

pro ray <raymondprohi@gmail.com>

10/02/2015 02:12 PM

To boe_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us

cc

Subject Testimony for Update on Heat
Abatement Program (Barbers Point
Elementary)

Dear Board of Education,

I am a fourth grader at Barbers Point Elementary. I am writing to you to tell you we need air conditioner. Here are some reasons why there has been some nose bleeds and when the jets fly by it makes noise and we can't hear the lesson. Another reason is dangerous bugs come in our class and make nests

One of my reasons we need air conditioning is the heat. Me and my peers have been getting headaches. So it makes it hard to concentrate. we have been taking a temperature graph. Most of the time it was 90 degrees fahrenheit. That is one reason we need air conditioning. My second reason is the noise. When it is hot yes it is hard to concentrate but if there is noise then it makes it even harder to concentrate. The lawn mowers and jets go by and distract us by making lots of noise. If we had air conditioning it will close up the place and the noise would not be as loud. That is my second reason why we need air conditioning.

My third reason is dangerous bugs come inside the class like wasps make nests in the class we also we had a scorpion in a peers desk. So if we had air conditioning it would be closed in and the bugs will not come in the class. That is my third reason why we need air conditioning.

Those are some reasons why we need air conditioning. Thanks for reading.

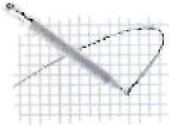
Sincerely,

Raymond Prosek

**

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**



Janet <janmattgarrido@gmail.com>

10/04/2015 02:19 PM

To boe_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us
cc
Subject Testimony for barbers point elementary

To whom it may concern,

We request for government assistance to help barbers point elementary school purchase air conditioners for their students. As parents of a 5th grade student we witness many children sweating profusely in class and around the campus on a daily basis. During our orientation day and parent teachers conference, we experienced the intense heat in our child's classroom first hand. The heat in the classroom became unbearable after 10 minutes and we became worried that our children are subjected to these conditions for over six hours each day. The single oscillating fan was no help as it only blew hot or warm air. We are greatly concerned not only for our child but for all the children who have to attempt to learn in these conditions. We ask that the government provide immediate assistance to barbers point elementary school to purchase air conditioning systems for each classroom. Thank you.

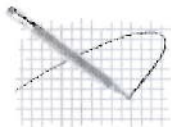
Sincerely,
Matthew and Janet Garrido
808-348-7785

Sent from my iPhone

**

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http://help.k12.hi.us/nssb/internal/spam_pages/index.html

**



Scott Karsk <skarsk@barberspt.k12.hi.us>

10/02/2015 02:54 PM

To boe_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us

cc

Subject Testimony for Update on Heat Abatement Program (Barbers Point Elementary)

1 attachment



BPES_DOE Written Testimony.docx

Dear Board of Education Members,

My name is Scott Karsk and I am a faculty member at Barbers Point Elementary. I am submitting written testimony to Chairperson Lance Mizumoto and Superintendent Matayoshi in regards to the agenda item, Update on Heat Abatement Program, for the Board of Education meeting scheduled on October 6, 2015.

According to the Hawaii Department of Education's Heat Abatement Program that is published on its website, Barbers Point Elementary is not one of the schools on the list. Although Barbers Point Elementary is not part of the Campbell complex, the school is on the Ewa plain, one of the hottest areas on Oahu. **At one point in time, Barbers Point Elementary was first on the air conditioning list, but was removed for no justifiable reason.** In fact, four of the seven schools in the Kapolei Complex have air conditioning. Like those schools in the Kapolei complex, I believe that Barbers Point Elementary deserves every right to be placed high on the list for air conditioning for the following reasons.

First, the classrooms exceed more than 90 degrees throughout the entire school year. In August alone, all of the classrooms had reached well over 90 degrees on many consecutive days. Many students had tracked and graphed the temperature to see how hot their classrooms were during the day. As a result of this heat, many teachers and students have complained from headaches and some had bloody noses.

Secondly, Barbers Point Elementary lies adjacent to a working airport. Classroom instruction is frequently halted by extremely loud noises from helicopters and airplanes flown by various carriers such as the United States Coast Guard and private companies. **This noise happens all year long at various times in the day.** The students do not deserve to have their lessons stopped because they are unable to hear their teacher or their peers. Many HDOE schools near

airports have (or will soon have) air conditioning or to offset the loud noises.

Next, the majority of the classrooms do not have ceiling fans. The hot air remains in the classroom and the stand up fans do not provide adequate support to circulate the air. In addition, teachers are not allowed to use too many stand up fans because it then becomes an electrical issue.

Although most students bring water bottles to keep themselves cool, it is not adequate. The school has only one water cooler dispenser that is located in the cafeteria. Often, the students drink all of their water and sending them across campus to refill their bottles is not convenient nor an efficient use of their learning time.

In addition, Barbers Point Elementary is located near James Campbell Industrial Park, on a busy street, and near many trucking companies. Loud trucks frequently travel passed the school. Similarly to the air traffic noise, the instruction stops until these large vehicles pass. Recently, housing development has begun on parcels across the school, so now the construction noise travels onto the campus.

As a faculty member, I am asking you to include Barbers Point Elementary on the Heat Abatement program list. The teaching and learning of my students should not be halted due to the heat and noise issues.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Scott Karsk

348-2433



"Cheryl" <cheryltat@hotmail.com>
10/04/2015 03:23 PM

To <boe_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us>
cc
Subject submit testimony

Date of Meeting: Tuesday October 6th

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Agenda Item Reference: IV A-5 Committee Action on Department of Education's multi year school calendar (2016- 2017, 2017-2018, and 2018-2019 school years)

Please DO NOT enact the calendars listed above.

Reasons:

Though the calendars end the 1st semester before winter break as the University does, they DO NOT follow the university calendar as far as the date classes end. (this was listed as a PRO calendar item) I know of NO university where break starts a mere 2 or 3 days before the holidays.

Having only 2 weeks at winter breaks is not efficient for our islands. Teachers have families too. They need time to prepare for holidays, some must travel. Their families matter. Since our jobs are frequently not over when the school day ends, please consider this. We are stressed out enough.

A reason for the proposed calendar was that it more closely follows the mainland calendar. First, this should not be a priority, as responsible parents WILL check with schools as to start dates etc. when they are moving here. (I did). Second, they DON'T follow all the mainland calendars. My grandsons attend school on the mainland. They do not get out in May, they do not have a week off in the fall. This is not a valid argument.

I respectfully ask that you really think about this before you rubber stamp this proposal. Having only 2,000 out of over 13,000 teachers responses to a survey does not make the results the majority choice.

End our year a little later, add the time to the winter break, realize that maybe school districts should have some individuality in their calendars again, do not bend to the pressure of "heat abatement" as this is merely a band-aid to the real problem of insufficient and inadequate planning and building. I was teaching, and a part of the movement, when school calendars became state wide issues. I agree that semesters and quarters need to end before breaks, but adequate consideration needs to be given to the Christmas (winter) break for us.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Cotten,
8th grade science teacher

October 4, 2015

Hawaii State Board of Education
P.O. Box 2360
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GBM Agenda Item V.B Heat Abatement Update (October 6, 2015)

Dear Chair Lance Mizumoto and Members of the Hawaii State Board of Education,

My name is Jennifer Padua and I am a parent and School Community Council Member at Barbers Point Elementary School (BPES). I am writing to address the absence of BPES on the Heat Abatement Program priority list for air conditioning and the need for list to be reexamined. Although BPES is **not part** of the Campbell complex, the school is located on the Ewa plain, one of the hottest areas on Oahu. At one point in time, BPES was first on the air conditioning list, but was removed for no justifiable reason. In fact, four of the seven schools in the Kapolei Complex have air conditioning. Like those schools in the Kapolei complex, I believe that BPES deserves every right to be placed high on the list for air conditioning because of the heat and the noise level.

While many classrooms face high temperatures throughout the months of July and August, BPES is hot all year long. On many days throughout the year, the temperatures reach 90 degrees and the humidity is unbearable. Also, the majority of classrooms do not have ceiling fans, and stand up fans do not provide adequate support to circulate the air. Although students bring water bottles to keep themselves cool, it is not adequate. BPES has only one water cooler dispenser that is located in the cafeteria. Often, students drink all of their water and sending them across campus to refill their bottles is not convenient nor an efficient use of their learning time. As a result of the heat, many teachers and students have complained from headaches (including my children) and some had bloody noses.

Secondly, the noise level from air and vehicular traffic is a significant deterrent to teaching and learning. BPES is located near the Kalaeloa Airport. Frequently, the noise from helicopters, jets, and planes force teachers and students to stop their discussions because they are unable to hear one another. Once, I was assisting students to use iMovie to record voice narration. We needed to stop many times and rerecord because the sounds from the helicopters overpowered their voices on the recording. In addition, there are many industrial companies that have moved into the Kalaeloa and James Campbell Industrial area. Their semi-trucks often use the streets adjacent to BPES and the noises from these vehicles are way too loud. Most recently, housing construction has started on parcels in Kapolei across from BPES. These noises travel onto the campus, thus causing disruption to teaching and learning throughout the day.

As a solution, I would like you to know that BPES sits **less than a mile** from one of the largest solar farms (Kalaeloa Sustainable Energy Park) in the state. Being that BPES is located on the Ewa Plain, I know that solar power will be extremely successful and a cost effective way to support air conditioning at the school. One possible option is to build parking ports covered with solar photovoltaic panels on the campus, similarly to the ones that are currently being built at Iliahi Elementary and Leilehua High School in Wahiawa. Another idea is to build a cover for the basketball court and include panels on the top since the playground is much closer to many of the classrooms. Perhaps, Kalaeloa Sustainable Energy could be a community partner in this endeavor since they are nearby and have expertise, or other developers such as Hunt Properties in the Kalaeloa area. Another short term and quick solution is to install more water dispenser coolers near the classrooms so that students are able to fill up their water bottles without having to travel across the campus.

At a recent school event, I had collected 81 signatures from parents, faculty, and community members who are in support of air conditioning installation at BPES (see attached). We believe that the urgency to reexamine the Heat Abatement Program priority list is needed, and BPES is to be included as one of those schools.

I thank you for taking the time to read my concerns and possible solutions to include BPES on the Heat Abatement Program priority list.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Padua

Our signatures below confirm our belief that Barbers Point Elementary should be placed on the Hawaii Department of Education Heat Abatement Program priority list for air conditioning.

1. Christine Vaga	2. Elizabeth Mahne
3. Frank Vaga	4. Sherri Martinez
5. Trina Hara	6. Beth Arnold
7. Claudia Ruido	8. Nikki Moreno
9. J. Pulido	10. Darrick White
11. Manleya Conrad	12. Carolyn White
13. Raymundo Manzan	14. Maria Fe Ponglimyen
15. Wanda Agoday	16. Engle Bert Pizarro
17. Rosemarie Reyes	18. Jane Logan
19. Gloria	20. Anna Kamakahi
21. Chris Newman	22. Bryan Marcel
23. Melba Newman	24. Janna Hunter
25. C. LEVERKS	26. [Signature]
27. [Signature]	28. Steffany Kim
29. Anthony Takame	30. Carolyn Roldan
31. Nancy Lord	32. [Signature]
33. Pamela Schubert	34. Jnette Res
35. Carl Sappington	36. Pamela Arroyo
37. Sam Sprague	38. Cheryl Slattery!!
39. [Signature]	40. [Signature]
41. Joe M. Alana	42. [Signature]
43. Tucki Lee	44. KSONI KANA H212
45. Robert Cypriote III	46. [Signature]
47. Scott Kaul	48. [Signature]
49. Alexander Braun	50. Elliot Criss
51. Tricia Kih	52. [Signature]
53. Theodore Sao	54. [Signature]
55. [Signature]	56. Michelle Lehu
57. Darlene Tuck	58. [Signature]
59. Romeo Tucks	60. [Signature]

Our signatures below confirm our belief that Barbers Point Elementary should be placed on the Hawaii Department of Education Heat Abatement Program priority list for air conditioning.

1. <i>[Signature]</i>	2. <i>[Signature]</i>
3. <i>[Signature]</i>	4. <i>[Signature]</i>
5. <i>Chen Sap - B</i>	6. <i>[Signature]</i>
7. <i>[Signature]</i>	8. <i>[Signature]</i>
9. <i>Paula Feliciana</i>	10. <i>Raymond Morde</i>
11. <i>Lepapa Delos Santos</i>	12. <i>M. R. B. A.</i>
13. <i>[Signature]</i>	14. <i>[Signature]</i>
15. <i>Don Odomum</i>	16. <i>Mackleen Rain</i>
17. <i>L. Kim</i>	18. <i>[Signature]</i>
19. <i>[Signature]</i>	20. <i>Johnny Branco</i>
21. <i>[Signature]</i>	22. <i>[Signature]</i>
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59.	60.

October 4, 2015

Hawaii State Board of Education
P.O. Box 2360
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GBM Agenda Item V.B Heat Abatement Update (October 6, 2015)

Dear Chair Lance Mizumoto and Members of the Hawaii State Board of Education,

My name is Chloe Padua and I am a fourth grade student at Barbers Point Elementary School. I am writing this letter because my school needs air conditioning. Three reasons why we need air conditioning are the high temperatures, loud noises, and bugs that get my class distracted.

My first reason is because of the heat. Most of the days were 90 degrees fahrenheit. The highest was 92 degrees and the lowest was 85 degrees. As a class, my peers and I got bloody noses, headaches and could not concentrate during class to focus, learn and get work done. I have included my temperature graph from August 2015.

My second reason is the noise. When school is in session, there are always jets, planes and lawn mowers making noise which makes it even harder to concentrate. Yes it is hot, but with the noise it is even harder to learn. If we had air conditioning, it would be much more quiet.

My third reason are the bugs. When a bug comes inside our class, everyone gets distracted. Once a scorpion was in a student's desk. Also, several wasps have made holes in my classroom's walls.

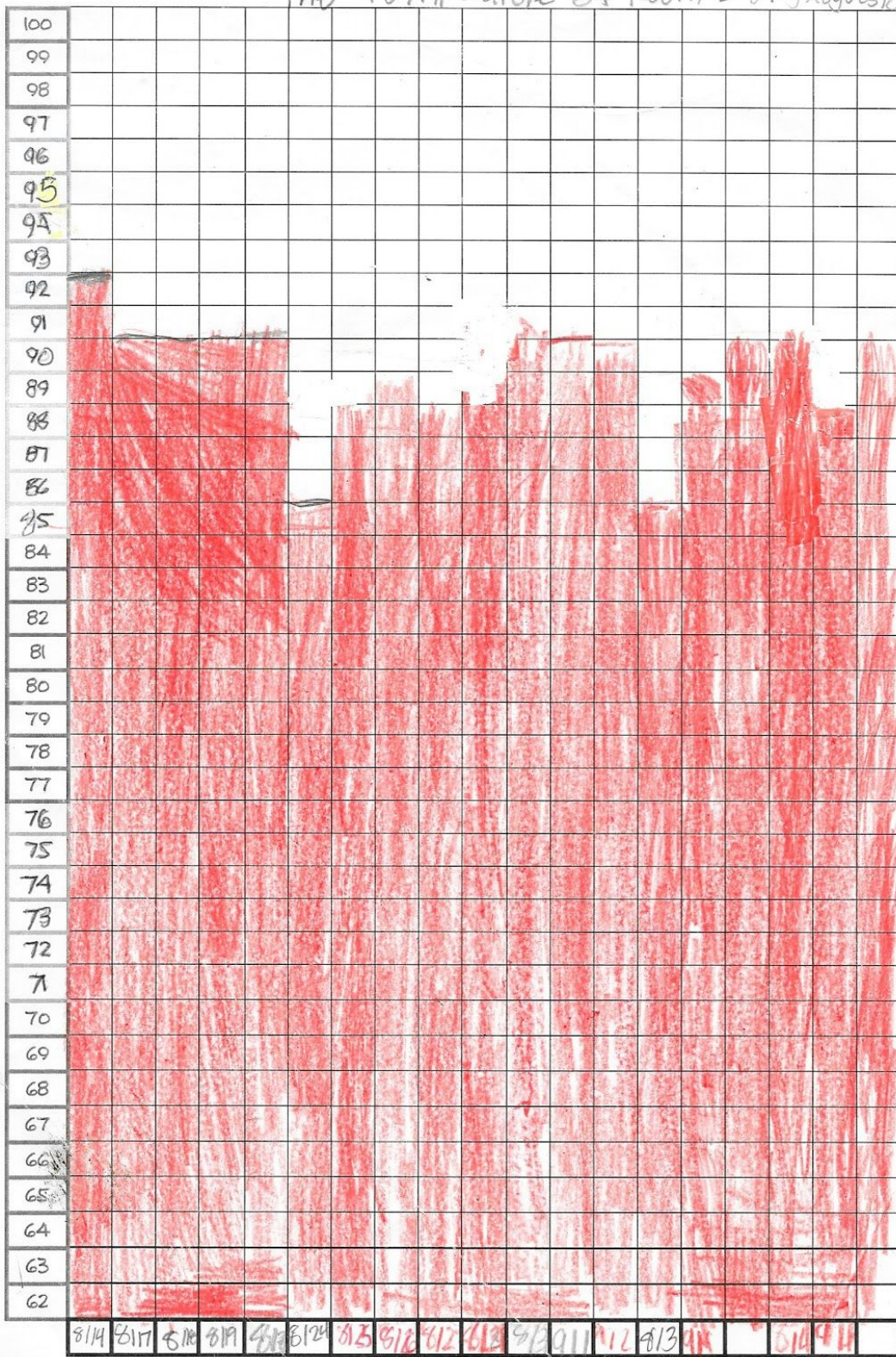
I know that electricity is expensive. Maybe using solar power panels can make the air conditioning cost less. Many businesses in the Barbers Point area use solar panels. There is a large solar panel farm across from our school.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter about why we need air conditioned classrooms at Barbers Point Elementary.

From,
Chloe Padua

The temperature of Room 26 for August and 50
2015

Degrees Fahrenheit



61/4 115

Dear Board of Education Members,

Aloha, I am a fourth grade student at Barbers Point Elementary school. I am writing this letter to tell you that we need air conditioning. Three reasons are there is hot temperature, there are loud noises and bugs coming in the room.

The first reason is because of the heat it is very hot we always get headaches, bloody noses and are sleepy. We made a graph that mostly all the days it has been 90 degrees! It makes it hard for me to learn because I just want to put my head down and sleep. I come home with headaches almost every day and do not want to do my homework because my head hurts.

The second reason is it is very noisy. When it is noisy when the teacher is talking the teacher has to wait till the loud noises are gone to start again. It makes it hard to concentrate on what I am supposed to learn.

The third reason is there are lots of bugs in the room. Bees and wasps fly in all the time and the kids scream and get scared of getting stung. There are big cockroaches and centipedes that can get in because the doors and windows are always open.

One solution would be to get solar panels to help pay for electricity. We could do a fundraiser to help, too. My mom says that you get to work in air conditioning. Maybe you could turn yours off for a couple of days and work so you would know how hard it is to work when you are uncomfortable.

Please help Barbers Point Elementary get air conditioning. I love school and I want to become a vet and I need to get the best grades in math and science and I know air conditioning will help me concentrate in school. If you care about the students of Barbers Point, you will find a way to help us.

Thank you for reading my letter,
Kaila Dennis

Dear Board of Education Members,

My name is Jaimi Dennis and I am a faculty member at Barbers Point Elementary, as well as a parent to 2 students that attend Barbers Point. I am submitting written testimony to Chairperson Lance Mizumoto and Superintendent Matayoshi in regards to the agenda item, Update on Heat Abatement Program, for the Board of Education meeting scheduled on October 6, 2015.

According to the Hawaii Department of Education's Heat Abatement Program that is published on its website, Barbers Point Elementary is not one of the schools on the list. Although Barbers Point Elementary is not part of the Campbell complex, the school is on the Ewa plain, one of the hottest areas on Oahu. **At one point in time, Barbers Point Elementary was first on the air conditioning list, but was removed for no justifiable reason.** In fact, four of the seven schools in the Kapolei Complex have air conditioning. Like those schools in the Kapolei complex, I believe that Barbers Point Elementary deserves every right to be placed high on the list for air conditioning for the following reasons.

First, the classrooms exceed more than 90 degrees throughout the entire school year. In August alone, all of the classrooms had reached well over 90 degrees on many consecutive days. Many of my students are sick from bloody noses and headaches, which leads to frequent trips to the health room, which causes my students to miss valuable class time. In addition, the students are so hot and sweaty that it is difficult for them to concentrate on the lessons. Teacher evaluations are linked to student achievement, however optimal learning cannot be attained in this type of environment. Furthermore, my own children have gotten sick from the heat this year. My daughter, 4th grade, comes home almost every day with a headache, which makes it difficult for her to do her homework. She often has to lie down for an hour before her headache ceases. Also, my son came home with a headache 3 weeks ago and was vomiting for hours due to the heat exposure. This is an unacceptable learning environment for children; we wouldn't send children on the mainland to school in the winter without heat and expect them to learn, yet it is acceptable for students to sit in sweltering classrooms for a good portion of the school year and stay focused.

Secondly, Barbers Point Elementary lies adjacent to a working airport. Classroom instruction is frequently halted by extremely loud noises from helicopters and airplanes flown by various carriers such as the United States Coast Guard and private companies. **This noise happens all year long at various times in the day.** The students do not deserve to have their lessons stopped because they are unable to hear their teacher or their peers. Many HDOE schools near airports have (or will soon have) air conditioning or to offset the loud noises.

Next, the majority of the classrooms do not have ceiling fans. The hot air remains in the classroom and the stand up fans do not provide adequate support to circulate the air. In addition, teachers are not allowed to use too many stand up fans because it then becomes an electrical issue.

Although most students bring water bottles to keep themselves cool, it is not adequate. The school has only one water cooler dispenser that is located in the cafeteria. Often, the students

drink all of their water and sending them across campus to refill their bottles is not convenient nor an efficient use of their learning time.

In addition, Barbers Point Elementary is located near James Campbell Industrial Park, on a busy street, and near many trucking companies. Loud trucks frequently travel passed the school. Similarly to the air traffic noise, the instruction stops until these large vehicles pass. Recently, housing development has begun on parcels across the school, so now the construction noise travels onto the campus.

As a faculty member and a parent, I am asking you to include Barbers Point Elementary on the Heat Abatement program list. The teaching and learning of my students and my children should not be halted due to the heat and noise issues.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jaimi Dennis

Please submit testimony for:

Tuesday, October 6, 2015 - Student Achievement Committee Meeting (9:30 a.m.)

Agenda Item: C. Committee Action on Department of Education's multi-year school calendar (2016-2017, 2017-2018, and 2018-2019 School Years)

Dear Hawaii State Board of Education Student Achievement Committee,

My name is Maria Guardino. I am a teacher at Kawananakoa Middle School. I have been teaching for 12 years in the Hawaii DOE.

Please approve the proposed school year calendars as recommended by our Superintendent, Kathryn Matayoshi and as supported by HSTA.

First, Hawaii has a tropical climate. We cannot avoid having classrooms with high temperatures simply by delaying the beginning of the school year. Even if the school calendar was altered to begin later, we student would need to learn in June's hot temperatures as well. Furthermore, some of Hawaii's highest temperatures are in the month of September with high humidity in October. Altering the calendar does not avoid the hot temperatures in the classrooms.

Next, many departments that now depend on the calendar, would be negatively affected by altering the calendar. Logistically, for example, with a new calendar that began later, the departments would need to realign. For some departments, like Payroll, this would have negative costly effects. The proposed calendars would not have these consequences.

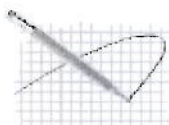
Additionally, many teachers and students in Hawaii have family members and friends on the mainland. It is important to maintain a calendar that allows decent time before holidays to find affordable and available flights. We cannot afford to lose more teachers due to a restricted calendar that does not support separated families.

Last, the proposed calendars were carefully crafted with the desires of several stakeholders in mind. We have buy-in with these three proposed calendar.

Again, please approve the recommended calendars for 2016 through 2019.

Thank you,

Maria Guardino
English Language Learner teacher and Coordinator
Nationally Board Certified
Kawananakoa Middle School



Lorraine Yuen <lyuen@barberspt.k12.hi.us>

10/05/2015 07:30 AM

To boe_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us

cc

Subject Testimony for Update on Heat
Abatement Program (Barbers Point
Elementary)

Dear Chairperson Lance Mizumoto and Superintendent Matayoshi,

My name is Lorraine Yuen and I work at Barber's Point Elementary School in Kapolei. I am an educational assistant working with SPED students.

I have worked on and off at BPES since Fall of 2010 and since then, especially this year, the weather has been noticeably hotter and more humid. MAJORITY of classrooms at this school DO NOT have air conditioning. The school is VERY old and although many parents donate fans to help alleviate the heat, it does not help. Because of the high humidity levels, the fans just literally blow hot air around the classrooms.

I have literally seen sweat dripping off the foreheads of the students, especially my SPED kids, who get cranky and frustrated inside the classroom because of the heat. "But it's so HOT!!" one of my SPED kids cry in the middle of a lesson. (This is a 3rd grader performing at a 1st grade level). And these students are just sitting at their desks during the lesson, NOT after recess, no physical activity. For the SPED students that need to be pulled out of the regular classroom, the SPED teacher tries to see if we can work in the library, which is air conditioned.

Class time is lost due to frequent drinking and restroom breaks because the students are tired of sitting in a hot stuffy classroom. There are water fountains around the campus but the water coming out of them is very warm. However, students still drink from them because of they are so dehydrated. Many students are not able to bring their own water bottles to school. If they do, it is the typical water bottles where the water gets warm by the end of the day and it is not a healthy thing for students to be drinking warm water out of plastic water bottles that have been sitting out in the heat.

As for myself and other staff members, I come home every day my clothes soaking in sweat, clinging to me as I try to take them off to be washed. There are a few PPTs & PTTs who have health issues. I have seen that because of the heat & humidity, some of these PPTs have almost collapsed in the classroom. I have seen a very wonderful teacher call in sick due to frequent migraines caused by the heat and yet still other awesome performing teachers become irritable, frustrated, and just plain tired from the heat. Sometimes, that irritability is passed onto the students.

I understand there are many issues facing Oahu's schools, but this is a matter of health and life as well as functioning in the classroom. If we wish to have our students improve their grades and test scores, we should make the classrooms more comfortable for them to be in. It shouldn't just be the newer schools that get this privilege of air conditioning. Many students at BPES are homeless and deserve WAY better classroom conditions that what they are currently getting or experiencing outside the classroom. I feel that we are the ones that make the difference in these students' lives and if we don't give them the environment necessary to thrive in (steaming hot classrooms), we will not be successful in making a difference in their lives for the better.

I greatly appreciate your prompt attention in this matter. I can be contacted at BPES at 305-8485 or at home at 685-6322 or via this email.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Yuen, EA at BPES

Dear Board of Education Members,

My name is Coreen Nishimura and I am a teacher and a parent of Barbers Point Elementary. I am submitting written testimony to Chairperson Lance Mizumoto and Superintendent Matayoshi in regards to the agenda item, Update on Heat Abatement Program, for the Board of Education meeting scheduled on October 6, 2015.

According to the Hawaii Department of Education's Heat Abatement Program that is published on its website, Barbers Point Elementary is not one of the schools on the list. Although Barbers Point Elementary is not part of the Campbell complex, the school is on the Ewa plain, one of the hottest areas on Oahu. **At one point in time, Barbers Point Elementary was first on the air conditioning list, but was removed for no justifiable reason.** In fact, four of the seven schools in the Kapolei Complex have air conditioning. Like those schools in the Kapolei complex, I believe that Barbers Point Elementary deserves every right to be placed high on the list for air conditioning for the following reasons.

First, the classrooms exceed more than 90 degrees throughout the entire school year. In August alone, all of the classrooms had reached well over 90 degrees on many consecutive days. Many students had tracked and graphed the temperature to see how hot their classrooms were during the day. As a result of this heat, many teachers and students have complained from headaches and some had bloody noses.

Secondly, Barbers Point Elementary lies adjacent to a working airport. Classroom instruction is frequently halted by extremely loud noises from helicopters and airplanes flown by various carriers such as the United States Coast Guard and private companies. **This noise happens all year long at various times in the day.** The students do not deserve to have their lessons stopped because they are unable to hear their teacher or their peers. Many HDOE schools near airports have (or will soon have) air conditioning or to offset the loud noises.

Next, the majority of the classrooms do not have ceiling fans. The hot air remains in the classroom and the stand up fans do not provide adequate support to circulate the air. In addition, teachers are not allowed to use too many stand up fans because it then becomes an electrical issue.

Although most students bring water bottles to keep themselves cool, it is not adequate. The school has only one water cooler dispenser that is located in the cafeteria. Often, the students drink all of their water and sending them across campus to refill their bottles is not convenient nor an efficient use of their learning time.

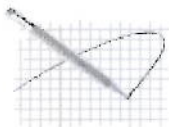
In addition, Barbers Point Elementary is located near James Campbell Industrial Park, on a busy street, and near many trucking companies. Loud trucks frequently travel passed the school. Similarly to the air traffic noise, the instruction stops until these large vehicles pass. Recently, housing development has begun on parcels across the school, so now the construction noise travels onto the campus.

As a teacher and a parent, I am asking you to include Barbers Point Elementary on the Heat Abatement program list. The teaching and learning of my students and son should not be halted due to the heat and noise issues.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Coreen Nishimura



Cheryl B <burgharc@gmail.com>

10/05/2015 08:34 AM

To boe_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us

cc

Subject Testimony Oct. 6, 2015 Board meeting

RE: Item about Heat Abatement specifically for this meeting

Aloha BOE members,

There are many items and issues that face you as BOE members. As a retired teacher and community member, my letter to you could probably fill pages. However, I am not going to do that. I am going to keep this testimony, letter quite brief.

My question to all of you: Pehea na keiki? How are the children? How do your decisions affect children? You will tell me that they are always your first consideration. We know that is your heart but not the practical of what actually happens.

Please do not let the "this is better than nothing" mentality invade this discussion on heat abatement for the schools. As I have asked on other issues, take some time and actually participate in the activity or issue being presented. Think, what is it like for our keiki to be in this situation when you are there. Have you sat in a hot classroom all day? There are many reasons for the increase in the temperatures including the increased use of computers in the classrooms as well as the heat outside. Children are stuck at their desks more for a test prep. curriculum and standards and aren't able to get up as much so they feel the heat more. Whatever the reasons, the question is what is the BEST we can do for ALL of our keiki?

Money is always a factor but if you truly, truly answer the question what is BEST for children. Then ways will be found to help them not just now but in the long run. Ask yourselves what is the most valuable asset we have on our islands. I believe it is our keiki. Long before \$62,000,000 should be spent on a test prep resource ... Long before the new evaluation system which is not working was purchased and delivered? Long before the SBA which costs to buy, grade, collect data, explain data? Long before we knew and know that teachers can give you the same answers from being in the classrooms daily with children. How much are we paying outside consultants to do jobs that island people can do? The first and foremost consideration is their safety and well-being so where will you put your money?

At this meeting and all in the future, please consider my question, Pehea Na keiki? If that question had been asked during each decision in the past, perhaps we would have a stronger and more equitable educational experience for ALL keiki on ALL of our islands. I believe so and am willing and committed to helping and supporting our keiki. Mahalo.

Cheryl Burghardt

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Coreen Nishimura <cnishi97@gmail.com>

10/05/2015 09:27 AM

To boe_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us

cc

Subject Testimony for Update on Heat
Abatement Program (Barbers Point
Elementary)

October 5, 2015

Hawaii State Board of Education

P.O. Box 2360

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GBM Agenda Item V.B Heat Abatement Update (October 6, 2015)

Dear Chair Lance Mizumoto and Members of the Hawaii State Board of Education,

My name is Tyler Nishimura. I am a fourth grader at Barbers Point Elementary School. We need air conditioning in our school. In class, we have been taking the daily temperature for the past two months. The daily average temperature is 89 degrees. I try to concentrate in class, but it's hard to think for a long time. When I go to our air-conditioned library, there's a big difference from being in class. I instantly cool off and concentrate better. To help deal with the heat I drink all of my cold water from my 40 oz. water bottle. It helps, but I still have had two nose bleeds two days in a row.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter about why we need air-conditioned classrooms at Barbers Point Elementary.

From,

Tyler Nishimura



Peter Smithson <petkov44@yahoo.com>

10/05/2015 12:55 PM

To "boe_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us"

<boe_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us>

cc

Subject proposed school calendar year

My name is Petar Kovacic and I am a teacher at King Kekaulike High School in Pukalani, Maui.

I am in favor of beginning the school year later to more so align with other school calendars.

also

I am in favor of a 2 week winter break and a 2 week spring break.

Please share this testimony with the Board of Education's *Student Achievement Committee* their *calendar proposals* for the next three years on Oct. 6th and/or their General Business Meeting on October 20th.

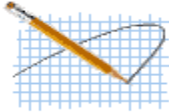
Thank you,

Petar Kovacic

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**



Bartly Wilson <barjells@gmail.com>

10/07/2015 08:43 AM

To boe_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us

cc

Subject Testimony

During the first two months there were several days that my students in the afternoon classes simply were too distracted by the heat and struggled to maintain focus on the task at hand. This impacted lesson plans, students learning, attendance, and behavior. These problems in turn created an unsatisfactory bond between the students and myself that has impacted student achievement and classroom cohesion, both critical aspects of a well managed classroom. This in turn effects my performance evaluation and possible placements and payroll. The students, teachers, and staff deserve better teaching and learning environments to facilitate the necessary exchange of knowledge to prepare our students as we are required to by law. Please ensure we have the appropriate teaching environment to secure our students best interests in the educational process.

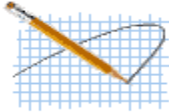
Bartly Wilson, Castle High School
Special Education Teacher

Sent from my iPhone

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**



Scott Clarke/BALDWIN/HIDOE

10/07/2015 11:42 AM

To boe_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us

cc

Subject Testimony on student/teacher travel

Aloha,

It is my understanding that on October 20th that the Board of Education will continue to discuss the status of teacher subsidized trips in connection with student travel. I wanted to add my testimony to the discussion. My name is Scott Clarke and I am a social studies teacher at H.P. Baldwin High School on Maui. For the past nine years, I have been leading educational tours to Europe during spring break as a learning extension for an AP European History class that I teach. I currently have a tour scheduled for March 2016 and have 12 paying students ready for the adventure. However, in light of the current debate regarding student travel, I am concerned about the trip's status and any future travel. I have always used the same tour company, EF Tours, and have been granted a "free" trip with 6 paying students. I use quotation marks with the word free because I feel that the time I spend organizing the tour, participating in fund raisers, holding meetings and traveling with students for 10 days during spring break equates to approximately 300 hours of additional time I am offering my students beyond my contractual obligations. Like any professional, I feel my time is valuable and that it should be compensated. So why do I do it? Why do I give up my spring break to take on the responsibility of chaperoning high school seniors to Europe? I do it because it brings the history that they study to life. How better to teach students about the historical events that have shaped society today than to walk the grounds of Auschwitz, Dachau, and Versailles? How better to lead students from Hawaii to an understanding that they are part of a global community and the benefits that come with increased cultural awareness? I do it because it is the most valuable learning opportunity I can offer my students. However, if I am expected to pay for my own travel expenses I fear that I will not be able to offer my students this educational experience in the future. I simply could not afford it. Please find a way to help teachers like myself take learning beyond the classroom walls.

Mahalo,

Scott Clarke
Social Studies Department Chair
H.P. Baldwin High School
1650 Kaahumanu Ave.
Wailuku, HI 96793
(808)-984-5656 x 7273174