

WPSU Board of Representatives
Government Relations break-out session

November 19, 2019

Carolyn, Greg, Vince, Peggy, Chrissy

PA PTV CAUCUS MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT/STATE FUNDING

- Group reviewed targeted caucus prospects for WPSU.
- Allocation for FY19-20 \$750k for educational and technology needs as in previous years split among the 7 stations = no separate breakout for specific programs (Battling Opioids)
- 20-21 we are seeking to double the appropriation to \$1.5 million
- There is a unified message presented by our lobbyist Cozen O'Connor

FEDERAL FUNDING (CPB) UPDATE

- The current CR (Continuing Resolution), which is keeping the government funded at approximately last year's levels, is set to expire. However, Congress is not close to finalizing the FY 2020 appropriations process. It is feasible that another CR will be needed beyond the expiration of the current CR.
 - Question - would it help to have a volunteer reach out to elected officials to determine who handles their education and telecom issues and send out more frequent Nooz type updates?
 - Keep an eye on APTS updates as they unfold.
 - APTS logistics
 - Summit in February will be attended by Isabel, Greg and Peggy. Carolyn will join the capitol hill visits for just the one day (not attend full summit).
 - Vince volunteered to join Carolyn

PROTECT MY PUBLIC MEDIA

- We are advocating for the first boost to public media funding in 10 years because healthier stations make communities stronger, smarter and safer. Additional funding will allow your stations to continue providing the programming you depend on while expanding essential local service in education, public safety and civil discourse.
- You have helped communicate this important message – sending 158,000 communications to Congress this year – which has strengthened our efforts to secure increased funding.
- However there's more work to be done.
 - <https://protectmypublicmedia.org/>

CONN DINNER OUTREACH FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

- Group concurs that we should consider inviting members of our caucus to the Conn Dinner. Present it as a networking opportunity.