



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

September 30, 2011

TO: The Honorable Donald G. Horner, Chairperson
Board of Education

FROM:  Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION STUDIES

This is a continuation of a monthly report I furnished to the previous Board of Education on the status of school consolidation studies, beginning June 1, 2010. Updates since April 1, 2011 are in **bold face**.

Wailupe-Aina Haina

6/1/10 – Wailupe Elementary School was closed and the students transferred to Aina Haina Elementary effective July 1, 2009 per Board of Education action on May 1, 2009. The property reverted to the City & County of Honolulu.

Keanae-Hana

6/1/10 – Keanae School was closed per Board of Education action on February 18, 2010. The property will be transferred to the Department of Land & Natural Resources unless it is transferred to a charter school that has not yet submitted its application to the Charter School Review Panel.

Kohala

6/1/10 – The task force appointed to study the possible consolidation of the three Kohala schools held a public hearing on January 21, 2010 and forwarded its report and recommendation – not to consolidate the Kohala schools – to the complex area superintendent on February 21, 2010. The complex area superintendent forwarded his recommendation – not to consolidate the Kohala schools – together with the task force report and recommendation, to me. I asked my staff to conduct further study. The results will be available by mid-June, and I expect to be able to make my recommendation to the Board by June 15.

7/1 – I sent my recommendation – not to consolidate the Kohala schools at this time – together with the complex area superintendent's recommendation and the task force recommendation and report, to the Board on June 30.

8/2 – My recommendation was discussed at the July 12 meeting of the Board's Committee on Administrative Services. I understand the committee plans to take action at its August 9 meeting, followed by full Board consideration and possible action on August 19.

9/1 – The Board's Committee on Administrative Services at its August 9 meeting to recommended to the full Board that the Kohala schools not be consolidated. The full Board concurred at its August 19 meeting.

Maunaloa-Kualapuu-Kaunakakai

The task force appointed to study the possible consolidation of Maunaloa Elementary with either Kaunakakai or Kualapuu Elementary Schools held a public hearing on May 10, 2010 on its report and will forward its report with a recommendation to the complex area superintendent by June 9, 2010.

7/1/10 – The task force forwarded its report and recommendation – not to consolidate Maunaloa Elementary – to the complex area superintendent on June 4. The complex area superintendent forwarded his recommendation, together with the task force recommendation and report, to me on June 20. I expect to make my recommendation to the Board in July.

8/2 – I sent my recommendation – to consolidate Maunaloa Elementary with Kaunakakai Elementary administratively, but to continue to provide instruction to students at the Maunaloa campus – together with the complex area superintendent's recommendation and the task force recommendation and report, to the Board on July 15.

9/1 – The Board's Committee on Administrative Services discussed this matter at its August 9 meeting and deferred action until its September 13 meeting.

10/1 – The complex area superintendent, after further discussing with the Molokai elementary school principals the proposed administrative consolidation of Maunaloa School with Kaunakakai School, revised his recommendation on September 3 to "do not consolidate" as did I on September 7. The Committee on Administrative Services at its September 13 meeting recommended to the full Board that Maunaloa School not be consolidated administratively with Kaunakakai. The full Board concurred at its September 16 meeting.

Kaaawa-Hauula-Waiahole

6/1/10 – The task force appointed to study the possible consolidation of Kaaawa Elementary with either Hauula or Waiahole Elementary Schools, or both, will hold a public hearing on June 2, 2010 on its report and will forward its report with a recommendation to the complex area superintendent by July 2, 2010.

7/1 – The task force forwarded its report and recommendation – not to consolidate Kaaawa Elementary – to the complex area superintendent on June 15. The complex area superintendent forwarded her recommendation, together with the task force recommendation and report, to me on June 29. I expect to make my recommendation to the Board in July.

8/2 – I sent my recommendation – not to consolidate Kaaawa Elementary with either or both of Hauula Elementary and Waiahole Elementary – together with the complex area superintendent's recommendation and the task force recommendation and report, to the Board on July 12.

9/1 – Due to an internal communication glitch, my recommendation to the Board was re-sent on August 3. The Board chair referred it to the Committee on Administrative Services on August 12.

10/1/10 – The Committee on Administrative Services at its September 13 meeting recommended to the full Board that Kaaawa School not be consolidated. The Board's consideration of this recommendation is on its October 7 meeting agenda.

11/1 – The full Board concurred at its October 7 meeting.

The school consolidation reports for the five studies above were undertaken by task forces appointed by the complex area superintendents pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 8-38, Hawaii Administrative Rules ("Consolidation of Public Schools"). Chapter 8-38 was amended effective June 15, 2009, and the consolidation reports for the studies below are being or will be conducted by DOE staff, not by a task force.

Waialua complex schools

6/1/10 – The Board's Committee on Administrative Services recommended that I be directed to hold a public hearing on a draft report on the possible consolidation of the three schools in the Waialua complex. The Board will consider this recommendation at its June 3 general business meeting. If the Board concurs with the committee's recommendation, it is my intention to have the public hearing held in the Haleiwa Elementary School cafeteria on July 7, 2010. The draft report is available on the DOE's website at <http://consolidation.k12.hi.us/studies/waialua/index.htm>.

7/1 – The Board Chair determined at the June 3 general business meeting that the Committee on Administrative Service's recommendation for a public hearing was sufficient, and need not be further considered by the full board. The public hearing will be held as noted above at 6 p.m. on July 7. I expect to make my recommendation to the Board in August.

8/2 – The Department held a public hearing on July 7. I expect to make my recommendation to the Board this month.

9/1 – I sent my recommendation – not to consolidate the Waialua complex schools – together with the consolidation report to the Board on August 16.

10/1 – The Committee on Administrative Services recommended to the full Board at its September 13 meeting that the schools in the Waialua complex not be consolidated. The Board is expected to consider this recommendation in October.

11/1 – The Board concurred at its October 21 meeting.

Kaiser complex elementary schools

6/1/10 – DOE staff reviewed a preliminary draft report with the complex school community councils on May 11, 2010. DOE staff is revising and completing the draft report based on additional information available internally, from school administrators, and from school community councils. DOE staff expects to review a revised draft report with the school community councils later in June. The draft report is available on the DOE's website at <http://consolidation.k12.hi.us/studies/kaiser/index.htm>.

7/1 – The revised draft report is now expected to be available in July.

8/2 – The revised draft report is now expected to be available in August.

9/1 – A revised draft report was posted on the DOE website cited above on August 31 and will be reviewed with the Kaiser complex school community councils on September 27.

10/1 – The revised draft report (draft #4) was reviewed with the Kaiser complex school community councils September 27. This draft report is on the website cited above. After revisions based on input from this meeting, I expect to recommend this month to the Board that I be directed to hold a public hearing on the draft report, in accordance with Chapter 38, HAR.

11/1/10 – The Committee on Administrative Services at its October 18 meeting recommended to full Board that I be directed to hold a public hearing on the draft report, in accordance with Chapter 38, HAR. The Board is expected to consider this recommendation this month.

12/1 – The Board chair determined that whether a public hearing should be held need not be further considered by the full board. The public hearing will be held in the Kaiser High School

cafeteria at 6:30 p.m. on December 15. I expect to make my recommendation to the Board in January.

1/3 – The public hearing was held as scheduled on December 15. I expect to make my recommendation to the Board this month.

2/1 – Rather than pursue consolidation, we now believe it would be more appropriate to adjust the attendance areas of Aina Haina and Koko Head Elementary Schools, Who is Keoni, The effect of this transfer will be to increase the Koko Head enrollment so that the school no longer needs a small school allocation and to decrease the Aina Haina enrollment so that the school no longer needs two portable classrooms. I described this in a memorandum to you dated January 13, 2011. The next step will be for the complex area superintendent to hold a community meeting to discuss this. In a letter to parents dated January 31, he set this meeting for February 16 at 6 p.m. in the Kaiser High School cafeteria.

3/1 – Incorporating input received at the February 16 community meeting, the complex area superintendent issued a decision on February 25 to change the attendance areas of Aina Haina and Koko Head Elementary Schools by transferring the Kuliouou neighborhood from the Aina Haina attendance area to the Koko Head attendance area. As a result, we will no longer consider the consolidation of schools in the Kaiser complex at this time.

Kalani complex elementary schools

6/1/10 – DOE staff reviewed a preliminary draft report with the complex school community councils on May 27, 2010. DOE staff is revising and completing the draft report based on additional information available internally, from school administrators, and from school community councils. DOE staff expects to review a revised draft report with the school community councils later in June. The draft report is available on the DOE's website at <http://consolidation.k12.hi.us/studies/kalani/index.htm>.

7/1 – The revised draft report is now expected to be available in July.

8/2 – The revised draft will be distributed to a joint meeting of the Kalani complex school community councils on August 9.

9/1 - The revised draft was distributed at a joint meeting of the Kalani complex school community councils on August 9 and is on the DOE website cited above. I sent the draft report to the Board on August 31 with a recommendation that the Board direct me to hold a public hearing on the draft report. The draft report discusses the possible consolidation of Liliuokalani Elementary School with Liholiho and Waiālae Elementary Schools.

10/1 – The Committee on Administrative Services at its September 13 meeting recommended to full Board that I be directed to hold a public hearing on the draft report, in accordance with Chapter 38, HAR. The Board is expected to consider this recommendation this month.

11/1 – The full Board has not yet considered this recommendation, but is expected to do so this month.

12/1 – The Board chair determined that whether a public hearing should be held need not be further considered by the full board. The public hearing will be held in the Kalani High School cafeteria at 6:30 p.m. on December 13. I expect to make my recommendation to the Board in January.

1/3 – The public hearing was held as scheduled on December 13. I expect to make my recommendation to the Board this month.

2/1 – I sent my recommendation – to close Liliuokalani School effective at the end of this school year and transfer the students to Waiālae and Lihiliho – to the Board on January 31.

3/1 – The Committee on Administrative Services voted on February 24 to recommend to the Board that Liliuokalani be closed at the end of this school year. The matter now goes to the full Board.

4/1 – The Board concurred at its March 3 meeting with the Committee's recommendation. Liliuokalani School will close at the end of the current school year.

Farrington complex elementary schools

11/1/10 – DOE staff reviewed a preliminary draft report with the complex school community councils on October 18, 2010. DOE staff revised the draft report, which will be posted on the DOE's website this week. I sent the draft report to the Board on Nov 1 with a recommendation that the Board direct me to hold a public hearing on the draft report. The draft report discusses the possible consolidation of Kalihi Elementary School with Kalihi Uka and Kaewai Elementary Schools and of Puuhale Elementary School with Kalihi Kai Elementary School.

12/1 – The Committee on Administrative Services at its November 8 meeting recommended that I be directed to hold a public hearing on the draft report, in accordance with Chapter 38, HAR. The Board chair determined that whether a public hearing should be held need not be further considered by the full board. The public hearing will be held in the Kalakaua Middle School cafeteria at 5:30 p.m. on December 17. I expect to make my recommendation to the Board in January.

1/3 – The public hearing was held as scheduled on December 17. I expect to make my recommendation to the Board this month.

2/1 – Our staff was not able to complete the consolidation study in time for me to make a recommendation to the Board in January. I now expect to make a recommendation this month.

3/1 – I sent my recommendation – to close both Kalihi and Puuhale Elementary Schools at the end of the current school year, and to transfer the Kalihi students to Kaewai and Kalihi Uka Elementary Schools and the Puuhale students to Kalihi Kai Elementary School – to the Board on February 7. I subsequently withdrew the recommendation to close Kalihi, based on information that enrollment at Kalihi would likely increase substantially when public housing units that have been vacant for several years are again occupied. The Committee on Administrative Services voted on February 24 to recommend to the Board that Puuhale not be consolidated. The matter now goes to the full Board.

4/1 – The Board concurred at its March 3 meeting with the Committee's recommendation.

McKinley complex elementary schools

9/30/11 – DOE staff prepared a preliminary draft report that was reviewed by the principals of the McKinley complex schools on January 20, 2011. The principals agreed that there was insufficient time to complete the consolidation process in SY 2010-11 and further work should be deferred until after the end of the current school year. The preliminary draft report was reviewed with the Kaiulani, Kauluwela, Lanakila, and Likelike school community councils on June 23 at Likelike School. A revised draft report that incorporates input from the SCCs as well as the results of the spring 2011 Hawaii State Assessment and enrollment data for SY 2011-12, was forwarded to the Board on September 2 with a recommendation that the Board direct me to hold a public hearing on the draft report. The Board Committee on Finance and Infrastructure referred the study back to the Department with a request that it comply with the provisions of Chapter 8-38, HAR.

Roosevelt complex elementary schools

9/30/11 - DOE staff prepared a preliminary draft report that was reviewed by the principals of the Roosevelt complex schools on January 20, 2011. The principals agreed that there was insufficient time to complete the consolidation process in SY 2010-11 and further work should be deferred until after the end of SY 2010-11.

Kaimuki complex schools

9/30/11 - DOE staff prepared a preliminary draft report that was reviewed by the principals of the Kaimuki complex schools on January 20, 2011. The principals agreed that there was insufficient time to complete the consolidation process in SY 2010-11 and further work should be deferred until after the end of SY 2010-11.

Kailua and Kalaheo complex schools

9/30/11 - DOE staff is planning to initiate a study of the possible consolidation of schools in the Kailua and Kalaheo complex to address two issues: (i) a lack of K-12 alignment in the two complexes (ii) declining enrollment that has created excess capacity.

Possible future studies

DOE staff has identified the following groups of schools as possibly warranting consolidation studies, based on the criteria set forth in Chapter 8-38, Hawaii Administrative Rules:

- Elementary schools in the Castle complex
- Elementary schools in the Konawaena complex
- Elementary schools in the Hilo area
- Molokai Middle and High Schools.
- Laupahoehoe School together with schools up and down the Hamakua Coast with which Laupahoehoe might be consolidated [this study will be deferred as long as Laupahoehoe is a charter school]

In addition, DOE staff will continue to monitor enrollment trends at the groups of schools previously studied, and may initiate a new study if conditions differ materially from those prevailing at the time the previous study was conducted.

KSM:RGM:ck

c: Board of Education Members
Senator David Ige, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Office of School Facilities and Support Services
Complex Area Superintendents of affected schools