



Update/Discussion on the Status of Board Policy 4540, “High School Graduation and Commencement Policy”

Student Achievement Committee

August 16, 2011

Goal

- College and Career Ready for All
- One Diploma
- Flexibility and Options for Students
- Rigorous standards
- System of Support

Strategic Plan – Transforming Hawaii’s Public Schools

- 3 goals
 - College and Career Ready Through Effective Use of Standards-based Education
 - Ensure and Sustain A Rich Environment and Culture for Life-Long Learners
 - Continuously Improve the Effectiveness, Efficiency, and Responsiveness of the Educational System

Process for Input and Sharing

- Discussions with
 - American Diploma Project Hawaii Chapter
 - OCISS Specialists
 - group of 8 principals, 2 CAS', and 5 OCISS specialists
 - Leadership team
 - 22 principals and 4 CAS'
- Survey of 197 Student Council Students

Data Review

- top 20 IHE's
 - Social Studies req. 3 credits or less
 - Math req. 8/12 schools 3 credits, 4/12 – 4 credits
- Achieve
 - SS = 4/20 4 credits, 3/20 3.5 credits, 13/20 3 credits
 - Math = 7/20 3 credits, 13/20 4 credits

Student Council Survey

- I feel Social Studies should remain at 4 credits.
153 Yes
- I feel Social Studies should be changed to 3 credits.
144 Yes
- If Social Studies is changed to 3 credits, I will take a 4th credit in Social Studies. **149 Yes 142 No**
- If Social Studies is changed to 3 credits I will take the following elective course. **Top 3 – Language, Art, AP**
- I think Senior Project should be required for all students. **112 Yes 183 No**

Research Review

- Bachner, Jennifer. "From Classroom to Voting Booth: The Effect of High School Civic Education on Turnout." ***Bachner Civic Education Article. Harvard University***, 12 Sept. 2010. Web. 8 July 2011.
- Callahan, Rebecca M., Chandra Muller, and Kathryn S. Schiller. "Preparing the Next Generation for Electoral Engagement: Social Studies and the School Context." ***American Journal of Education*** 116.4 (2010): 525-56. Print.
- Rebecca Callahan, Chandra Muller, Kathryn Schiller. 2008. "Immigrant High School Students' Curriculum and Socialization." ***Theory and Research in Social Education***, 36(2): 6-31.

Research Findings

- Civics coursework has a significant effect on voting behavior
- If citizens are able to discuss politics and persuade others of their political beliefs, probability of voting is increased.
- “Learning in social studies course work links directly to political behaviors in young adulthood.”
- “By delivering engaging social studies programs, schools and educators can work to improve the electoral engagement of all students in the coming generation.”
- The formal curriculum and informal, social connections provided by schools are each important for the de-velopment of civic.

Implications

- Revise course requirements to align w/CCSS & Next Generation standards
- Shift instructional practices
- Align curriculum with CCSS
- Expand pathways for post secondary options
- Redefine counseling & guidance services
- Enhance systems of student support
- Reinforce K-12 (P-20) system