



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
MILILANI HIGH SCHOOL  
95-1200 MEHEULA PARKWAY  
MILILANI, HAWAII 96789

Date: July 29, 2013

To: Hawai'i State Board of Education Members  
From: Mililani High School  
Fred Murphy, Principal

Re: SCC Waiver for Mililani High School

Thank you for the opportunity to address Mililani High School's First Semester SCC Waiver. Below we have provided the information to the six questions Jill Zodrow asked to be addressed.

**1. The circumstances unique to the school justifying the waiver.**

- Mililani High School has run a special semester end exam schedule for *10 years* and it is an expectation of our community, parents, and students.
  - Students are provided a post secondary testing environment to prepare to be college and career ready (collegiate style exam schedule).
  - Students appreciate the added opportunity for tutoring and instructional assistance (between 40% and 55% of students engaged in end of semester interventions and tutoring program).
  - Parents agree that this schedule prepares their children for academic success by preparing them for a college experience.
  - The Mililani High School Community Council (SCC) agrees that this exam schedule allows ample opportunity for academic assistance and student success.
  - Teachers have seen the results of improved grades and appreciate embedded tutoring time.
  - Grades/Semester Reports available on-time for Post High School Institutions for Early/On-time Admittance.
  - Grade reports available for transient Military transfer students (usually leave at the end of the quarter or semester).
  - Timely feedback to counselors to provide timely intervention(s) for student success (5 weeks earlier after 1st Semester)
  - Timely feedback to teachers to utilize the breaks to provide learning opportunities and interventions for student success
  - Timely feedback to parents so that families may be involved in dialogue to improve student performance
  - Existing community/faculty expectation for policies that have been in place for nearly a decade
  - Providing students with an authentic Collegiate Experience with Final Exam Schedule (See attached).

**2. Significant harm to students' learning and students' achievement should the waiver not be granted.**

***Student Support***

- Students are given the opportunity to prepare for exams.
  - Students have a daily study hall period available to them. Teachers provide tutoring and instructional assistance during this time.
    - Approximately 55% (as reported by students) of our students utilize this instructional time during the special exam schedule.
    - Approximately 44% (as reported by students) of our students improved their grade as a result of utilizing this instructional time.
  - The number of exams taken in one day is limited, giving students ample time for preparation.

***Response to Intervention***

- Course changes for students who fail a course happen in a timely manner.
  - Students, parents, and counselors can work together for credit recovery by making course changes at the start of the semester, rather than in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the quarter.
  - Mililani High School does registration for the next school year in January. Students and parents can make better-informed decisions for course selection based on report cards.
    - Reduces course changes

***Transcript Deadlines***

- Encourage students to apply and complete college applications in a timely manner.
  - Transcript labels are done earlier. Students and parents get results before the beginning of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Students can send transcripts to colleges earlier than if grades were submitted at the normal time (4 days after the return to school).
  - Gives students more opportunities to apply for scholarships.

**3. The school's plan to exit the waiver and achieve full compliance with the statutory requirements.**

- We believe that this practice is one that is good for students Statewide. We are willing to work with the Department, Board of Education and the HSTA so that it would not be necessary to make such a request in the future.

**4. Whether the complex area superintendent and the superintendent concur with the request.**

- Please see attached letter from the complex area superintendent and the superintendent.

**5. Whether other applicable processes noted in Board Policy entitled "School Community Council Waivers and School Community Council Exceptions Policy" were completed.**

- The SCC Waiver and SCC Exceptions Policy were completed.

**6. Alternatives considered or implemented by the school prior to requesting the waiver.**

- The waiver has been in place for 10 years.
- We have recently increased the number of instructional minutes from 975 instructional minutes to 1285 instructional minutes during the exam week (next page).

Mililani High School Exam Schedule for the Week of December 16 to 20, 2013

	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI
7:55 – 8:00a	Opening	Opening	Opening	Opening	Opening
8:00 – 9:25a	Period 4	Exam (Per 1)	Exam (Per 3)	Exam (Per 5)	Intervention (Per 3)
	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess
9:50 – 11:16a	Period 5	Exam (Per 2)	Exam (Per 4)	Exam (Per 6)	Intervention (Per 4)
	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:33 – 1:17p	Exam Prep (P 1)	Exam Prep (P 3)	Exam Prep (P 5)	Intervention (Per 1)	Intervention (Per 5)
1:27 – 2:10p	Exam Prep (P 2)	Exam Prep (P 4)	Exam Prep (P 6)	Intervention (Per 2)	Intervention (Per 6)
2:10 – 2:55p	Prep	Prep	Prep	Prep	Prep

Your consideration for Mililani High School's SCC Waiver is greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact me at 351-2154 with any questions or comments.



To:  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Fw: Board of Education Waiver for SY 13-14 for Exam Schedules

From: John Brummel/CENDO/HIDOE  
To: Fred Murphy/MILILANH/HIDOE@HIDOE, Aloha Coleman/LEILEHUA/HIDOE@HIDOE,  
Date: 07/29/2013 03:16 PM  
Subject: Board of Education Waiver for SY 13-14 for Exam Schedules

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Hi Fred and Aloha,

I approve of Mililani and Leilehua High Schools' waiver for SY 13-14 for the following reasons:

- Grades/Semester Reports available on-time for Post High School Institutions for Early/On-time Admittance.
- Grade reports available for transient Military transfer students (usually leave at the end of qtr/sem)
- Timely feedback to counselors to provide timely intervention(s) for student success (5 weeks earlier after 1st Semester and 3weeks earlier for 1st and 3rd qtrs)
- Timely feedback to teachers to utilize the breaks to provide learning opportunities and interventions for student success
- Timely feedback to parents so that families may be involved in dialogue to improve student performance
- Providing students with an authentic Collegiate Experience (Qtr/Sem Finals)

Additionally, it is important to give our graduates equal opportunities for college admittance and scholarship opportunities. Some colleges and scholarship deadlines require specific due dates that are exceptions to the current schedule. I believe this waiver will allow additional time for our students to meet these deadlines.

Dr. John Brummel  
Complex Area Superintendent  
Leilehua, Mililani, Waialua Complexes  
808-285-5798