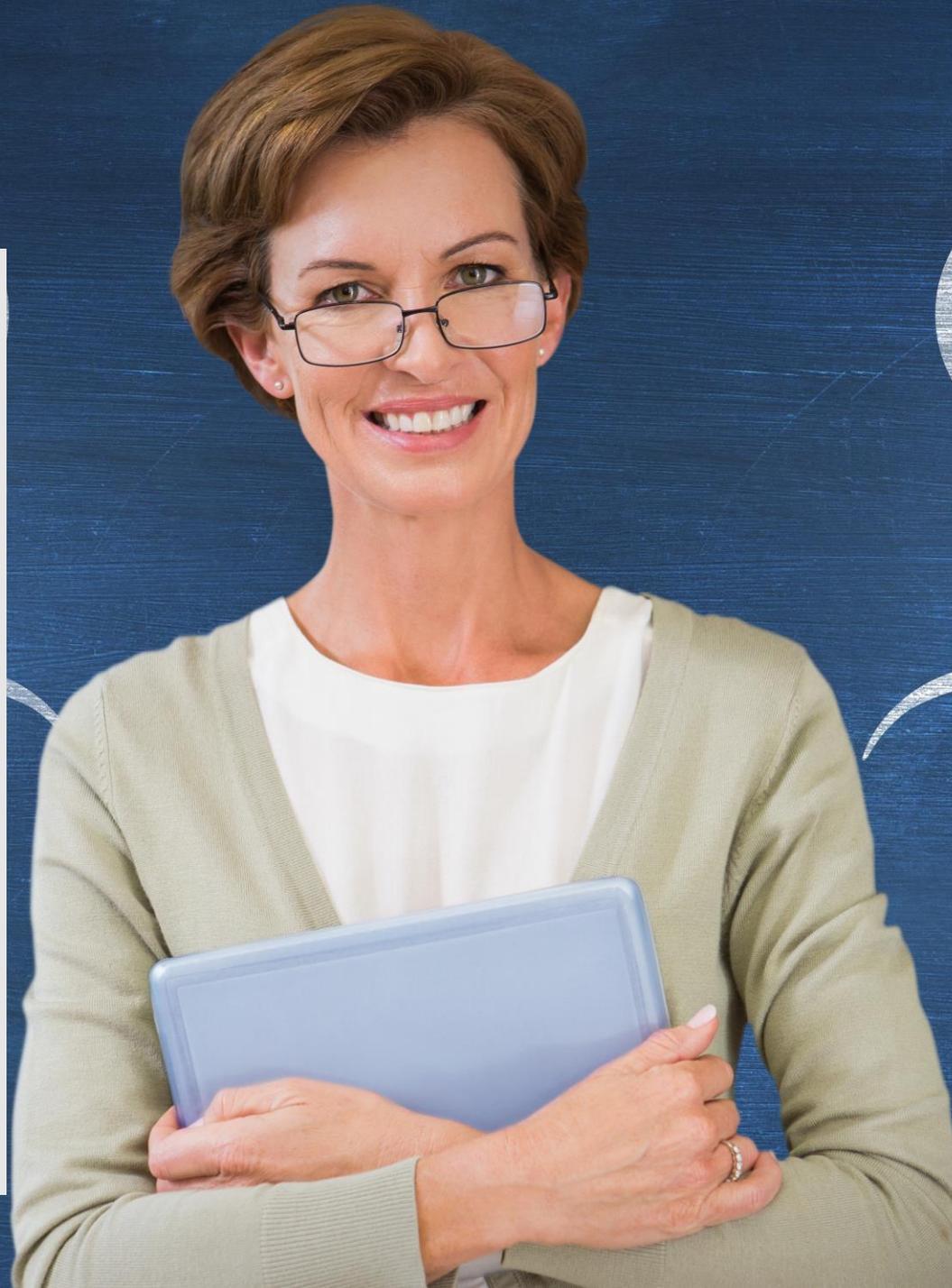


Higher Education Act (HEA)

- What does the HEA have to do with K-12 Education?
 - Teacher Preparation Programs
 - Loan Forgiveness

HEA Talking Points

- **Strengthen Title II - Teacher preparation programs which help to ensure educators have the tools to be successful in the classroom**
- **Preserve the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program and the TEACH Grant Program as school districts rely on these programs to attract and retain effective teachers.**



HEA Reauthorization Goals

The next Higher Education Act must:

- Focus on creating, at scale, a national cadre of highly effective educators to serve students with disabilities and to meet other shortage areas;
- Provide incentives to attract high performing students to the profession;
- Ensure educator preparation programs deliver more sophisticated training in special education; and,
- Promote partnerships with school districts to provide targeted professional development and other supports to help special education teachers and professionals succeed at their unique and challenging positions.

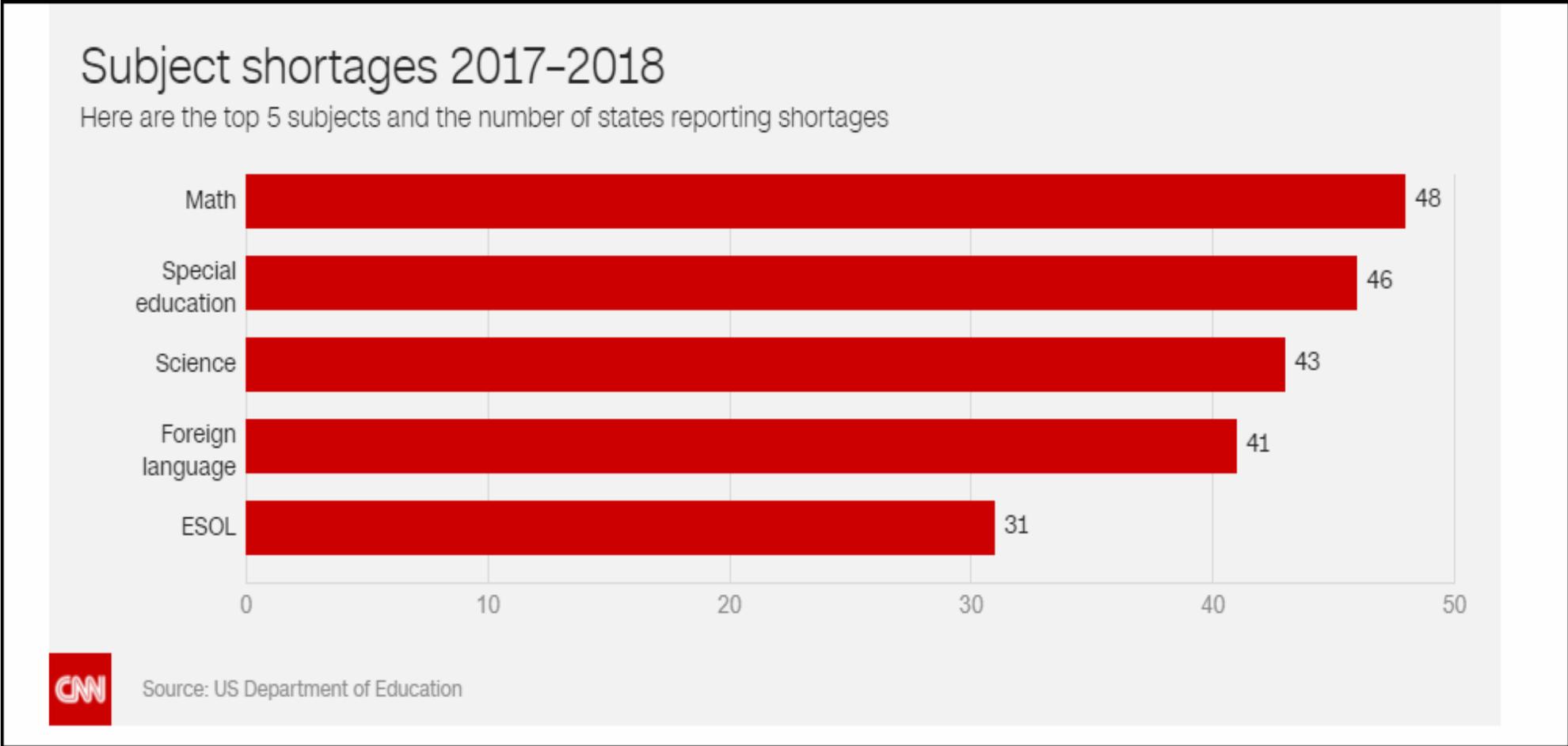
Higher Education Act Reauthorization

- Senate HELP Committee reauthorization may not address K-12 provisions for teacher preparation, but would extend current provisions.
- House Education and Labor Committee resuming its work on HEA after October congressional recess.
- **Urge Congress to continue investments and support in Title II programs for teacher/school leader preparation.**
- **Urge Senate co-sponsorship and support for the bipartisan PREP Act (S.752), the Preparing and Retaining Education Professionals Act, introduced by Senators Susan Collins of Maine and Tim Kaine of Virginia.**
- **Urge Congress to continue the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program for educators that helps districts attract and retain effective teachers and leaders.**

Teacher Shortages and the Impact on K-12 Schools and Educator Preparation Programs

- **Costly:** When teachers leave, districts must hire and train new teachers.
- **Can negatively impact workforce quality and student learning:** Too much turnover can be harmful. To fill vacant positions, schools often resort to hiring inexperienced or unqualified teachers, increasing class sizes or cutting course offerings.
- **Can disrupt positive teaching cultures:** Persistent turnover can disrupt school stability, collegial relationships, collaboration and the accumulation of institutional knowledge.
- **Disproportionate impact on certain student groups:** Staffing inadequacies and turnover are most common in high-poverty, urban, and low-performing schools.

HEA Reauthorization & Title II



Enrollment in Teacher Preparation Programs

Teacher preparation enrollment and completion numbers, 2010-2017		
Year	Total number of enrollees	Total number of completers
2017 (AY2015-2016)	441,439	159,598
2016 (AY2014-2015)	418,573	172,139
2015 (AY2013-2014)	455,328	180,750
2014 (AY2012-2013)	499,800	192,459
2013 (AY2011-2012)	623,190	204,180
2012 (AY2010-2011)	684,801	217,492
2011 (AY2009-2010)	725,518	241,401
2010 (AY2008-2009)	719,081	232,707

Data source: U.S. Department of Education, Title II Report, includes state and territories. Enrollees include all state-approved teacher preparation programs, traditional, and university-based and non-university-based alternative programs. <https://title2.ed.gov/Public/Home.aspx>

Title II Advocacy

- **Convey local support to your members of Congress, especially with the FY2020 appropriations process and HEA reauthorization, urging them to sustain Title II funding in ESSA and HEA and to include the PREP Act in HEA reauthorization.**
- Target efforts to the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee rewrite of HEA so that K-12 provisions may be addressed during the House-Senate reconciliation process.
- Provide salient examples of success stories (such as local and state recruitment /retention strategies, equitable distribution of effective teachers, etc.).
- Note the possible impact on student achievement and school district accountability regarding ESSA compliance.

Broadband and E-Rate

- Federal Communications Commission proposals to inhibit effectiveness of E-Rate and expansion of broadband services to schools and libraries –
WC Docket No. 06-122
- NSBA urges the FCC to reject the proposed rule that would place a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF) and a sub-cap on the Schools and Libraries (E-Rate) and Rural Health Care Programs.
- NSBA urges the FCC to support school boards and districts in expanding access to high-speed broadband so students have enhanced access in and out of school.

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of)
)
Universal Service Contribution Methodology) WC Docket No. 06-122

**REPLY COMMENTS FROM SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATIONS OPPOSING THE
NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING TO PLACE A CAP ON THE UNIVERSAL
SERVICE FUND AND A SUB-CAP ON THE E-RATE AND RURAL HEALTH CARE
PROGRAMS AND INSTEAD TO WORK WITH SCHOOL BOARDS AND FOCUS ON
CLOSING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE IN EDUCATION**

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Reply Comments in the Form of a Letter

Dear Chairman Pai, Commissioner O’Rielly, Commissioner Carr, Commissioner Rosenworcel,
and Commissioner Starks:

We, the undersigned, represent school board members across the nation who work diligently to give each student an excellent education that will prepare them for future success. There are more than 14,000 school districts and 90,000 school board members who spend each day striving to meet that goal. On behalf of those school board members and the many millions of students who attend public schools, we urge the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) to reject the proposal in the recently published Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to place a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF) and a sub-cap on the Schools and Libraries (E-Rate) and Rural Health Care Programs.¹ Instead, we respectfully request that the Commission join with the nation’s school board members to focus on expanding access to high-speed broadband so students have enhanced access in and out of school.

E-Rate is a vital program that aids schools and libraries to connect to high-speed broadband so that students have access to the Internet and the digital tools and adaptive technology essential for successful learning in today’s modern world. Thousands of schools are now connected to high-speed broadband thanks to the Commission’s modernization and expansion of E-Rate in 2014. Unfortunately, the proposed rule being considered by the Commission could harm that success at a time we should be expanding universal access.

¹ Federal Communications Commission, Note of Proposed Rule Making re Universal Service Fund Contribution Methodology, FCC 19-46; WC Docket No. 06-122, Federal Register p. 27570, June 13, 2019. Accessed July 28, 2019.

NSBA Statement of
Opposition signed by
each state school
boards association –
August 2019

Advance Refunding of School Bonds

- **Urge your representatives to co-sponsor and pass H.R. 2772, the Investing in Our Communities Act of 2019.**
- Advance refunding allows school districts and other units of government to refinance outstanding municipal bonds at lower interest rates to achieve savings.
- Despite strong bipartisan support, the ability to deduct interest on advance refunding bonds was eliminated as part of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2017.
- Legislation to reinstate the tax deductibility of interest for advance refunding of municipal bonds was introduced by Reps. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD-2) and Steve Stivers (R-OH-15) - H.R.2772, the Investing in Our Communities Act of 2019. Companion legislation in the Senate is being drafted.
- This legislation is important as Congress considers any tax extenders package, and as tax writing committees consider infrastructure legislation -- good opportunities to advocate for advance refunding reinstatement in the federal tax code.

Advance Refunding – Local Examples

Issuer	Sale Date	State	Main Use of Proceeds	Bond Volume (\$ millions)	Minimum Savings from	G	H	
6983	Fort Mill School Facilities Corp	05/21/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	63.05	1.89		
6988	Greenwood Fifty School Facs Inc	03/02/16	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	111.88	3.36		
6989	Growth Rem Opp W/O Tx Hike (GROWTH)	05/16/13	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	85.33	2.56		
6990	Horry Co SD	05/02/12	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	59.46	1.78		
6991	Jasper Co SD	05/09/13	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	16.33	0.49		
6993	Kershaw Co Pub Schools Foundation	11/10/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	101.90	3.06		
6994	Lancaster Ed Assistance Prog Inc	04/25/13	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	36.55	1.10		
6995	Laurens Co SD #56	10/15/14	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	16.76	0.50		
6996	Laurens Co SD #56	01/12/16	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	21.46	0.64		
6997	Lexington Co SD #1	03/21/13	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	18.72	0.56		
6998	Lexington Co SD #1	02/18/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	60.85	1.83		
6999	Lexington Co SD #1	01/11/16	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	18.20	0.55		
7000	Lexington Co SD #1	10/18/17	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	82.91	2.49		
7001	Lexington Co SD #4	02/29/16	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	9.20	0.28		
7002	Lexington One School Facs Corp	03/18/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	39.32	1.18		
7003	Lexington SD #2 Educ Fac Corp	03/25/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	17.62	0.53		
7006	McCormick Co SD	05/10/12	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	4.08	0.12		
7008	Newberry Investing In Children's Ed	10/07/14	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	61.19	1.84		
7009	Orangeburg Co CSD #3	11/07/12	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	8.75	0.26		
7012	Richland Co SD #1	11/05/14	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	59.12	1.77		
7013	Richland Co SD #1	11/05/14	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	68.93	2.07		
7014	Richland Co SD #2	12/06/12	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	28.22	0.85		
7017	SC Assoc of Govt Orgs (SCAGO)	12/08/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	22.81	0.68		
7022	SCAGO Ed Facs Corp (Cherokee SD)	04/22/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	29.78	0.89		
7023	SCAGO Ed Facs Corp (Colleton)	04/30/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	76.99	2.31		
7024	SCAGO Ed Facs Corp (Pickens)	02/25/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	262.86	7.89		
7025	SCAGO Ed Facs Corp (Spartanburg)	03/25/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	12.88	0.39		
7026	SCAGO Ed Facs Corp (Spartanburg)	05/12/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	13.60	0.41		
7027	SCAGO Ed Facs Corp (Sumter #17)	09/30/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	32.92	0.99		
7028	SCAGO Ed Facs Corp (Union)	09/15/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	31.59	0.95		
7029	Securing Assets for Education (SAFE)	03/25/15	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	71.73	2.15		
7041	Spartanburg Co SD #1	10/16/14	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	60.74	1.82		
7042	Spartanburg Co SD #7	05/14/14	SC	Primary & Secondary Education	21.70	0.65		



Child Nutrition

- Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Pat Roberts (R-KS) is exploring options for child nutrition reauthorization regarding:
 - Maintaining a 5-year administrative review cycle, rather than a 3-year cycle
 - Streamlining reporting requirements
 - Instituting comprehensive site visits, rather than for each program (school lunch, breakfast, snack programs)
 - Supporting local efforts to address “lunch shaming”

School Infrastructure and Broadband Connectivity

- National infrastructure investments is a likely priority next year in Congress.
 - Inclusive of broadband connectivity.
 - Municipal bond programs may see expansions / reinstatements (such as Build America Bonds and Qualified Zone Academy Bonds for schools).
- H.R. 865, the Rebuild America's Schools Act was reported out of the Education and Labor Committee last February by a vote of 26 to 20.
 - Would invest \$100 billion to improve the physical and digital infrastructure at high-poverty schools.
 - Would impose Davis Bacon requirements on employers as part of a provision regarding municipal bonds for school infrastructure.
 - *NSBA supports the overall bill, but opposes the Davis Bacon provision.*

2020 Census

- The number of young children missed in the Decennial census is large, growing, and the consequences are serious.
- Young children are missed for different reasons than adults, prompting the need to count young children differently than we count adults.
- Schools can play a significant role in helping count young children.
- U.S. Census Bureau Statistics in Schools program is conducting outreach with school districts.
- School boards are urged to support state/local **Complete Count Committees**.

**Count All Kids Campaign*

2020 Census: Being Counted Helps Young Children Thrive

- *Stronger political representation:* federal, state, county and school board districts
- *More funding for key programs:* more complete Census data can increase funding for some programs (Medicaid, CHIP, foster care, childcare)—States lost more than a half billion dollars a year from just five programs.
- *More equitable distribution of funds:* When total funding is capped, Census data often determines who gets it (Title I, Special Ed, CCDBG, Head Start expansion funds)
- *Better planning:* school size, health facilities, private enterprise
- *Better information on child well being:* Census data provides 10 of 16 indicators used in yearly KIDS COUNT report
- *Affects all Census data for a decade:* Most of a young child's childhood

**Count All Kids Campaign*

2020 Census



[CENSUS.GOV/SCHOOLS](https://census.gov/schools)

**Shape
your future
START HERE >**

United States®
**Census
2020**

Questions?

Deborah Rigsby, Program Director, Federal Legislation

drigsby@nsba.org



Working with and through our State Associations to advocate for equity and excellence in public education through school board leadership.

www.nsba.org