



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII®  
MĀNOA

College of Education  
Office of the Dean

May 29, 2015

Student Achievement Committee  
Hawaii State Board of Education  
boe\_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us

Subject: **Nā Hopena A'o V.A. E-3**

Dear Committee Members:

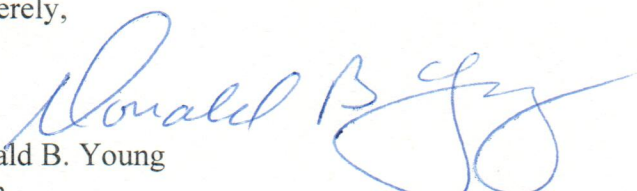
I am writing in support of Nā Hopena A'o V.A. E-3. The Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC) had the opportunity to review Nā Hopena A'o at its May 12, 2015 meeting where it received overwhelming support. In addition, as Dean I received an advance copy for review and find the rich description of belonging, responsibility, excellence, aloha, total well-being, and aloha an excellent focus for educators on the whole child. In addition, these characteristics address the very essence of what employers tell us they are looking for in employees.

Nā Hopena A'o complements the existing General Learner Outcomes that have served us well by broadening and deepening the description of what we want all graduates to attain from their public education.

We will be using Nā Hopena A'o in the College of Education in preparing our graduates as well. Nā Hopena A'o brings clarity to the College with a sense of purpose, sense of place and provides a unified focus on the desired outcomes of both our K-12 and post secondary institutions.

I urge you to support Nā Hopena A'o (HĀ) E-3, V.A. E-3.

Sincerely,

  
Donald B. Young  
Dean

1776 University Avenue  
Everly Hall, Room 128  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822  
Fax: (808) 956-3106

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution



#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Chairperson**  
VerlieAnn Malina-Wright, Ed.D  
**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Michael W. Beasley, Esq.

#### BOARD MEMBERS

Ethan Cooper  
Andrew Poepoe  
Alvin Pauole

#### ADMINISTRATION

**Executive Director**  
Herb Lee Jr.  
**Chief Financial Officer**  
Louis F. Perez II  
**General Counsel**  
Michael W. Beasley

Pacific American Foundation  
C/O Bay View Golf Park  
45-285 Kaneohe Bay Drive, #102  
Kāne'ohe, HI 96744

Phone: (808) 664-3027  
[www.thepaf.org](http://www.thepaf.org)

May 29, 2015

Board of Education  
State of Hawaii  
Student Achievement Committee  
June 2, 2015, 8:30 am

Testimony on:

**Agenda item: V.A. E-3 Nā Hopena A'o**

Aloha, Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony in **SUPPORT** of  
**V.A. E-3 Nā Hopena A'o.**

My name is Herb Lee, Jr. and I am writing on behalf of the Pacific American Foundation. Established in 1993, the Pacific American Foundation (PAF) is a national 501c (3) nonprofit, tax-exempt organization with the mission to "improve the lives of Pacific Americans through service with dignity, courage, humility, and competence." PAF's goal is to influence systemic change in the educational system that preserve and perpetuate traditional indigenous ways of knowing for emerging Pacific Century leaders, college career readiness, culturally responsive research, evaluation and assessment, economic and community partnership development.

For 20 years PAF has been involved with the Hawaii Department of Education's culture-based education professional development, curriculum and instructional design, culture and project-based education, and culturally responsive evaluation and assessment working as a lead partner in the Castle Complex Redesign initiative and many other schools throughout the State of Hawaii.

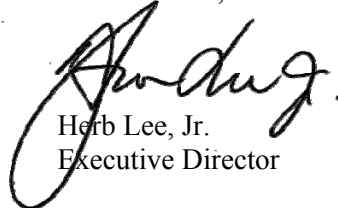
It has been an honor to be part of the process that has presented this wonderful new framework that reflects Hawaii's unique qualities and is universal in its application toward advancing achievement levels for all students.

Our organization has discussed the proposed "Na Hopena A'o" with many of our partners in the field including teachers, parents and students. The response has not only been positive, it has been enthusiastic and reflective of the aspiration of many who find comfort in the framework that is alive and well in our education system already.

I hope that the passage of this new proposed policy will help to bring a sense of purpose and stability to the learning environment and that all participants will find a way to embrace on their own terms. Na Hopena A'o has the potential to greatly catalyze and inspire students to become the community and global citizen we all hope they can be.

Please give this your highest consideration for passage so that "HA" can be embedded, nurtured and perpetuated by all.

Me Ke Aloha,



Herb Lee, Jr.  
Executive Director

Date: June 1, 2015

Board of Education Student Achievement Committee Meeting (June 2, 2015)

Topic: Nā Hopena A'o (HĀ)

Dear Committee Members of the Hawai'i State Board of Education,

My name is Brook Chapman de Sousa, I am a former Hawai'i DOE classroom teacher. I taught four years in Wai'anae and spent the last four years as an instructional coach working with HDOE teachers throughout O'ahu to use culturally and linguistically grounded pedagogy in their classrooms. I am currently an Assistant Professor at the College of Education at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

I am writing in support Nā Hopena A'o (HĀ) Policy E-3. Having outcomes grounded in the Hawaiian values, culture, language and history, will help teachers develop stronger relationships with the students and families with which they work. As a classroom teacher in Wai'anae, I found I was missing knowledge and guidance regarding the values, languages, and cultures of my students. My first year in Wai'anae was difficult. At the recommendation of a successful colleague who had taught at the school for over ten years, I sought out coursework to develop my knowledge of Hawaiian values, culture, language and history. Doing so helped broaden my perspective and dramatically improved my ability to form relationships with my students and their families, resulting in improved student attendance, learning outcomes and overall classroom climate. However, I felt I was doing this work on my own. In reflection, I could have done much more with systematic guidance and support from the HDOE. I wish I had Nā Hopena A'o (HĀ) to guide my teaching from my first day in Hawai'i. It reflects the type of systematic support related to knowing and respecting my students that I needed.

Sincerely,

Dr. E. Brook Chapman de Sousa

841 Bishop St., Suite 301  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530  
Contact@HEECoalition.org

Hawaii Board of Education  
Student Achievement Committee  
Cheryl Lupenui, Chair  
Patricia Halagao, Vice Chair

June 2, 2015

Dear Chair Lupenui, Vice Chair Halagao and Members:

This testimony is submitted in support for the proposed BOE Policy 101.14 on Family and Community Engagement/Partnership.

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations dedicated to improving student achievement by increasing family and community engagement and partnerships in our schools. Our member list is attached.

The Coalition along with other community stakeholders have been advocating for a revision to the current Policy 2403 for some time and we are pleased to see an updated version progress. We thank the Finance and Infrastructure Committee and the Student Achievement Committee for collaborating with the Coalition and community stakeholders, considering and incorporating some of our comments. In particular, we are pleased to see the national PTA standards incorporated in the policy and the word partnership included in the policy's title.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura  
HE'E Coalition Director

## HE'E Member List

Academy 21  
After-School All-Stars Hawaii  
Alliance for Place Based Learning  
\*Castle Complex Community Council  
\*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS  
Coalition for Children with Special Needs  
\*Faith Action for Community Equity  
Fresh Leadership LLC  
Girl Scouts Hawaii  
\*Good Beginnings Alliance  
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation  
\*Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice  
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars  
\*Hawai'i Charter School Network  
\*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition  
\*Hawaii State PTSA  
Hawai'i State Student Council  
Hawai'i State Teachers Association  
Hawai'i P-20  
Hawai'i 3Rs  
Head Start Collaboration Office  
It's All About Kids  
\*INPEACE  
Joint Venture Education Forum  
Junior Achievement of Hawaii  
\*Kaho'omiki  
Kamehameha Schools  
Kanu Hawai'i  
\*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council  
Keiki to Career Kaua'i  
Kupu A'e  
\*Leaders for the Next Generation

## Learning First

McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds  
Our Public School  
\*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning  
\*Parents and Children Together  
\*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i  
Punahou School PUEO Program  
Teach for America  
The Learning Coalition  
US PACOM  
University of Hawai'i College of Education  
YMCA of Honolulu

*Voting Members (\*) Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition. List as of January 2015*



**S E A C**  
**Special Education Advisory Council**

**919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101**

**Honolulu, HI 96814**

**Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129**

**email: [spin@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:spin@doh.hawaii.gov)**

**June 2, 2015**

**Special Education  
Advisory Council**

Ms. Ivalee Sinclair, *Chair*  
Ms. Martha Guinan, *Vice  
Chair*

Ms. Brendelyn Ancheta  
Dr. Tammy Bopp  
Dr. Robert Campbell, *liaison  
to the military*  
Ms. Deborah Cheeseman  
Ms. Annette Cooper  
Ms. Shari Dela Cuadra-Larsen,  
*liaison to the Superintendent*  
Ms. Gabriele Finn  
Ms. Jenny Gong  
Ms. Natalie Haggerty  
Ms. Barbara Ioli  
Ms. Valerie Johnson  
Ms. Deborah Kobayakawa  
Ms. Bernadette Lane  
Ms. Dale Matsuura  
Ms. Stacey Oshio  
Ms. Zaidarene Place  
Ms. Barbara Pretty  
Ms. Kau'i Rezentes  
Ms. Rosie Rowe  
Dr. Patricia Sheehey  
Mr. Tom Smith  
Ms. Lani Solomona  
Dr. Todd Takahashi  
Dr. Daniel Ulrich  
Dr. Amy Wiech  
Ms. Jasmine Williams  
Ms. Susan Wood

Amanda Kaahanui, Staff  
Susan Rocco, Staff

Ms. Cheryl Lupenui, Chair  
Student Achievement Committee  
Hawaii State Board of Education  
P. O. Box 2360  
Honolulu, HI 96804

RE: Agenda Item V.A, Committee Action: 304.2 Family and  
Community Engagement (formerly Board Policy 2403)

Dear Chair Lupenui and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii's State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), appreciates the previous action taken on draft Policy 304.2 by the Finance and Infrastructure Committee, as well as your Committee's draft proposal for action today. This revised policy reflects many of the recommendations made by SEAC and HE'E. We believe that it is now a much stronger statement of policy on the necessity of partnering with families to achieve optimal outcomes for all students, including students with disabilities.

We continue to recommend that the title for this policy read "Family-School Partnerships" to match the standards contained within the policy and the previous recommendations of SEAC, HE'E and two legislative work groups--the SCR 79 Work Group and the HCR 57 Work Group. Supporting community partnerships (engagement), while valued and necessary, is not synonymous with forming working partnerships with the students' families, and often focuses primarily on enhancing resources available to the school. SEAC suggests that you consider a separate policy on school-community partnerships.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our recommendations on this important statement of intent.

Sincerely,

Ivalee Sinclair, Chair