

February 6, 2024

To: BOE Finance and Infrastructure Committee

Testimony re: **February 8, 2024 Agenda Items III A., B., C., and D.**

Aloha FIC Chair and Committee Members,

It's quite obvious that, in practice, the BOE Finance and Infrastructure Committee has no real interest in public input. You don't post your Agendas until the very last legal limit, the *end* of the calendar six days before a meeting. This gives the public only one business day to submit timely written testimony. That's ridiculous!


Also, you don't bother to submit any materials concerning your discussion items. As I write this, it's less than 30 minutes before the written testimony deadline, and there's not a link to the minutes you're going to approve, nor any Board Packet materials. Message received folks. You don't want the public to give input.

AGENDA
The Finance and Infrastructure Committee ("Committee") will accept public testimony with each agenda item.

- I. Call to order
- II. Approval of meeting minutes of October 4, 2023, December 7, 2023, and January 11, 2024
- III. Discussion items
 - A. Review of status of Department capital improvement projects
 - B. Update on status of schools' fire alarm systems
 - C. Update on Department actions and updates in response to the final report of the House of Representatives Lahaina wildfire interim working groups
 - D. Review of Strategic Plan Desired Outcome 3.1.2, "All systems to address school facility needs are responsive and able to meet all needs effectively, efficiently, and quickly," relating to overall real estate optimization
- IV. Adjournment

Every time a Board Member says, "We want to hear from the public, those boots on the ground folks who are actually involved," I cringe. It's so disingenuous. If you truly want the public to participate, post your meeting agendas and board packets earlier.

Mahalo for your consideration,



Vanessa Ott