

FEDERAL ADVOCACY
UPDATE

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What's an advocate?

- A person who publicly supports or recommends a particular cause or policy
- YOU are an advocate. It is one of the many 'hats' you wear as a superintendent.
- Your voice matters. No one is better positioned to tell your district's story.
- Weigh in early, weigh in often.
- Relationships matter. It is a marathon, not a sprint.
- Are you Pollyanna? Chicken Little? Other?

2017: The Year of Superintendent Advocacy

- Can you commit to 5 minutes a week?
- YOU know your story. A little lobbying secret: Everything you need to know to lobby, you learned in kindergarten: CUT & PASTE
- Identify one theme/topic per month, and share the same information with your full delegation
- As you do more direct advocacy, rely on your membership benefits of belonging to both your state association and AASA
 - Topic summaries, one pagers, talking points, contact information

Of Trump and Education

- Question used to be: How will he treat the department of education?
- How do the promises of the candidate compare to the policies of the President?
- Top Three Proposals:
 - Fed govt out of higher ed loans
 - Early ed (child care) – mostly through tax credits
 - K12 choice
 - \$20 b for vouchers: Convert IDEA or Title I? Bully pulpit for state dollars?
- Just as concerning: Who is head of FCC?
- Funding, funding, funding.

Cuts to School-Based Medicaid on the Horizon

- GOP Goal: Reduce federal expenditures by 30%
- GOP Plan: Institute a block-grant or per-capita cap on Medicaid
- GOP Legislative Vehicle: Budget Reconciliation
- Since 1968, districts can provide EPSDT services for Medically eligible children and be reimbursed.
- Since 1988, districts can bill for medically-necessary services related to IEP
- Is it easy to bill? NO. Is it worth it for some districts? ABSOLUTELY.
- 1% of all federal Medicaid dollars go to schools
- 46% of Medicaid beneficiaries are children
- 19% of the costs of Medicaid are incurred by children.

Types of Vouchers



Traditional Vouchers

- All Students
- Targeted
 - Military
 - Disabilities
 - Poverty
 - Poor Performing Schools
 - Foster Child

Backdoor Vouchers

- Tuition Tax Credits
- Education Savings Accounts

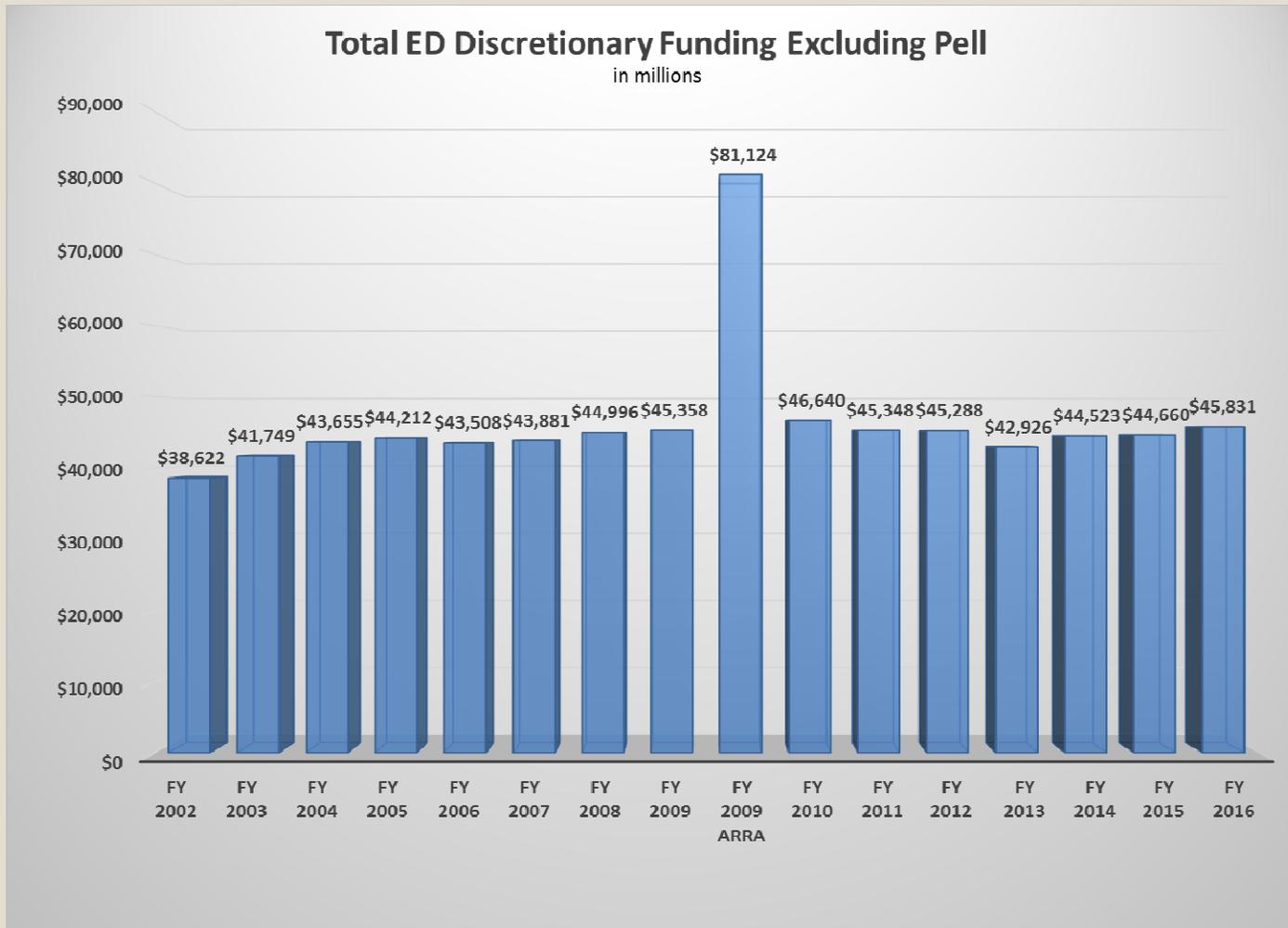
Portability

- A Step Towards Vouchers
- Title I funds "follow the student"

ESSA

- Implementation is full steam ahead, and starts for the 2017-18 school year.
- Congressional Review Act rescinds the accountability regulations. For you, that means write your state accountability plans to the statute.
- Implementation of ESSA will hinge on how much your state makes significant changes to the accountability workbook AND funding.
- In light of the CRA, its important for Congress to be diligent in its ESSA oversight.
- Funding will be important part of initial roll out of ESSA.

FUNDING

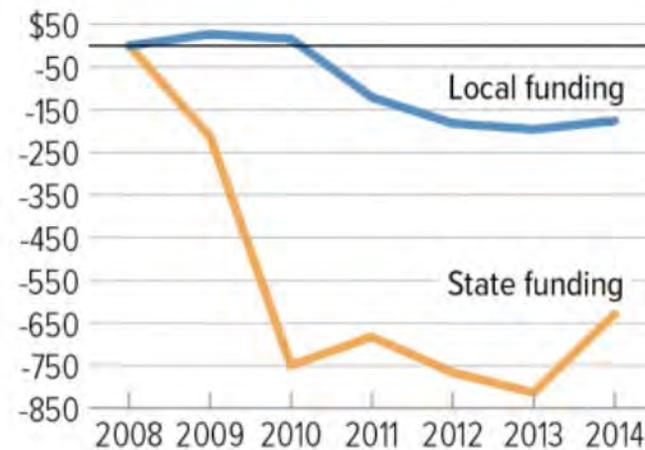


FUNDING

- 35 states provided less overall state funding per student in 2014 school year than in 2008 the year the recession took hold
- In 27 states, local government funding per student fell over the same period, adding to the damage of state cuts

K-12 Funding Fell Sharply After Recession Hit

Change in funding per pupil compared to 2008, inflation adjusted



Note: Excludes Hawaii and Indiana due to lack of data.

Source: CBPP analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, "Public Education Finances: 2014"

CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES | CBPP.ORG

FY17 & FY18: Tale of Two Budgets

- FY17 CR through April 28
 - In CR, we need conforming language for Title I/SIG money and for Title IV
- FY17 Priority:
 - Title I must be funded at level to meet state set aside and preserve LEA allocations and avoid \$200m shortfall for LEAs
 - IDEA: Level funding of IDEA puts the federal share at 16%, below the 2005 level, when federal share was 18%
 - Title IV: Fund Title IV at a level that supports local formula allocation

FY17 & FY18: Tale of Two Budgets

- FY18 Priority:
 - Very real threat of deep cuts.
 - Parity between defense/non-defense discretionary
- \$54b increase for defense discretionary; paid for with \$54 b cut to NDD
- \$9 b (13%) cut to USED
- \$1.4 b increase for school choice/privatization
 - \$1b for Title I portability; \$250 m for vouchers; \$168 m for charters
- Level funds IDEA
- Eliminates Title IIA and 21st Century Community Learning grants
- Eliminate 20 other categorical grants

Perkins CTE Reauthorization

- House passed bipartisan legislation in July 405-5 to reauthorize Perkins
- Senate didn't take action
- House expected to re-introduce legislation soon—should be very similar.
- Senate is a big ?
- AASA supported the House bill

SCOTUS and Education

- Two cases relevant to education in front of SCOTUS
- Fry:
 - Must a family exhaust provisions under IDEA before exercising protections under ADA?
 - Signed onto NSBA amicus
- Endrew:
 - Filed amicus
 - Question of level of 'benefit' special education must provide

Things to Watch

- CRA: ESSA and Teacher Prep Regs
- Immigration (DACA)
- Vouchers/Charters/Portability
 - Sen Scott proposal introduced this week
- ACA Repeal and Replace:
 - Impact for Medicaid block grant
 - 30 v 40 hr work week; Excise (Cadillac) Tax; Employer Mandate
- Infrastructure Plan
 - Offset by negating ability of state/local taxes to be deducted from federal income taxes
- E-Rate/Lifeline
 - Net neutrality
 - Reduction of funding increase provided in 2014
- Supreme Court Decisions

Sources for education policy news

- Websites & Newsletters
 - EdWeek
 - [Politics K12](#)
 - [Morning Education](#) (Politico)
 - [Real Clear Education](#)
 - [Cabinet Report](#)
- Coalitions
 - National Coalition for Public Education
 - Committee for Education Funding
 - Medicaid Claiming
 - Forest Counties
 - E-Rate
 - Rebuild America's Schools

AASA Advocacy: Legislative Agenda

Our legislative portfolio is very broad, and our team is deeply connected to the broader education community for all our policy priorities:

- ESSA
- School Nutrition
- Perkins Career/Tech
- IDEA
- Rural Education (REAP, Forest Counties, Impact Aid)
- School Vouchers
- Medicaid
- E-Rate/Lifeline/EBS
- Student Data & Privacy
- Charters
- Higher Education Act
- Affordable Care Act
- Immigration
- Regulations
- Infrastructure & more!

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QUESTIONS?