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To boe\_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us  
cc  
Subject Testimony for Agenda item 5. B,  
Infrastructure Comm.

Business Meeting  
5:00 PM March  
Mr. Kurt Fevella Ewa Beach Lions Club President  
General Business Meeting  
Agenda Item 5, B. Infrastructure Committee  
Comments

• **DOE Construction should be needs based not political.**

I humbly ASK the BOE to clearly and forcefully articulate the need for a new high school in west Oahu, be it talking to the Gov. or other legislative leaders, the case has clearly not been made. The Legislature is about to sentence the children of west Oahu to grossly overcrowded classrooms and campuses for the next decade and beyond, by foolishly expending money on a new high school in Maui where enrollment numbers are substantially dropping.

The DOE's own enrollment numbers and projections are clear, West Oahu is in urgent need of a new high school. The Governor's new proposed 30 million dollar building for Campbell is a half measure, to add insult to injury, the House just slashed it by half to 15 million, while appropriating 37 million for a new high school in Kihei which is not needed; there enrollment (Maui/Baldwin) is projected to decline by 409 students while west Oahu (Campbell/Kapolei) shall rise by 769 students! What are we doing?

State Rep. Bob McDermott has demonstrated that DOE Superintendent Kathryn Matayoshi has not provided guidance to the Legislature with regards to the number one priority for a new high school. This has allowed legislators to put their wants and desires before the needs of our school children. Flashy campaign brochures are more important to them than a child centered needs based construction policy. To that end, Department of Education, who should be making recommendations on where new construction is really needed, based on enrollment projections and hard data, seems to want to have nothing to do with it.

The numbers say a Kihei high school it's not needed, not to mention the huge operational costs of another high school being layered onto an already thinly stretched DOE budget; once built the implementation of the student weighting format will cause Maui and Baldwin high schools to have anemic funding level due to the transfer of students to Kihei, meaning loss of teachers, programs and extracurricular activities.

My heart is for the children of the west side who are already in hot overcrowded classrooms. Today, Campbell has 3,086 students and according to the DOE, 3545, in 2020. Yet, the power hungry politicians want to build a high school where enrollment is falling. It is time we put the children first with child centered policies and not political pork.

***I, Kurt Fevella. am a long time Campbell High School Alumni Member, Campbell High School graduate, and President of the Ewa Beach Lions Club. My cell is 864-4634***

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