



**DEPARTMENT OF DINÉ EDUCATION
THE NAVAJO NATION**

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**Russell Begaye
President**

**Jonathan Nez
Vice-President**

April 6, 2017

Latifah Phillips,
Asst. Secretary for Indian Education
New Mexico Public Education Department
300 Don Gasper Ave.
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Ms. Phillips,

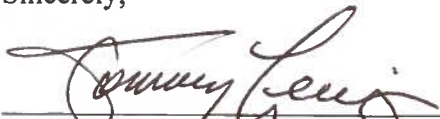
The Navajo Nation Office of Educational Research and Statistics is designated to continue and maintain quality research and statistical analysis on the status of maintaining a strong education system for all Navajo children. The Navajo Nation, home to over 10 school districts and over 50,000 students within or near the reservation border in the states of New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah.

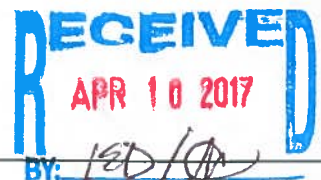
We are currently gathering statewide information on the Federal Impact Aid (IA) program. This program is designed to help local school districts in the country who have lost property tax revenue due to the presence of tax-exempt federal property, or that have undergone increased expenditures due to the federally connected children enrollment, including those on Native American land. We are requesting from the New Mexico Public Education Department a list of school districts and schools that receive IA funding. Furthermore, we would appreciate additional information on the school districts and schools' funding amount, most current school enrollment, and their location.

The information being requested will help the Navajo Nation Department of Diné education work efficiently to ensure all our students on or near the Navajo Nation are attaining an equal education opportunity. More importantly, the information will help support the Nation's initiative in creating an Advocacy Committee to address the termination of IA that the Trump Administration is proposing.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact my office at 928.871.7475.

Sincerely,


Dr. Tommy Lewis, Jr. Superintendent
Department of Diné Education
THE NAVAJO NATION



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