

May 2, 2016

The Honorable Lance Mizumoto, Chair
Board of Education
1390 Miller Street, Room 404
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Mizumoto and Board Members:

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF APPOINTMENT OF SYLVIA HUSSEY TO
THE STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

I strongly support the appointment of Ms. Sylvia Hussey to the State Public Charter School Commission.

I assisted with the implementation of Act 130, SLH 2012, the new charter school law that created the State Public Charter School Commission and established a system of accountability, including a performance-based charter contract. I also assisted with the closure of Halau Lokahi Public Charter School and have worked on various Department of Education projects.


Back in 2000, I worked with Sylvia when I was at the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Land Division. We hired Sylvia as a management consultant to assist us on a \$2 million re-engineering and computerization project to completely overhaul the Division's operations. We were successful in restructuring our organization, processes and technology from a manual operation to the State Land Information Management System which encompassed the processing of land requests to lease management, land inventory and accounts receivable. I attribute our success in large part to Sylvia's knowledgeable and capable guidance.

Over the years since then, we have kept in touch. I've always found it so wonderful that Sylvia transitioned to the educational field and dedicated her skills and efforts to improving education at Kamehameha Schools and the Native Hawaiian Education Council.

Sylvia's expertise in organizational operations, including management, operational processes, accounting and finance, and information technology, is a critical contribution to the deliberations of the State Public Charter School Commission and oversight of the charter schools. Furthermore, Sylvia's commitment to improving Hawaii's education coupled with her excellent interpersonal skills are necessary assets for the Commission. Finally, I can personally attest to Sylvia's solid character and values.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Sylvia Hussey's appointment to the State Public Charter School Commission.

Sincerely,



Dede Mamiya



Native Hawaiian Education Council

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMITTAL: boe_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us

TO: HAWAII STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, Agenda Item VII.F., BOARD ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF FOUR INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE AS MEMBERS OF THE HAWAII STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

On behalf of the Native Hawaiian Education Council (NHEC), I highly recommend Dr. Sylvia M. Hussey to the Hawai'i State Board of Education for appointment to the Hawai'i State Public Charter School Commission (Commission). Dr. Hussey's credentials are exceptional. Moreover, she understands what it means to be a student in Hawai'i's public school system, having attended Kohala Elementary and Intermediate Schools, and graduating from Kohala High School on the island of Hawai'i. She will bring this personal experience to her tenure on the Commission as it strives to meet its mission of serving students in our public charter schools.

Dr. Hussey's post-secondary degrees are impressive and relevant to service on the Commission. She received her B.S. in Accounting from BYU-Hawai'i, and her Master's in Education as well as her Ed.D. Doctorate of Education (Professional Educational Practice) from UH-Mānoa. Her strong educational background in Accounting and Education will serve the Commission well, as the Commission continues to develop Financial and Academic accountability measures, two of the three major accountability measures, for our public charter schools.

Dr. Hussey's exceptional professional background will also bring a valuable perspective to the Commission, particularly in the area of Organizational accountability, which is the third major area for our public charter schools. Dr. Hussey served the Kamehameha Schools (KS) for over a decade, which included her service as Vice President of Educational Support Services, Vice President of Administration, and Interim Human Resources Director. These are the KS divisions that contain the offices of Financial Aid, Scholarship, Admissions, Distance Learning, Information Technology, and Human Resources, Community Resources, among others. To the extent that Kamehameha Schools is the largest independent school system in the country, Dr. Hussey's work at KS enabled her to develop organizational and leadership qualities that will serve the Commission well.

Dr. Hussey also possesses superior communication, analytic, and writing skills. She has the ability to "see" connections between various organizational efforts, connect such efforts to the "bigger picture," and communicate these concepts in an efficient and understandable manner. This combination of skills allows Dr. Hussey to truly understand the total environment within which schools operate. This rare combination of skills has benefitted the Native Hawaiian Education Council (Council) immeasurably,



where Dr. Hussey currently serves as Executive Director. Dr. Hussey's expertise has been invaluable in helping the Council respond appropriately to auditor reports or fiscal inquiries from the U.S. Department of Education, as well as ensuring better communication about the Council's fiscal health to Council members. Additionally, Dr. Hussey's experience and skills have contributed to an expansion of the Council's networking, which has resulted in increased coordination and alignment of Council activities with the broader community and state educational initiatives affective Native Hawaiian students. In turn, there is a renewed recognition of the Council's role in providing the U.S. Department of Education with recommendations regarding Native Hawaiian Education.

The Native Hawaiian Education Council therefore urges the Hawai'i State Board of Education to appoint Dr. Hussey to the Hawai'i State Public Charter School Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa M. Watkins-Victorino". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Lisa M. Watkins-Victorino, Chair – Native Hawaiian Education Council





96 Pu'uhonu Place
 Hilo, HI 96720
 (808) 935-4304
 (808) 969-7512
 www.ahapunanaleo.org

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Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Niuolahiki

Hawaiian Language Online

State Public Charter School Commission
 111 Bishop Street, Suite 516
 Honolulu, HI 96813

28 April 2016

Aloha Commission Selection Committee,

On behalf of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, I write to support the nomination of Dr. Sylvia Hussey to the State Public Charter School Commission.

Dr. Hussey is qualified for the position. She is committed to education as demonstrated by her impressive resume but beyond those credentials, she is actively engaged in community outreach in support of education unique to Hawai'i's strengths and potential. She helped to lead several summits on Native Hawaiian Education. From these summits, an overall strategy for systems supports to education grounded in Hawai'i's history, language and culture was developed.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo is the sole statewide provider of Hawaiian medium early learning. Established in 1983, the 'Aha Pūnana Leo is dedicated to the revitalization of the Hawaiian language. The first high school graduating class of children from Pūnana Leo was in 1999. Today, those students are now parents with their own children in the Pūnana Leo. Dr. Hussey understands the needs of the children and families being provided an education in one of Hawai'i's two official languages. She also serves on the Board of the National Indian Education Association and understands the national perspective on education for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Mahalo for your consideration of Dr. Hussey to serve on the Commission.

Sincerely,

M. 'Ekekela Aiona
 Executive Director, 'Aha Pūnana Leo
 96 Pu'uhonu Place Hilo HI, 96720
 (808) 935-4304



Administrative Testimony
Testimony of Kamanaʻopono Crabbe, Ph.D.
Ka Pouhana, Chief Executive Officer

State of Hawaiʻi Board of Education
AGENDA ITEM VII.F: BOARD ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF FOUR INDIVIDUALS
TO SERVE AS MEMBERS OF THE HAWAIʻI STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL
COMMISSION

May 3, 2016

1:30 PM

Queen Liliʻuokalani Building

The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of Dr. Gary Kalehua Krug's reappointment to the Hawaiʻi State Public Charter School Commission (Commission). Dr. Krug's educational and professional background will allow him to continue bringing valuable and practical perspectives to the Commission, as it carries out its important mission to oversee the state's public charter schools.

Dr. Krug is amply suited to serve on the Commission. A graduate of Kamehameha Schools, Dr. Krug went on to receive his Bachelor of Arts in Hawaiian Language, Bachelor of Education in Elementary Education, Masters of Elementary Education in Curriculum Studies, and Doctorate of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Hawaiʻi-Mānoa. Academic performance measures are one of the three major accountability areas for public charter schools, and Dr. Krug's educational background in curriculum and instruction will greatly inform the Commission in its evaluation of charter school academic performance.

In this regard, Dr. Krug has already helped the Commission evaluate School Specific Measures, which can account for up to 25% of a public charter school's academic performance measure. Additionally, Dr. Krug along with fellow Commissioner Ernest Nishizaki, also convened and facilitated a meeting in November 2015, to gather input on charter contract renewal criteria, a difficult and challenging subject that emphasized academic measures in the contract renewal criteria process. Over fifty charter school leaders and governing board members, representatives from stakeholder groups, and Commission staff participated in this meeting, hosted by the Hawaiʻi Public Charter School Network. This was the first time Commission members convened and facilitated a meeting that provided the opportunity for Commissioners, charter schools leaders and governing board members, community stakeholders, and Commission staff to be in one room, and engage in meaningful discussion. Dr. Krug and Commissioner Nishizaki deserve much credit for this unprecedented event.

Dr. Krug's professional background likewise counsels his continued service on the Commission. At his current position as Educational Specialist in the newly created Office

of Hawaiian Education, Department of Education ("DOE-OHE"), he and his colleagues are advancing programs to implement Board of Education policies and state constitutional mandates in areas such as Hawaiian Studies and the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program. To the extent that seventeen of the thirty-four public charter schools in Hawai'i are culturally-based Hawaiian-focused or Hawaiian Language Immersion charter schools, Dr. Krug's ongoing work in the DOE-OHE will allow him to continue bringing valuable perspectives and insight to the Commission with respect to such schools. In addition, Dr. Krug's past experiences as a former public school teacher will also contribute to his ability to bring further depth of knowledge to the Commission.

Significantly, Dr. Krug is highly respected in the Hawaiian education community due to his service on a number of organizations, including his service as past President of the 'Aha Kauleo Council, which advises the DOE on its Hawaiian Language Immersion Program.

These are just a few highlights of Dr. Krug's many accomplishments, which make him highly suited for continued service on the Commission. OHA believes that Dr. Krug's strong background in education and his collaborative leadership has been and will continue to be invaluable to the Commission and its work.

Accordingly, OHA urges the Board to **SUPPORT** the reappointment of Dr. Krug to the Hawai'i State Public Charter School Commission.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

'A'ohe lua e like ai me ka ho'ona'auao 'ana o ke kamali'i. Nothing can compare in worth to the education of our children.



Administrative Testimony
Testimony of Kamanaʻopono Crabbe, Ph.D.
Ka Pouhana, Chief Executive Officer

State of Hawaiʻi Board of Education
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Queen Liliʻuokalani Building

The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of Dr. Sylvia M. Hussey's appointment to the Hawaiʻi State Public Charter School Commission (Commission). Dr. Hussey's educational background, combined with her extensive professional experience in education, finance, and the administration of complex organizations, will bring valuable and practical perspectives to the Commission as it carries out its important mission to oversee the state's public charter schools.

Dr. Hussey is amply suited to serve on the Commission. A proud graduate of our public school system, Dr. Hussey attended Kohala Elementary and Intermediate School, and received her diploma from Kohala High School on the island of Hawaiʻi. She went on to receive her B.S. in Accounting from BYU-Hawaiʻi, her Master's in Education Foundations from UH-Mānoa, and her Ed.D. Doctor of Education from UH-Mānoa. Accordingly, Dr. Hussey understands what it means to be a public school student with aspirations to attain post-secondary degrees, and will bring this understanding to the Commission.

Dr. Hussey's professional background is extensive, and her most recent endeavors and accomplishments particularly highlight her suitability to serve on the Commission. Dr. Hussey currently serves as the Executive Director of the Native Hawaiian Education Council (NHEC), a complex organization responsible for the coordination of millions of federal dollars every year. As its Executive Director, Dr. Hussey ensures that NHEC can fulfill its statutory mission to coordinate, assess, report, and make recommendations on the unique educational needs of Native Hawaiians, and inform the role of the federal government in empowering Hawaiian organizations to address those needs. Dr. Hussey's experience and skill sets from her work overseeing NHEC will be invaluable to the Commission, as it addresses the academic, financial, and organizational well-being of our public charter schools.

Prior to her current tenure at NHEC, Dr. Hussey served for 10 years in various upper level capacities at Kamehameha Schools ("KS"), another complex organization whose mission is to improve the capability and well-being of Hawaiians through education. With over 6,900 students at K-12 campuses on three islands and 31 preschool sites statewide, as well as an additional 40,000 learners in a range of educational programs and collaborations, KS is the largest independent school system in the United States. Dr. Hussey's roles at KS included 4 years as the Vice President of Administration, over one year of which she also served as the

Interim Human Resources Director, and five years as the Vice President of Educational Support Services, during which time she also served as the Project Manager for KS' Education Workforce Capacity Building Project. Dr. Hussey's experiences in developing priorities, strategies, and leadership at KS will also undoubtedly be of great value to the Commission and its service of our public charter schools and students.

Significantly, Dr. Hussey is also highly respected in the charter school community, as her work at NHEC and KS and in educational forums has familiarized her with the challenges faced by the Commission and public charter schools endeavoring to address the needs of their students, families, and communities.

As a final note, Dr. Hussey is also highly regarded within the financial and education communities at the state and national levels, and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the American Educational Research Association, the American Evaluation Association, and their state counterparts, among other affiliations.

These are just a few of the highlights of Dr. Hussey's many accomplishments. It is clear that Dr. Hussey understands the mission of educators, as well as the needs of public charter schools and students. OHA strongly believes that Dr. Hussey's strong background in education, finance, complex organizations, and collaborative leadership, will be invaluable to the Commission and its work.

Accordingly, OHA urges the Board to **SUPPORT** the appointment of Dr. Hussey to the Hawai'i State Public Charter School Commission.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

'A'ohē lua e like ai me ka ho'ona'auao 'ana o ke kamali'i. Nothing can compare in worth to the education of our children.



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Hawaiian Language Online

State of Hawai'i
Board of Education
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516
Honolulu, HI 96813

28 April 2016

Aloha Chair Lance Mizumoto and members of the Board of Education,

Ke hō'ike nei mākou 'o 'Aha Pūnana Leo i ka mana'o e koho 'ia 'o Dr. Kalehua Krug I lālā ma ka Papa Alaka'i o ke Komikina Kuleana Kula Ho'āmana.

He kupa o ka 'āina 'o Dr. Kalehua. He makua 'o ia o ka papahana ho'ōla 'ōlelo Hawai'i. He 'ike kona ma ka 'ōlelo me ka mo'omeheu Hawai'i. He kanaka mākaukau loa 'o ia no ke kōkua i nā keiki me nā 'ohana ma ke ala ho'ona'auao i loko o ka 'ōlelo kūhelu o Hawai'i. Kūpono loa kona noho ma ka Papa Alaka'i.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo supports the appointment of Dr. Kalehua Krug to serve on the State Public Charter School Commission.

Dr. Kalehua Krug is a fluent Hawaiian language speaker. His family is one of the growing number of families using Hawaiian as an everyday living language. His appointment to the commission reflects the diversity of the student population being served in our public charter schools, including Hawaiian medium education.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo is the sole statewide provider of Hawaiian medium early learning. Established in 1983, the 'Aha Pūnana Leo is dedicated to the revitalization of the Hawaiian language.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide a letter of support for your consideration of Dr. Kalehua Krug

Sincerely,

M. 'Ekekela Aiona
Executive Director, 'Aha Pūnana Leo

Nā Lei Na'auao
Ph #: 808-887-1117
Fax #: 808-887-0030
NLN@kalo.org

NĀ LEI NA'AUAO

Alliance for Native Hawaiian Education

Hakipu'u Learning Center
Kāne'ohe, O'ahu

May 2, 2016

HĀlau KŪ Māna
Honolulu, O'ahu

Ka 'Umeke Kā'eo
Keaukaha, Hawai'i

State of Hawai'i
Board of Education
Queen Lili'uokalani Building
1390 Miller Street, Room 404
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Ka Waihona o ka Na'auao
Wai'anae, O'ahu

Kamaile Academy
Wai'anae, O'ahu

Aloha mai kākou,

Kanu o ka 'Āina
Kamuela, Hawai'i

The mission of Na Lei Na'auao - Alliance for Native Hawaiian Education is to establish, implement, and continuously strengthen models of education throughout the Hawaiian islands and beyond, which are community-designed and -controlled and reflect, respect and embrace 'ōlelo Hawai'i, 'ike Hawai'i and Hawaiian cultural values, philosophies and it's practices and:

KanuikaPono
Anahola, Kaua'i

Kawaikini PCS
Līhue, Kaua'i

Ke Ana La'ahana
keaukaha, hawaii'i

- ❖ Establish, implement and continuously strengthen Hawaiian-focused charter schools throughout the Hawaiian islands
- ❖ Collectively research, and gather and evaluate data to document the impact of Native Hawaiian education to inform the strengthening and evolution of community-designed and -controlled educational strategies
- ❖ Facilitate continuous collaborations with Hawaiian organizations towards the creation and on-going development of culturally appropriate standards, strategies and assessments for all stakeholders within the learning community
- ❖ Work collaboratively with other Hawaiian organizations in supporting our sustainable communities, particularly Hawaiian-focused charter schools
- ❖ Cultivate communities of empowered, resilient Learners grounded in EA-Education with Aloha.

Ke Kula Ni'ihau 'o Kekaha
Kekaha, Kaua'i

Ke Kula 'o Nāwahīokalani'opu'u
Kea'au, Hawai'i

Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau
Kāne'ohe, O'ahu

Kua o ka Lā
Pāhoa, Hawai'i

Kualapu'u Elementary
Kualapu'u, Molokai

Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahalelani
Aloha
Makaweli, Kaua'i

Mālama Hōnua
Waimānalo, O'ahu

Waimea middle
Kamuela, hawaii'i

The Nā Lei Na'auao Alliance would like to support all the qualified applicants selected for the upcoming Commission vacancies. We are pleased that the nominees are experts in their fields and bring with them working experiences that can only lend to benefit the entire public charter school movement, even with the vision of the movement still needing to be clarified.

The Nā Lei Na'auao Alliance looks forward to working together with the 'Aha Kula Ho'āmana to empower our

A Petition to the Hawaii Department of Education to Respect & Protect Transgender Students

Every student has the right to equal access to educational opportunity. But several recent incidents, including the denial of a transgender student's desire to walk in the girls' gown at the Kahuku High School graduation, demonstrate that the Hawaii Department of Education has failed to protect the rights of transgender and gender nonconforming students by not establishing an appropriate policy, neglecting to educate and train staff, and ignoring existing civil rights statutes.

We demand that by the beginning of the 2016/17 school year:

- 1. The Hawaii DOE disseminate and implement a policy to ensure that all students are safe, included and respected in school, regardless of their gender identity or expression.**
- 2. The Hawaii DOE conduct training, professional development and educational activities to ensure awareness of and compliance with this policy and to provide an environment in which students have the opportunity to learn, express themselves, and live authentically.**
- 3. Kahuku Intermediate and High School act as a model school by publicly declaring that students may participate in graduation and other school activities consistent with their gender identity.**

The gender diversity policy and training shall, at a minimum:

- Provide students equal access to all activities that take place in the school, at school-sponsored functions, and on school transportation.
- Protect students' right to be addressed by educators and in school records by a name and pronouns that correspond to their gender identity.
- Enforce existing policy that prohibits bullying, harassment and discrimination based on gender identity and expression.
- Provide equal access to all facilities that are consistent with the student's gender identity (or a safe and non-stigmatizing alternative upon student request).
- Protect the privacy of students' gender identity and medical information from others, including parents, guardians and other school staff, unless the student has authorized such disclosure.
- Mandate training for all staff members including teachers, administrators, counselors, social workers and health staff on their duties, responsibilities, and expectations under the policy.
- Provide opportunities for professional development to educate staff on the terms, concepts, and current developmental understandings of gender identity, gender expression, and gender diversity, and to build their skills to prevent, identify and respond to bullying, harassment and discrimination.
- Include anti-bias education for all K-12 students that includes age appropriate, culturally responsive, Hawai'i-based information and curriculum materials on gender identity, expression and diversity.

Every student deserves dignity and respect. We call upon the Department of Education to demonstrate its commitment to fairness and equality by enacting these measures promptly.

Signed by 5,400+ petitioners, as of May 3, 2016

Contact: The Kumu Hina Project

KumuHina.com

The full document submitted with signatures can be viewed in the Board Office, 1390 Miller Street, Room 405.