



Rayna Fujii/ALAWAI/HIDOE

10/30/2015 08:02 AM

To boe\_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us

cc

Subject TESTIMONY

Good Morning Chair Halagao and Members of the Board of Education Committee,

My name is Rayna Fujii and I am currently the instructional coach at Ala Wai Elementary School. I am writing to you today to submit testimony in favor of implementing culturally responsive curriculum and resources into our public schools. This subject I believe will be discussed at the November 3rd Board of Education meeting as one of the topics under the Student Achievement Committee agenda items. Like many schools across the state, Ala Wai is very culturally diverse with student populations and demographics changing drastically over the past years. Being that our state draws upon the strengths of each cultural and ethnic group to make it a unique and ideal place to live, it is imperative that we incorporate opportunities in the classroom daily for students to learn, discuss, and apply cultural awareness, sensitivity and appreciation.

We must turn our attention to how students' environments and social interactions are being affected with each new generation. With common core standards now emphasizing conceptual knowledge to reinforce student understanding of ELA and Mathematics, it makes sense for educators to rethink content like social studies and other day to day instructional practices that get at the heart of the way students perceive their peers, individual identities, and surrounding community as they develop and grow throughout our educational system. Creating college and/or career ready students implores us to look at the whole child meaning that educators must understand cultural elements that affect teaching and learning.

Please consider educational policy that would include culturally relevant/responsive curriculum and resources. When the Board of Education adopts policy to include culturally relevant and responsive curriculum into our classrooms, we will see positive growth in our students as well as our community.

aloha,

Rayna Fujii



"E. Brook Chapman de Sousa"  
<ebsousa@hawaii.edu>

11/01/2015 10:29 PM

To boe\_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us  
cc  
Subject Re: Testimony

1 attachment



Curriculum Letter.docx

Hello,

My apologies. Could you please use the attached as my testimony for the SAC meeting instead of the one I sent a few minutes ago. I found a typo in the last sentence. Thank you!!

Brook

On Sun, Nov 1, 2015 at 10:23 PM, E. Brook Chapman de Sousa <ebsousa@hawaii.edu> wrote:

Hello,

I would like to submit the attached testimony for tomorrow's SAC committee.

Thank you,

Brook

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E. Brook Chapman de Sousa  
Assistant Professor, Multilingual Learners  
Institute of Teacher Education, Elementary and Early Childhood  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa  
1776 University Avenue, Everly 223  
Honolulu, HI 96822  
(808) 956-0802  
V-Office Link: <http://tinyurl.com/brookvoffice>

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Date: November 1, 2015

Name: Dr. E. Brook Chapman de Sousa, Assistant Professor, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Meeting: Board of Education Student Achievement Committee Meeting (November 2, 2015)

Agenda item V, Action on Board Policy 105.3 Curriculum

Position: Support and comment on inclusion of culturally and community relevant materials.

Dear Committee Members of the Hawai'i State Board of Education,

I am in strong support of including culturally and community relevant materials to Policy 105.3. I recommend that the Board also includes in the policy the use of culturally and community relevant teaching approaches. Both materials and approaches are vital to effective teaching. As a former classroom teacher in Wai'anae, I experienced firsthand the critical importance of using not only materials, but also methods, that are inclusive of and responsive to the culture of the students. When I used culturally and community relevant approaches and materials, my students' engagement significantly increased, their retention of materials improved, the degree of their complex thinking expanded and problem behaviors decreased. I saw similar transformations in many other teachers' classrooms during my work as an instructional coach supporting teachers to use culturally relevant pedagogy from the Center of Education, Diversity and Excellence (CREDE) project.

In summary, I support inclusion of culturally and community relevant materials in the Curriculum Policy and strongly encourage the Board to also include culturally and community relevant teaching approaches. Curriculum materials are important; however, the delivery and approach when using those materials is critical to successful, diverse classrooms. My experiences, as well as educational research and theory, show that use of culturally responsive materials and pedagogy results in positive outcomes for students, especially those who are culturally or linguistically diverse.

Sincerely,

Dr. E. Brook Chapman de Sousa



Cheri Nakamura  
<cheri.nakamura@gmail.com>  
11/02/2015 08:04 AM

To boe\_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us  
cc  
Subject HE'E Testimony for SAC Meeting,  
November 3, Item V. C. School  
Calendar

1 attachment



2015 11 03 HEE BOE School Calendar.pdf

Aloha,

My name is Cheri Nakamura, Director of HE'E Coalition. I am submitting testimony in support for November 3 SAC Committee agenda item V. C. Committee Action on DOE's multi-year school calendar (2018-2019 School Year.)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best regards,  
Cheri Nakamura  
HE'E Coalition Director

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[http://help.k12.hi.us/nssb/internal/spam\\_pages/index.html](http://help.k12.hi.us/nssb/internal/spam_pages/index.html)  
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841 Bishop St., Suite 301  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530  
Contact@HEECoalition.org

Hawaii Board of Education  
Student Achievement Committee  
Patricia Halagao, Chair  
Jim Williams, Vice Chair

November 3, 2015

Dear Chair Halagao, Vice Chair Williams and Members:

This testimony is submitted in support for the DOE's recommendation on the DOE's Multi-Year School Calendar (2018-2019 School Year).

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations dedicated to improving student achievement by increasing family and community engagement and partnerships in our schools. Our member list is attached.

We have reviewed and support the DOE's recommendation on the school calendar for 2018-2019, which aligns with the Student Achievement Committee's October 6 comments. We see that the semesters are better balanced than the previous version. We also understand that the odd start of the third quarter after the Winter Break is due to collective bargaining agreements, which should be maintained. Overall, we like that the calendar maintains the priority of being student-focused.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support of this policy represents a 75% consensus or more of our voting membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura  
HE'E Coalition Director

HE'E Member List

Academy 21

After-School All-Stars Hawaii

Alliance for Place Based Learning

\*Castle Complex Community Council

\*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS

Coalition for Children with Special Needs

\*Faith Action for Community Equity

Fresh Leadership LLC

Girl Scouts Hawaii

\*Good Beginnings Alliance

Harold K.L. Castle Foundation

\*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance

\*Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice

Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars

\*Hawai'i Charter School Network

\*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition

\*Hawaii State PTSA

Hawai'i State Student Council

Hawai'i State Teachers Association

Hawai'i P-20

Hawai'i 3Rs

Head Start Collaboration Office

It's All About Kids

\*INPEACE

Joint Venture Education Forum

Junior Achievement of Hawaii

Kamehameha Schools

Kanu Hawai'i

\*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council

Keiki to Career Kaua'i

Kupu A'e

\*Leaders for the Next Generation

McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds

Our Public School

\*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

\*Parents and Children Together

\*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i

Punahou School PUEO Program

Teach for America

The Learning Coalition

US PACOM

University of Hawai'i College of Education

YMCA of Honolulu

*Voting Members (\*) Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition. List as of July 2015.*



Vanessa Ott <msvott@gmail.com>

11/02/2015 02:09 PM

To Amy Asselbaye  
<amy\_asselbaye@notes.k12.hi.us>,  
BOE <boe\_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us>,  
cc  
Subject Testimony for 11/3/15 SAC and GBM  
re: Safety Policies

1 attachment



Ott\_Testimony\_2015\_1103\_SAC\_GBM\_SafetyPolicies.pdf

Please see my attached testimony for tomorrow's SAC and GBM Agenda Item regarding revision of BOE Policy 305.3.

Mahalo,

Vanessa Ott

808-854-1018

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**Vanessa Ott**

2825 S. King St., #2901, Honolulu, HI 96826

msvott@gmail.com

(808) 854-1018

September 14, 2015

To: State of Hawai'i Board of Education FIC Committee and all other Members

re: **SAC 11/3/15 Agenda Item V.B.** – Committee Action on Board Policy 305.3

**GBM 11/3/15 Agenda Item VII.A.** – Board Action on SAC recommendation concerning Board Policy 305.3, Safe Schools, including consideration of issues regarding school resource officers

Aloha Board of Education Members,

Whatever you decide the language regarding school resource officers should be, I do not think it belongs in Policy 305.3. It belongs under a separate policy regarding Cooperation with External Agencies.

Please see my report of suggested revisions below for building better BOE Safety Policy organization.

Mahalo,

Vanessa Ott

## **Building Better BOE Safety Policies**

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## BOE Safety Policies Need Better Organization

The current safety policies are disorganized and in some cases repetitive. The numbering system does not categorize the policies very well, and limits the ability to make future revisions that maintain a semblance of categorical organization. The following changes can alleviate some of these problems.

Current #	Current Title	Proposed #	Proposed Title
Policy E-305	Safe Schools, Safe Students	POLICY E-305	<b>Safety</b>
POLICY 305.1	STUDENT SAFETY AND WELFARE	POLICY 305.1	<b>Student Safety and Welfare</b>
POLICY 305.2	SAFE WORKPLACE	POLICY 305.1.(a)	Use Of Force
POLICY 305.3	SAFE SCHOOLS	POLICY 305.2	<b>Worker Safety and Welfare</b>
POLICY 305.4	USE OF FORCE	POLICY 305.3	<b>Physical Safety During Unusual Events</b>
POLICY 305.5	COOPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES	POLICY 305.3(b)	Closing Facilities Due to Unsafe Conditions
		POLICY 305.4	<b>Cooperation With External Agencies</b>
POLICY 305.6	CLOSING OF SCHOOLS IN THE EVENT OF DISASTER AND/OR OTHER EMERGENCIES	POLICY 305.4.(a)	Cooperation With Law Enforcement Agencies

### Rationale for Proposed Reorganization of BOE Safety Policies:

The proposed changes in renumbering and renaming the BOE Safety Policies provide for

- An organized structure that:
  1. Begins with an all-encompassing policy (E-305) regarding safety rules, regulations, and procedures that addresses the physical safety of all people on DOE properties as well as the mental/emotional safety of students and workers.
  2. Groups safety policies specific to students into one number (with lettered subdivisions).
  3. Groups safety policies specific to workers into one number (with potential future lettered subdivisions).
  4. Groups safety policies regarding unusual (natural or man-made) events that can affect safety into one number.
  5. Groups safety policies regarding cooperation with outside agencies.
- Consistency in policy naming conventions
- Potential for additions to future BOE policies that will not disrupt an organized numbering system.

## Specific Recommendations - Comments

### 1. Rename E-305

Current #	Current Title	Proposed #	Proposed Title
Policy E-305	Safe Schools, Safe Students	Policy E-305	Safety
POLICY 305.3	SAFE SCHOOLS		

Although I'm not sure what the "E-" means, it seems that E-# policies are intended to be the overview statement of several related policies. Therefore, the title and content of an "E-" policy should be inclusive of all elements under that domain.

The current title is exclusive, and restricts safety policies to schools and students only. The proposed new title is inclusive of all policies related to safety.

Caution: using the term "safety" vs. the phrase: "safety and security."

Although a colloquialism, Note that "safety and security" is exclusive of safety concerns that do not involve security, and therefore, the phrase should be avoided when referring to the broader category of SAFETY.

The term "security" should be used only when in reference to guarding against some kind of attack, either man-made (e.g., theft, assault, bomb threats) or natural (e.g., hurricanes ). On the other hand, the term "safety" includes security issues as well as all other safety issues such as electrical wiring decaying or potholes in the parking lot developing over time. "Safety" is the sufficient condition; "security" is a necessary condition for safety. All people and things that are safe are also secure. All people and things that are secure are not necessarily safe.

### 2. Renumber 305.4 to 305.1(a) so it is grouped with: *305.1 - Student Safety and Welfare.*

Current #	Current Title	Proposed #	Proposed Title
POLICY 305.1	STUDENT SAFETY AND WELFARE	POLICY 305.1	Student Safety and Welfare
POLICY 305.4	USE OF FORCE	POLICY 305.1.(a)	Use Of Force

### 3. POLICY 305.2 – Rename to: *Worker Safety and Welfare.*

Current #	Current Title	Proposed #	Proposed Title
POLICY 305.2	SAFE WORKPLACE	POLICY 305.2	Worker Safety and Welfare

The proposed title maintains consistency with the title of Policy 305.1. The term "Worker" is inclusive of all employees, contractors, and volunteers. The intent of the text is to ensure the safety and welfare of the workers (people), not the workplace (a location).

4. **POLICY 305.3 – Rename to: *Physical Safety During Unusual Events*. Remove redundancy with E-305. Move references to law enforcement to renumbered *Policy 305.4.(a) - Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies*.**

POLICY 305.3	SAFE SCHOOLS	POLICY 305.3	Physical Safety During Unusual Events
POLICY 305.6	CLOSING OF SCHOOLS IN THE EVENT OF DISASTER AND/OR OTHER EMERGENCIES	POLICY 305.3.(a)	Closing Facilities Due to Unsafe Conditions

The current POLICY 305.3 – SAFE SCHOOLS appears to be an attempt to provide for safety policies in the event of something occurring that is potentially unsafe, yet happens outside the normal course of school and Department operations.

5. **Renumber 305.5. Incorporate proposed language for 305.3 that applies to working with outside agencies to renumbered Policy 305.4.(a)**

Current #	Current Title	Proposed #	Proposed Title
POLICY 305.5	COOPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES	POLICY 305.4	Cooperation With External Agencies
POLICY 305.3	SAFE SCHOOLS	<i>Move text related to cooperation with Law Enforcement from 305.3 to renumbered 305.4(a) below.</i>	
POLICY 305.5	COOPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES	POLICY 305.4.(a)	Cooperation With Law Enforcement Agencies

A new POLICY 305.4 – Cooperation with External Agencies creates a new group for potential future policies regarding cooperation with other government agencies (not just the police department) that may be needed from time to time to provide services that are in the best interests of students, workers, and visitors.



Proposed Change to: Policy  
E-305  
Safe Schools, Safe Students

Policy: The Department shall institute procedures for ensuring the safety and security of pupils, personnel and school buildings.

*Rationale: The safety and security of everyone is a prerequisite for accomplishing the Department's goals and objectives.*

Approved 2/17/15

Previous Policy: None listed

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SUGGESTED REVISION:

Policy E-305  
Safety

The Department shall establish, maintain, and implement rules and procedures for ensuring the mental and physical safety and security of students, workers, and visitors to all Department properties and during all school-sponsored events.

The Department shall establish, maintain, and implement rules and procedures for ensuring the physical safety and security of buildings, grounds, and passageways located on properties under the responsibility of the Department.

*Rationale for suggested changes:*

1. *Current policy makes no provision for the safety of people on DOE properties who are neither students nor personnel. The addition of "visitors" encompasses the rest of the people who may be on DOE property.*
2. *Instituting a procedure is merely the inauguration. BOE Policy needs to make very clear that maintenance of, availability of, and accountability for all Department rules, regulations, and procedures is as important as instituting them. Apparently, to date, those responsibilities have not been clarified. The appalling state the school code regulations are in (paper copies of copies employees have difficulty accessing, and no electronic files of the regulations), and an SCC manual that was written once in 2008 and never updated are but two examples.*

*The DOE has failed over the years to keep procedures up to date (maintain), incorporate dozens of MOUs into written procedures (maintain), make all procedures, rules and regulations available online (maintain). This causes erratic and often inconsistent implementation as well as considerable time-consuming, repetitive questions that are better handled by providing clearly written policies that are easy to access and updated as needed. Therefore, all instances of language in BOE Policies stating, "The Department shall institute procedures for..." is better if written, "The Department shall establish, maintain, and implement rules and procedures for..."*

3. *"Rules and regulations" is an important addition to the language of BOE policy requiring the institution of "procedure." The word "policy" within the DOE seems to be reserved for BOE policy only. However, schools need rules. The DOE needs rules. Rules that require or discourage particular actions are what guide the formation of procedures. It is important that the BOE require the DOE to institute formally written rules and regulations, make them readily available, and update them as new situations arise that are not fully addressed in current rules, regulations, and procedures.*



**Proposed Change to: POLICY 305.3**  
**SAFE SCHOOLS**

The Department shall establish procedures for ensuring the safety and security of students, employees and facilities in the event of threats to safety, including, but not limited to, bomb threats and demonstrations. The use of school resource officers or other police presence on school campuses shall be primarily for such purposes and in accordance with Policy 101.7.

Status: Scheduled for ACTION by Board on Tuesday, 10/06/15  
Previous Policies: 1110-2 and 1710-9.

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**SUGGESTED REVISION:**

**POLICY 305.3**  
**Physical Safety During Unusual Events**

The Department shall establish, maintain, and implement rules and procedures for ensuring the safety of students, workers, and visitors during unusual events that are potentially dangerous. Unusual events include, but are not limited to, terrorism, fire, hurricane, vehicle accident, kidnapping, demonstrations, assemblies, and field trips.

**POLICY 305.3.(a)**  
**Closing Facilities Due to Unsafe Conditions...**

**Proposed Change to: POLICY 305.5**

**COOPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

The public schools shall cooperate fully with the law enforcement agencies in the community.

Approved: 8/70

See: Rule 3 - relating to cooperation with police; Chapter 571, HRS

Approved: 2/17/15

Previous Policy: 1710-8

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**SUGGESTED REVISION:**

**POLICY 305.4**

**Cooperating With External Agencies**

The Department shall establish, maintain, and implement rules and procedures for ensuring Department, school administrative, worker, and student cooperation with government agencies external to the Department.

**POLICY 305.5.(a)**

**Cooperation With Law Enforcement Agencies**



"Rocco, Susan S."  
<susan.rocco@doh.hawaii.gov>

11/02/2015 04:50 PM

To "boe\_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us"  
<boe\_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us>

cc

Subject Testimony for 11.3.15 SAC meeting

1 attachment



11.3.15SACtestimony.pdf

Attached please find testimony from the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) for the Student Achievement Committee meeting tomorrow.

Mahalo.

Susan Rocco  
Staff to SEAC  
586-8126

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**S E A C**  
**Special Education Advisory Council**

919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101

Honolulu, HI 96814

Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129

email: spin@doh.hawaii.gov

November 3, 2015

**Special Education  
Advisory Council**

Ms. Martha Guinan, *Chair*

Ms. Brendelyn Ancheta

Dr. Tammy Bopp

Dr. Robert Campbell, *liaison  
to the military*

Ms. Deborah Cheeseman

Ms. Annette Cooper

Ms. Shari Dela Cuadra-Larsen,  
*liaison to the Superintendent*

Ms. Gabriele Finn

Mr. Sage Goto

Ms. Natalie Haggerty

Ms. Valerie Johnson

Ms. Deborah Kobayakawa

Ms. Bernadette Lane

Ms. Dale Matsuura

Ms. Stacey Oshio

Ms. Zaidarene Place

Ms. Barbara Pretty

Ms. Kau'i Rezentes

Ms. Rosie Rowe

Dr. Patricia Sheehey

Ms. Ivalee Sinclair

Mr. Tom Smith

Ms. Lani Solomona

Dr. Todd Takahashi

Dr. Daniel Ulrich

Dr. Amy Wiech

Ms. Jasmine Williams

Ms. Susan Wood

Amanda Kaahanui, Staff

Susan Rocco, Staff

Ms. Patricia Halagao, Chair  
Student Achievement Committee  
Hawaii State Board of Education  
P. O. Box 2360  
Honolulu, HI 96804

RE: Agenda Item V. A. Committee Action on the following Board of  
Education ("Board") policies: 500.18 Summer School

Dear Chair Halagao and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii's State Advisory  
Panel under the Individual's with Disabilities Education Act, supports the  
latest draft of the Summer School Policy.

The language in the proposed policy revision reflects current terminology  
and provides some flexibility for adding future summer school objectives.  
SEAC appreciates that the Department incorporated a number of  
suggestions from our May 19, 2015 testimony to the Finance and  
Infrastructure Committee. We anticipate that there will be a separate policy  
developed regarding Extended School Year (ESY) services and look  
forward to participating in that discussion.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony. Should you have any  
questions or concerns regarding this testimony, please feel free to contact  
me.

Sincerely,

*Martha Guinan/se*

Martha Guinan  
Chair