



STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

February 7, 2017

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Brian De Lima
Vice Chairperson, Board of Education
Darrel Galera
Kenneth Uemura
Bruce Voss
Board Members

AGENDA ITEM: Report on January 17, 2017 informational briefing with the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and House Committee on Finance regarding the budget request for the Department of Education

I. BACKGROUND

Each year before the start of legislative session, the Senate Committee on Ways and Means ("WAM") and the House Committee on Ways and Means ("FIN") typically hold hearings or informational briefings on the Governor's budget requests for each state department. For 2017 Legislative Session, WAM and FIN held a joint informational briefing on the budget request for the Department of Education ("Department") on January 17, 2017. The meeting notice explicitly listed the following Department program budgets as topics of discussion: School-Based Budgeting (EDN 100), Special Education and Student Support Services (EDN 150), Instructional Support (EDN 200), State Administration (EDN 300), School Support (EDN 400), School Community Services (EDN 500), and Early Learning (EDN 700).

II. BRIEFING

Board Vice Chairperson Brian De Lima and Board Members Darrel Galera, Kenneth Uemura, and Bruce Voss attended the briefing. The Department provided a presentation to WAM and FIN on the Governor's budget. Board members then took turns addressing questions from legislators.

A topic that several legislators brought up is the reason the Board will not be extending Superintendent Kathryn Matayoshi's contract. Several Board members acknowledged Superintendent Matayoshi's positive contributions to improving public education but explained that the Board wants a Superintendent who will look to address issues—the student achievement gap, in particular—in new and innovative ways. Some Board members also noted that, with the passage of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act and a revised strategic plan, it is an ideal time to change leadership.