

COUNCIL OF URBAN BOARDS OF EDUCATION

CUBE

FRN PRE-CONFERENCE
WEBINAR

National School Boards Association
December 16, 2009

FRN Pre-Conference Webinar Agenda

- Federal Relations Network (FRN) Program
- 2010 FRN Conference – Why Should You Attend?
- 2010 FRN Conference – What Can You Expect?
- What Issues Will Be Addressed at the FRN Conference?
- How Can I Prepare for the Conference?
- Advocacy Resources Available
- Questions & Answers

Kathleen Branch

Director, Advocacy Services



Federal Relations Network (FRN)

□ **FRN Appointment**

FRN participants are appointed by their state association to attend the FRN Conference and to be a contact for members of Congress throughout the year to discuss NSBA's positions on key education issues.

□ **FRN Responsibilities**

- Timely response to ALL calls-to-action;
- Commitment to develop a year-round relationship with your members of Congress; and
- Willingness to distribute calls-to-action and background materials to your school board colleagues and to get others involved.

2010 FRN Conference

- In addition to FRN delegates, school board members from CUBE districts are also invited to attend the annual FRN Conference
- 37th Annual FRN Conference
January 31-February 2, 2010
Hilton Washington Hotel
Washington, DC
- www.nsba.org/FRN2010

The FRN Conference



- Why Should I Attend?
- What Can I Expect?

Top 10 List for FRN Members

Ten reasons you should attend the *2010 FRN Conference*

10. NSBA's Federal Relations Network (FRN) Conference is the *only* national legislative conference exclusively for school board members. Perfectly timed at the beginning of a new session of Congress, FRN members have the opportunity to set the education agenda for the coming year.

9. **Be a face for school districts in Washington.** As a representative exclusively appointed by your state association, share your expertise on the implementation of policies in your school district. Your members of Congress will rely on you to let them know what education policies work—and don't work—for their constituents back home.

8. **ESEA/NCLB reauthorization.** Every year the law becomes more of a problem. We must push Congress to reauthorize ESEA/NCLB in order to fix the problems and commit to our agenda *before* new legislation is drafted.

7. **Funding, funding, funding.** We need to make sure education does not "fall off the cliff" when stimulus funds ~~end~~ after fiscal year 2010. The funding decisions Congress makes in 2010 will set the stage for future federal investments in education.

6. **Take your advocacy skills to the next level.** Learn advocacy and communications strategies to further your efforts at the national, state, and local levels. Put the strategies and tactics to work in face-to-face meetings with members of Congress on the "Day on the Hill" on Tuesday, February 2, 2010.

5. **Support local school board governance.** Both the Department of Education and some members of Congress are seeking alternatives to local school board governance, as they voice support for expanding charters, voucher programs, and mayoral takeovers. Demonstrate the effective role of local school boards to build 21st Century

4. Create a positive future vision for public education through NSBA supported legislation on 21st century learning in k-12, such as expanding E-Rate funding and function for education technology, and in pre-k education.
3. Between the funding opportunities and the long-term education policy that is set, board members will see a return on investment that will far exceed the cost of attending this year's meeting.
2. An advocacy effort does make a difference. Last year, school board members at the FRN took their "shovel-ready for the stimulus" message to Capitol Hill during a decisive time in the Senate for the stimulus bill. Shortly after the conference, Congress passed a stimulus bill with a record \$100 billion for education.
1. If you don't represent your school district, who will?

37th Annual FRN Conference

January 31 – February 2, 2010

Washington, D.C.



What Should I Expect at the FRN Conference?

- 2010 Conference Theme:
- Educate Our Children Today
For a Strong America Tomorrow

What to expect at the FRN Conference?

Conference Events

- Sunday: Legislative Committee Meetings (Pre-k & Teacher and Principal Effectiveness), New Member Orientation, Early Bird Sessions, General Sessions, Capitol Steps
- Monday: Legislative Seminars, Luncheon, Afternoon Breakouts, Congressional Speakers
- Tuesday: NSBA's Day on the Hill, Meetings with members of Congress, Congressional Reception
- Special session on Race to the Top, School Innovation Funds and I (3) funds.

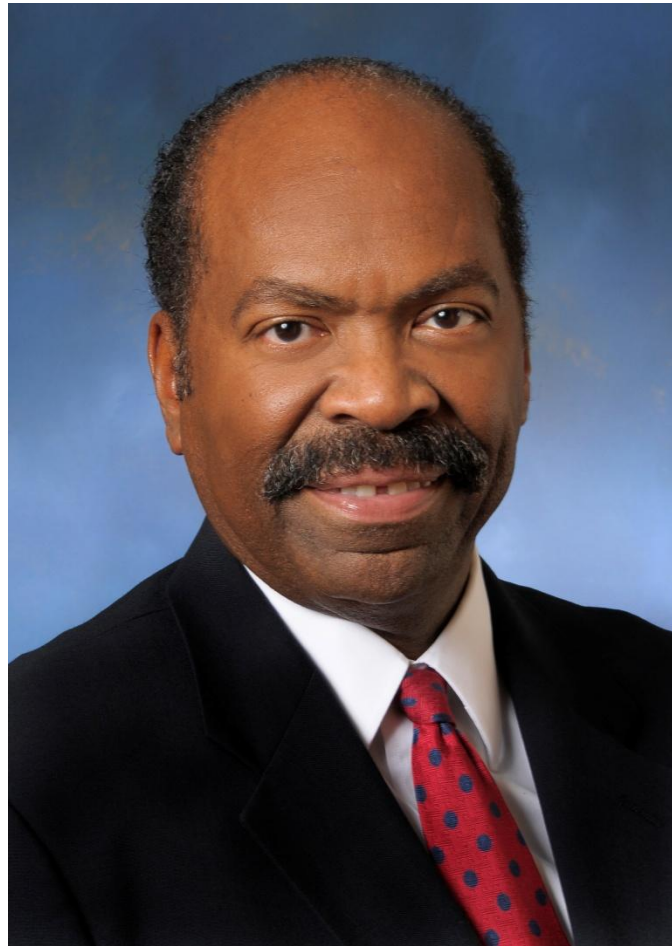
Issues at the FRN Conference



- ESEA/NCLB Reauthorization
- Education Funding
- ARRA Implementation
- Early Childhood Education
- E-Rate

Reggie Felton

Director, Federal Relations



ESEA/NCLB Reauthorization

- US Department of Education Continues Stakeholders Meetings
- US Department of Education Released Broad Principles to Capitol Hill
 - ▣ Rigorous Standards
 - ▣ Great Teachers & Leaders
 - ▣ Transform Persistently Low Performing Schools
 - ▣ Effective Use of Data

ESEA/NCLB Reauthorization

- US Department of Education Released Broad Principles to Capitol Hill (Cont.)
 - ▣ Better Measures of Student Learning
 - ▣ Build State and School District Capacity
 - ▣ Recognize and Reward Success
 - ▣ Comprehensive Accountability
 - ▣ College Ready/Career Ready
 - ▣ Expand & Sustain Innovation

ESEA/NCLB Reauthorization

- White House Proposal Expected January 2010
- Final Regulation Issued on Requirements for School Improvement Grants
- Proposed Requirements Issued for Innovation Grants
- Reauthorization Possible in 2010

Deborah Rigsby

Director, Federal Legislation



Special Education (IDEA)

- Bipartisan legislation introduced to provide full funding for the federal share (40%) of the national average per pupil cost under the *Individuals With Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA) by the year 2015.
- Current federal funding level for IDEA is approximately 17%, at \$11.5 billion for FY2009.*
- Urge your members of Congress to co-sponsor the following bills for IDEA full funding.

□ *Does not include the two-year funding of \$11.3 billion for IDEA Part B grants in the *American Recovery & Reinvestment Act* for FY2009-10.

IDEA Funding: Urge your senators and representatives to co-sponsor this legislation.

- **S. 1652, the “IDEA Full Funding Act”**
 - ▣ Introduced by Senators Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Pat Roberts (R-KS)

- **H.R. 3578 – “Everyone Deserves Unconditional Access to Education” (EDUCATE) Act,**
 - ▣ Introduced by Reps. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), Todd Platts (R-PA) and Tim Walz (D-MN)

FY2010 Education Funding



- **H.R. 3288 Division B** -- FY2010 Labor-Health & Human Services-Education Appropriations bill
- House and Senate passed the measure as part of the FY2010 Consolidated Appropriations Bill
- President is expected to sign the bill shortly

FY2010 Education Funding

- Bill maintains funding levels for Title I grants and special education
- Increases funding for Teacher Incentive Fund
- Funds a new High School Graduation Initiative
- NSBA [Funding chart](#) for select programs is available online.

"Jobs for Main Street Act"

- House of Representatives scheduled to begin consideration of the “Jobs for Main Street Act” on December 16.
- Would provide \$23 billion for an “Education Jobs Fund” to states, school districts and institutions of higher education for job retention and creation and school modernization.
- \$23 billion would be available as an extension of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund that was created through the economic stimulus last February.

"Jobs for Main Street Act"

- Of the \$23 billion “Education Jobs Fund” proposed, states would be allowed to retain up to five percent for related education jobs and administration.
- Allocations to school districts would be based on existing state aid formulae.
- Funding would be available until September 30, 2010.
- Education reform assurances would not apply.

"Jobs for Main Street Act"

- “Education Jobs Fund” maintenance of effort requirements for states:
 - For Fiscal Year 2010, states must maintain level of fiscal aid for elementary and secondary education at FY 2009 level or *“at a level no less than such support for fiscal year 2006.”*
 - For Fiscal Year 2011, states would have to maintain FY2009 level of fiscal support or FY2010 level.

"Jobs for Main Street Act"

- Would revise provisions for Qualified School Construction Bonds and Qualified Zone Academy Bonds
- Federal government would directly pay the interest costs to the school district, local government or state, instead of providing a tax credit to the bond holder, at an estimated \$4.1 billion in grants.

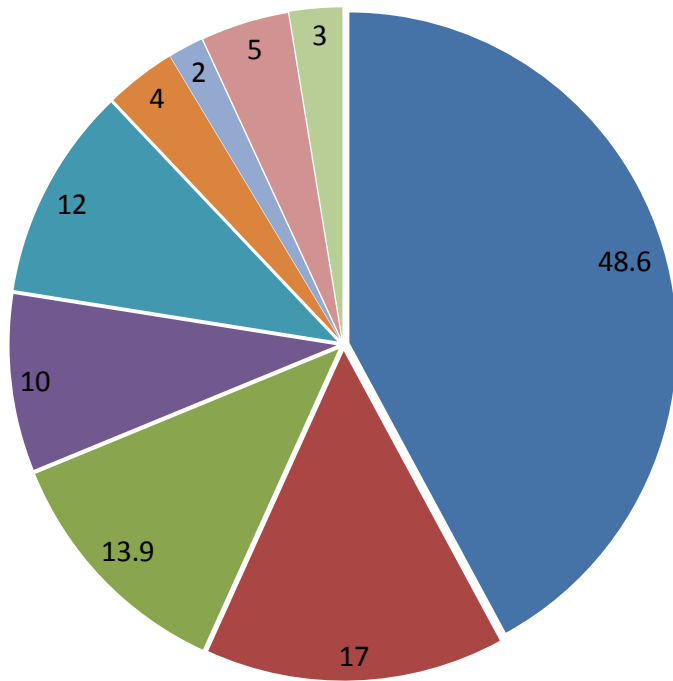
American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

Implementation Update



ARRA Investment in Education

\$100 billion over Fiscal Years 2009 - 2010



- State Stabilization
- Pell Grants
- Higher Ed Tax Credit
- Title I
- IDEA
- Early Childhood
- Various*
- Race to the Top and I3
- SIG

* Including such programs as state technology grants, vocational rehab, work study and Impact Aid.



Spend Quickly
to Save and
Create Jobs



Drive
Education
Reform

K-12 Reform Assurances



Standards and Assessments



Data Systems and Using Data for Improvement



Effective Teachers and Leaders



Turning Around the Lowest Achieving Schools

Race to the Top Fund

- \$4.35 billion to support state /district partnerships
- Standards & Assessments
- Robust data systems
- Teacher & principal effectiveness
- Greater support for schools needing improvement

Race to the Top Fund

- At least one-half of a state's funding goes to “participating districts” that sign memoranda of understanding (MOU) with state.
- A “scope of work” document must accompany the MOU.
- 3-year program with a point process for states.

Race to the Top Fund

- Districts are involved as “participating” and “involved” districts
- State cannot prohibit evaluation of teachers based on student test scores
- State does not have to remove any cap on charter schools

School Improvement Grants

- \$3 billion available to states
- Targets 5000 lowest performing schools
- Turnaround models proposed that could impact staff, school governance, teacher quality
- Districts would need to develop 3-year achievement goals

Investing In Innovation (i3) Fund

- \$650 million in competitive grants
- Available directly to school districts & non-profit partners in 3 categories:
 - ▣ **Scale up grants** (up to \$50 million) for programs with strong evidence of improving student achievement;
 - ▣ **Validation grants** (up to \$30 million) to target existing programs with good evidence and a need to build their research base;
 - ▣ **Development grants** (up to \$5 million) for new and high potential practices.

Lucy Gettman

Director, Federal Programs



Early Childhood Education

A high priority for the Administration and many members of Congress, with collaborative potential for school districts.

House: Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act (SAFRA)

- Includes \$1 billion annually for the Early Learning Challenge Fund for states to develop and improve early learning systems.
- Passed the House September 19, 2009.
- **Our thanks** go out to those who responded to NSBA's call to action.

Senate: Investing in Students for a Stronger America (ISSA)

- Not yet introduced – timeline dependent on healthcare reform.
- Language may be streamlined to comply with Senate reconciliation rules.

E-Rate Discounts for Schools & Libraries

The E-Rate provides \$2.25 billion in discounts annually for advanced, affordable telecommunications services, Internet access and internal connections to public libraries and public and private schools.

From 1998 to 2005, the percentage of public school instructional classrooms with internet access has climbed from 51% to 94% - helped to a great extent by E-Rate*

The E-rate program is a vital source of assistance in maintaining Internet connectivity, bringing new learning opportunities to special education students, and enhancing distance-learning in rural areas.

*U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (2006). Internet Access in U.S. Public Schools and Classrooms: 1994-2005 (NCES 2007-020)

E-Rate Issue #1: Available Discounts

- Demand far exceeds available discounts – more than \$4 billion have been applied for, but the \$2.25 billion cap has not changed in many years – not even in response to inflation.
- By one estimate, the purchasing power has eroded to \$1.68 billion*
- NSBA supports an increase in the E-Rate cap.

* U.S. Senator Rockefeller, Chair, Commerce, Science & Transportation Committee

E-Rate Issue #2:

Administration and the Anti-Deficiency Act

- In 2004, the OMB ruled that E-rate fell under the Anti-Deficiency Act (ADA), which effectively forced the suspension of E-rate funding commitment decision letters to schools. The suspension affected over 4,000 schools and library applicants where some schools lost Internet connections. Thanks to strong efforts by Senators John Rockefeller (D-WV) and Olympia Snowe (R-ME), Congress has included temporary one-year exemptions from the ADA for E-Rate for the past several years.
- **A new extension of the exemption until 2010 is included in the Consolidated Appropriations bill that awaits the President's signature.** The extension requested by NSBA and others assures that schools and libraries receive notifications in a timely manner and be able to plan for their education technology needs, while NSBA continues to advocate for long term resolution of the E-Rate/ADA issue and other enhancements to the program.

Take Action: Senators Rockefeller & Snowe have introduced S. 348 to permanently exempt the E-Rate from the ADA. NSBA supports S 348 and urges Senators to co-sponsor/support regulatory relief for E-rate.

The FRN Conference

- How Can I Prepare for the Conference?
 - ▣ Background Materials
 - ▣ Your Homework
 - ▣ www.nsba.org/FRN2010

Meeting with Your Member of Congress

- ❑ Coordinate with your state association.
- ❑ Organize a planning meeting if you are meeting with other members of your school board.
- ❑ Choose a spokesperson(s) on the various issues.
- ❑ Include local data and examples.
- ❑ Follow-up with a thank you letter for the meeting, reinstating the points you covered.
- ❑ Contact NSBA to provide feedback on the meeting – i.e. that it occurred, pictures and talking points addressed.

Advocacy Resources

- Websites
 - www.nsba.org/advocacy
 - www.nsba.org/economicstimulus
- Issue Updates
- NSBA Weekly Legislative Highlights
- Write to your Members of Congress
 - Prewritten letter
 - Email or Fax

October 14, 2009

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Our Members: State Associations of School Boards

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- [2009 Advocacy Toolkit](#)
- [Key Issues](#)
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Advocacy & Legislation

Strengthen and Support America's Public Schools

NSBA's Office of Advocacy represents the interests of the nation's 95,000 local school board members before Congress. NSBA's priority issues for the 111th Congress include the following:

- » [No Child Left Behind Act](#)
- » [Federal Funding for Education](#)
- » [Teacher Quality](#)
- » [Early Education](#)
- » [Medicaid](#)
- » [School Vouchers](#)
- » [Education Technology \(E-Rate\)](#)
- » [Special Education \(IDEA\)](#)
- » [School Nutrition](#)

Check out NSBA's most recent [Legislative Highlights](#) at NSBA's Legislative Action Center.

Visit NSBA's Economic Stimulus Resource Center.



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Archives

Browse collections of NSBA's Action Alerts, Weekly Legislative Highlights and Policy Research Briefs.

Resources

Legislative Highlights

View NSBA's Legislative Highlights - both current and from the previous year.

Federal Action Alerts Archive

Read issues of NSBA's Federal Action Alerts.

Policy Research Briefs Archive

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NSBA National School Boards Association

School Board Leadership for Student Achievement

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Issues



Funding for Education: FY 2010 Appropriations

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Implementation of ARRA Stimulus Funds

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ESEA/NCLB Reauthorization

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NSBA's Legislative Highlights - October 12, 2009

Vouchers update, "i3" innovation funding, School Board News recap

[Read More](#)



H.R. 3221, Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2009

school modernization; early childhood education

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Early Childhood Education

[Read More](#) [Take Action](#)



E-Rate Program (School Technology)

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D.C. Voucher Program

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Economic Stimulus Website

- www.nsba.org/economicstimulus

Includes information:

- ▣ State Stabilization Funding
- ▣ NSBA Comments on Race to the Top and School Innovation Funds
- ▣ Latest news on ARRA
- ▣ Questions on ARRA

www.nsba.org/economicstimulus

Economic Stimulus Resource Center - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.nsba.org/economicstimulus

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Economic Stimulus Resource Center

The National School Boards Association (NSBA), and our state school boards associations working with the Federal Relations Network (FRN), the National Affiliate Advocacy Network (NAAN), and local school district advocates were successful in efforts to include \$100 billion of education funding in the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009* that will enable school districts to maintain the level of services to students amid the economic recession and state and local budget shortfalls. The law is also critical to help retain thousands of jobs for teachers and personnel that may have been affected because of projected budget cuts.

How is your school district using the additional funds from the stimulus law?
Share your school district stories with NSBA.

NSBA's Legislative Action Center - See how your members of Congress voted on ARRA and thank your members for supporting the bill.

RECENT NEWS
NSBA submits comments to the Department of Education on proposed requirements for school improvement grants under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*.

Resources

Overview of Programs Available Under the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*

Go here for a listing of programs available to school districts, including Race to the Top, Investing in Innovation, State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, etc.

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Resources

Overview of Programs Available Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
Go here for a listing of programs available to school districts, including Race to the Top, Investing in Innovation, State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, etc.

Implementation Resources
Go here for implementation information.

What is the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act? [PDF 53,860kb]
A summary of the law and what it means for education.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) [HTML 23,784kb]
NSBA answers frequently asked questions from school districts.

Funding Levels
How much money will the education community receive from the stimulus law? Here are resources on district, state and national funding levels.

Title I and IDEA Funding
Guidance from the U.S. Department of Education on Title I and IDEA funding in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

State Stabilization Funding Resources
How much will states and school districts receive under the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF)? Here are resources on estimated allocations and the Race to the Top Fund.

State Educational Technology Grants

School Bond Resources
Go here for information on the federal bond programs available for school construction and repairs.

Presentations and Webinars on the Economic Stimulus Law
Go here to download recent presentations given by NSBA staff on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The Road to Economic Recovery: Campaign for Education Funding
Learn about NSBA's and school board advocates' efforts to secure \$100 billion of education funding.

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The Center for Public Education
Practical information and analysis about public education

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Q & A



Questions & Answers

Questions?

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