



Testimony BOE <testimony.boe@boe.hawaii.gov>

Testimony in Support Agenda Item 5c, GBM 8/18/2022

1 message

Jeenna Canche <jeennacanche@gmail.com>
To: testimony.boe@boe.hawaii.gov

Sun, Aug 14, 2022 at 8:36 AM

Jeenna Canché
Spanish Teacher, English Language Coordinator
The new public high school in Kihei
Kihei Community Member since 2002

August 14, 2022

Members of the Committee,

Please accept my testimony in support of Agenda Item 5c of the General Business Meeting being held on August 18, 2022 to officially name the new high school in Kihei “Kūlanihāko’i” as recommended by the Hawai’i Superintendent of Education.

According to board policy: “The name of a school shall be a unique identifier to promote and represent a school’s location or identity,” and I believe that Kūlanihāko’i is the perfect choice! I have been a resident of Kihei for over 20 years, and I am proud to now be a member of the teaching staff at the new high school in Kihei. The name Kūlanihāko’i is an excellent starting place for us to engage our keiki and community in creating a strong foundation for our school’s unique culture and identity as we work together to thoughtfully select our school colors, mascot, and logo. Kūlanihāko’i is a unique and purposeful name that stands out and won’t be easily confused with other Maui island schools. I feel that Kūlanihāko’i is a name that the community will embrace and it will endure the test of time as our school grows into the heart of our Kihei community. It is with great pride that I support Kūlanihāko’i as the name for our new high school in Kihei.

Mahalo,
Jeenna Canche
Contact information withheld



Testimony BOE <testimony.boe@boe.hawaii.gov>

Testimony

1 message

Ruth Mathis Wisseh <ruth.mathis_wisseh@k12.hi.us>
To: testimony.boe@boe.hawaii.gov

Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 12:23 PM

Name: Dr. RMW, Former Curriculum/Test Coordinator/Educator Lahainaluna High School

Meeting: General Business Meeting (Full Board)

Agenda Item: Board Strategic Plan Timeline and Grass Root Teacher Training/Hawaii Teacher Cultivation Program (HTCP)

Position: (Comment) Agenda Item-Hawaii Board of Education

I am humbly requesting that the curriculum item entitled "Hawaii Teacher Cultivation Program" be added to the agenda under Strategic Plan for the General Discussion Session on August 18, 2022. The HTCP is a viable researched-based data driven grass root teacher development program that will indelibly turn the teacher shortage plight around in the state of Hawaii (please read introductory pages mailed to you previously). I completed the three part curriculum in 2021 and met with the Office of Curriculum and Instructional Design. The office directed me to contact my Complex Area for the approval process. Subsequently, I made a request to the Canoe Complex for the HTCP to go through HDOE's Curriculum Management System via the Curriculum and Instructional Materials Approval Process. I did not receive any response from the Complex Area Superintendent; after a lengthy wait period, the CAS has deemed the HTCP a nonessential program and will not support the process. There are two incidents that are troubling to me: 1. In November of 2020, during the drafting stage of my writing, I had a meeting with the Education Officer for the Canoe Complex; during the meeting, I asked her if she knew about the Program or had ever heard about it. She said "NO." I explained the objective of the program and its nationwide successes to her. Later, in August of 2021, I had a similar meeting with the CAS and asked her the same question to which responded "NO," but said that she had heard about it being implemented at the high schools in her district, when she was an elementary school teacher in Georgia. Now, if the state of Hawaii has a plan to develop accomplished grass root educators, what is the valid educational reason for the Canoe Complex to reject the HTCP? Distinguished Board Members, to seek redress in favor of our students is my reason for asking you to take on this Agenda Item today. At this point honorable Board Members, I mean no disrespect, but clearly, the EO and CAS are not purveyors of knowledge in curriculum development, research and writing of this type of program. Hence, denying the implementation of the Hawaii Teacher Cultivation Program is tantamount to denying the grass root Hawaiian students the right to become accomplished teachers and campus leaders.

Thank you,

This is a staff email account managed by Hawaii Department Of Education School District. This email and any

files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender.



August 18, 2022
General Business Meeting

Dear Chair Voss and Members of the Board,

We would like to comment on Agenda Item IV. A. (2) July 29, 2022, Board Community Meeting.

The purpose of the BOE Community Meeting was to discuss how to improve communication between the DOE, BOE, and the public. It was an opportunity for the community to provide input on a long-standing issue. HE'E members attended the BOE meeting as well as convened our own meeting to discuss our concerns regarding communication. We feel that the current methods for communication between schools and parents are confusing, outdated, and inefficient. DOE needs to move towards using technology to standardize and streamline communication with families. We offer the following recommendation as a first step.

A single, statewide electronic parent portal, where required documents for all students can be uploaded.

At the start of the year, schools distribute thick paper packets to families, requiring parents to complete and return myriads of documents for their children. If a family has children in different schools, the family must complete a packet for each school and provide the same information multiple times. The process is cumbersome and inefficient.

In addition, schools appears to use different software applications for communicating with parents. We understand that schools want to have the flexibility to use the application that is less costly and convenient for them. However, from the parent and family perspective, especially if the family has children in different schools, it is difficult to navigate and manage the various, different applications.

DOE is paying for a statewide subscription to Infinite Campus, a school information system (SIS), that is designed to keep track of every student and has the capability to interface with the public. However, it does not appear that DOE is optimizing the use of this SIS.

We urge the DOE to move towards a single, statewide electronic parent portal where required documents, such as the emergency contact, privacy, and photo waiver forms, can be accessed and completed documents can be uploaded by parents. It should not be difficult to create a standardized process for documents that all schools collect. For example, a parent should only need to provide their emergency contact once for all their children in the system. If families do

not have easy access to a computer or the internet, there should be a way for parents to use a computer station at school.

Our Coalition members are eager to work with the DOE to provide input on how to move towards the goal of a more streamlined, efficient, and effective communication system. We ask that the DOE collaborate with us so we can assist in this effort.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

HE'E Coalition Members and Participants

Academy 21

Alliance for Place Based Learning

American Civil Liberties Union

Atherton YMCA

Castle Complex Community Council

Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS

Education Institute of Hawai'i

*Faith Action for Community Equity

Fresh Leadership LLC

Girl Scouts Hawai'i

Harold K.L. Castle Foundation

*HawaiiKidsCAN

*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance

*Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice

*Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists

Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars

*Hawai'i Children's Action Network

Hawai'i Education Association

Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition

* Hawai'i 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

Learning First

McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds

Native Hawaiian Education Council

Our Public School

*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

*Parents and Children Together

*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i

Special Education Provider Alliance

*Teach for America

The Learning Coalition

US PACOM

University of Hawai'i College of Education

* Youth Service Hawai'i

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



david.miyashiro@hawaiikidsan.org
hawaiikidsan.org

David Miyashiro
Executive Director

August 18, 2022

Hawaii State Board of Education
General Business Meeting
Bruce Voss, Chairperson
Kaimana Barcarse, Vice Chairperson

Aloha Chair Voss, Vice Chair Barcarse, and Members of the Board,

Founded in 2017, HawaiiKidsCAN is a local nonprofit organization committed to ensuring that Hawaii has an excellent and equitable education system that reflects the true voices of our communities and, in turn, has a transformational impact on our children and our state. We strongly believe that all students should have access to excellent educational opportunities, regardless of family income levels and circumstances.

HawaiiKidsCAN supports the proposed motion for Action Item A) Board Action on Board strategic plan timeline.

We recognize the monumental and incredibly important task the Hawaii State Board of Education (BOE) and Hawaii State Department of Education (DOE) are taking on to craft and approve a new strategic plan that will move the needle for kids serve as a rallying point for our broader community. We offer our gratitude and support in advance, as we know there are long hours and lots of thoughtful reflection and listening ahead. While we feel the urgency for the adoption of a new strategic plan, we believe the amended timeline proposed by Chair Voss today provides the appropriate amount of time needed to successfully complete this process and consider the following feedback.

Student-centered framework

As the BOE begins to formulate how it will tackle this intensive eight month process to approve a new plan, we urge BOE members to consider this simple but powerful student-centered framework for success:

By 2030:

- **Moonshot Goals**
 - **90%** of students are proficient with core academics (language arts, math, and science), with no larger than **10%** achievement gap
 - **90%** of students complete Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) before graduation
 - **90%** of students graduate on-time from high school
 - **90%** of students complete a career and technical education (CTE) pathway leading to financial stability
- **Transformational Innovation Goals**
 - **75%** of students participate in meaningful experiences with community organizations each year
 - **75%** of all DOE staff are trained on trauma-informed education
 - **75%** of students are enrolled in computer science courses each year
 - **75%** of students are enrolled in a postsecondary institution or program upon graduation

While we know that there are many other indicators worthy of consideration, we believe that a focused approach has clear advantages and will likely yield stronger results. Given the work we have done as an organization over the last five years, which has included conversations with countless stakeholders, including but not limited to students, parents, teachers, administrators, counselors, legislators, BOE members, DOE leadership, business leaders, and philanthropic partners, we are extremely confident that meeting the above targets would ensure Hawaii has one of the most impactful education systems in the country and the world, and that students are being set up for success in 2030 and beyond.

With the clarity and precision of this ambitious vision, schools and policymakers can engage in deep reflection and planning on current assets and what specific supports are still needed. In order to meet these lofty targets, schools and community organizations must closely share and work together with transparency and candor. This is a true opportunity for collective impact that moves beyond incremental change and accepting the status quo.

Questions for consideration

As the BOE moves forward, we also hope the following questions remain top of mind:

- What are the DOE's deeper reflections on the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan and why many key targets have not been reached, including chronic absenteeism, the

achievement gap, and foundational academic proficiency? This reflection feels highly valuable and informative as we move ahead.

- How will the DOE highlight and elevate the practices of schools performing at a high level, especially those schools with high numbers of student subgroups that traditionally struggle in our school system?
- How can the DOE, BOE, and legislature bring an equity lens to the allocation of resources so that schools that need to make the most progress are provided with additional supports on a proportional basis?
- What incentives or other accountability measures can be tied to complex area superintendent, administrator, and educator performance?

With lots of work ahead, we are looking forward to a robust process that ultimately leads to better outcomes for students.

Mahalo for your consideration,

David Miyashiro
Founding Executive Director
HawaiiKidsCAN