

June 2, 2015

SAC Member Jim Williams

MOTION TO AMEND BY SUBSTITUTION

The Committee recommends that the full Board approve the proposed new Seal of Biliteracy policy (below). The Seal of Biliteracy shall be available to students graduating in 2016 and thereafter. Upon adoption by the Board the Department shall form a Seal of Biliteracy Task Force as described in the June 2, 2015 memorandum on the subject policy to the Student Achievement Committee from Patricia Halagao. The Department shall comply with Board Policy 400.3, provided that the implementation plan shall be submitted to the Board by September 30, 2015.

Exhibit A - Seal of Biliteracy

(Proposed BOE Policy #)

The Board of Education hereby establishes a Seal of Biliteracy to be awarded upon graduation to students who demonstrate a high proficiency in English and at least one additional language, including American Sign Language.

The purposes of the Seal of Biliteracy are to recognize the importance of: (1) enabling students to be college, career, and community ready in today's global society; (2) establishing an educational culture that recognizes and values the wealth of linguistic and cultural diversity students bring to the classroom; (3) supporting opportunities for study of and increasing proficiency in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i, an official language of the State of Hawai'i; and (4) encouraging partnerships with institutions of higher education and community organizations to increase access to language instruction in a variety of languages.

The Department of Education shall implement the Seal of Biliteracy, including development of criteria that provide for high levels of proficiency for those receiving the Seal.

Rationale: The Board of Education recognizes that there is personal, cultural, social, academic, and vocational/occupational value in encouraging students to maintain, or develop, proficiency in English and an additional language.