



STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
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May 16, 2019

TO: Catherine Payne
Chairperson, Board of Education

FROM: Margaret Cox
Member, Board of Education

AGENDA ITEM: Board Member Report on National Association of State School Boards ("NASBE") Early Childhood Education Workgroup meeting

The National Association of State School Boards ("NASBE") formed an Early Childhood Education Workgroup ("ECE Workgroup") to strengthen Board Member knowledge and capacity for early childhood education policymaking, among other things. Board Chairperson Catherine Payne, Board Member Kili Namau'u, and myself are part of the first cohort of the ECE Workgroup. The ECE Workgroup requires a one-year commitment, which started at the end of 2018 and will conclude by the end of 2019. There are a series of meetings scheduled with one in-person meeting.

Earlier this month, Board Member Namau'u and I attended the in-person meeting in Washington D.C. from May 1 through 2, 2019. The May 2019 ECE Workgroup Meeting consisted of a school site visit, group discussions, a panel discussion, a roundtable discussion, and presentations. Topics covered included state policy issues, such as teacher compensation, certification, and professional development; ECE programs; best practices; equity; school readiness; workforce policy; and challenges regarding ECE.

At the May 2019 meeting, the ECE workgroup reviewed and approved the following goals of the ECE Workgroup: 1) Discover and explore research trends to promote best practice for early childhood and K-12 alignment and support all young children; 2) Provide opportunities for state board members to learn from each other and promote effective policymakers; 3) Study policies that support children and families, and share the policy recommendations and best practices with other state board challenges; and 4) Cultivate ECE champions to lead state efforts.