



STATE OF HAWAII'
BOARD OF EDUCATION
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November 3, 2015

TO: Lance Mizumoto
Chairperson, Board of Education

FROM: Brennan Lee
Student Representative, Board of Education

SUBJECT: Board Student Representative's Report: October 2015 Hawaii State Student Council ("HSSC") Meeting, HSSC Executive Committee presentation, and 2015 Children's Youth Summit Conference

On October 17, 2015, the Hawaii State Student Council ("HSSC") held its second meeting at the Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Student Support from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Leeward District HSSC Representatives began the meeting with a Good Idea Exchange. Interesting topics included Karina Bhattacharya's senior project in relation to her struggle with bipolar disorder, and how she aims to gain more awareness for this stereotypically defined disease, and Central District's input on "Appreciation Days" or "Teacher Appreciation Weeks" for various faculty and staff members.

The HSSC representatives were split into three different groups that consisted of four representatives. They were tasked to decorate their little pumpkins—with materials that were provided to them—with the theme, Superheroes.

Facilitative leadership (also called Interactive Method or IM) was presented by Historian Lily Tam, followed by an actual simulation of IM by Moanalua High School's Student Association President Jessica Luong and Moanalua High School HSSC Representative Nathan Bae.

District Meetings were led by Vice Chairperson Zachary Espino. The HSSC Representatives were given feedback on their reports, and were shown exceptional examples that were handed in.

We then got into our Focus Groups. Our five focus groups include: In-Class Environment, School Spirit, School Environment, Student Achievement, and Co-Curricular. On a chart paper, groups were told to answer two questions: (1) find one

issue for her focus group and write it on the chart, and (2) what is the solution to the issue? (Listed A - D below)

- A. In Class Environment (Paula Rae Penullar)—In-Class Environment claimed that Future Teachers of America Clubs should be implemented into more schools. This will increase the amount of highly qualified teachers in our high schools. In-Class Environment also claimed that we should appreciate our high school teachers more, and host appreciation-type events throughout the school year.
- B. School Spirit (Starshine Chun)—School Spirit claimed that student participation could be improved. Solutions included: (1) creating a service cord, and (2) allocating one spirit point for every hour of extra curricular service.
- C. School Environment (Jason Gumboc)—School Environment indicated their concern with on-campus drug use, and claimed that stricter security may improve these situations. Radical solutions included: (1) timed bathroom use, (2) detention during weekends, and (3) on-campus cleanups.
- D. Student Achievement (Caleb Domingo)—Student Achievement suggested that we should improve college and career readiness by promoting college and career planning. They inquired that schools should promote more student and parent collaboration-type events. They also suggest a free statewide SAT test, similar to the free ACT test given during junior year.
- E. Co--Curricular (Matthew Dufale)—Co-Curricular indicated that there is declining motivation and participation in Co-Curricular events. They felt that students would participate in more extracurricular events if they thoroughly understood what colleges look for, which—according to their group—are well-rounded students. Perhaps an early introduction to resume building as an underclassman will attract students to try new things and increase extracurricular participation.

After hearing brief presentations from the five focus groups, we handed out two sticky dots for each representative to vote, similar to the voting technique that was used at this year's' Children's Youth Summit.

The top three groups include: Student Achievement with 24 votes, In-Class Environment with 13 votes, and Co-Curricular with 12 votes. On Friday, December 18, 2015, the Executive Committee will hold a private meeting with focus group leads, Caleb Domingo of Student Achievement Committee, Paula Rae Penullar of In Class Environment Committee, and Matthew Dufale of Co-Curricular Committee.

Other Updates

1. Executive Committee Presentation. The Executive Committee—including Chairperson Mc Erl Dave Andres, Vice Chairperson Zachary Espino, Student Member

Brennan Lee, and Historian Lily Tam—presented at the SAC meeting on October 5, 2015, at Radford High School. Our main goal was to present to the SACs about: (1) the importance of HSSC Representatives for the BOE Student Member, (2) OSCAR, (3) NASC, and (4) the new HSSC structure.

2. Children's Youth Summit Conference. On October 9, 2015, Brennan Lee, the BOE Student Member on the Youth Panel, and Board Member Amy Asselbaye and Board Member Patricia Halagao on the Adult Panel, participated in this year's 2015 Children's Youth Summit ("CYS"). The Children's Youth Summit was a great way for our youth to get involved, and an amazing opportunity to practice critical-thinking and problem-solving.