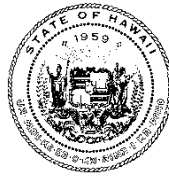


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

February 20, 2020

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Catherine Payne
Chairperson, Ad Hoc Committee on 2020 Legislative Session

AGENDA ITEM: Update on Ad Hoc Committee (a permitted interaction group pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes, Section 92-2.5(b)(2)) concerning 2020 Legislative Session: hearings and testimony

I will provide an oral report on the hearings and informational briefings members of the 2020 Legislative Session Ad Hoc Committee attended since the opening day of the 2020 legislative session on January 15, 2020. This list is current as of February 14, 2020. Copies of any written testimony submitted by the committee are attached to this memorandum as **Exhibit A**.

House Committee on Lower and Higher Education Informational Briefing

Monday, January 13, 2020, 2:00 p.m.

Notice: https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2020/hearingnotices/HEARING_LHE_01-13-20_INFO_.HTM

Board Member Attended: Catherine Payne

House Committee on Finance Informational Briefing

Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Notice:

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2020/hearingnotices/HEARING_FIN_2020_SUMMARY_INFO_.HTM

Board Member Attended: Bruce Voss

Senate Committees on Ways and Means and Education Informational Briefing

Friday, January 17, 2020, 12:30 p.m.

Notice: https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2020/hearingnotices/HEARING_WAM-EDU_01-17-20-2_INFO_.HTM

Board Member Attended: Bruce Voss

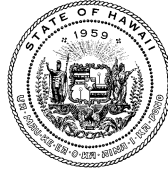
House Committee on Judiciary Hearing

Monday, February 10, 2020, 2:05 p.m.

Notice: https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2020/hearingnotices/HEARING_JUD_02-10-20_2_.PDF

Board Member Attended: Catherine Payne

Exhibit A
Testimony



**STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD OF EDUCATION**
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

House Committee on Lower & Higher Education

Thursday, January 30, 2020
2:20 p.m.
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 309

House Bill 2510, Relating to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Woodson, Vice Chairs Hashem and Quinlan, and Members of the Committees:

The Board of Education ("Board") supports the intent of HB 2510 but has comments. HB 2510 would require the Board hold at least six community forums each year with at least one in each county to receive public input on public education and public library issues, would make these forums permitted interactions under Hawaii Revised Statutes Section 92-2.5, and would require an open form at the end of each public Board meeting so that attendees can testify on matters not on the agenda.

One of the Board's strategic priorities for the 2019-2020 school year relates to communication and engagement. The Board supports measures that 1) support informed decision-making and priority setting through thoughtful and intentional engagement with stakeholders, and 2) improve transparency and access to information to encourage an informed and engaged community of citizens.

The Board believes community meetings improve the public's access to the Board and provide the Board with more information from the community to help in its decision-making and priority setting. This belief is reflected in its bylaws,¹ which require it to hold no less than six community meetings annually, including at least one in each county, which is what this measure seeks to legislate.

Starting this school year, the Board has been taking a different approach to its community meetings by making a concerted effort to invite community stakeholders to partner with the Board in developing these meetings. The table below shows the recent community meetings and the topics covered. The community stakeholders select the topic that they want to discuss and the location and time that where they want the meeting held. The Board works with them to tailor the meeting format to meet their needs and meeting goals. Communities have responded positively to these meetings with more people attending than ever before. Moreover, the people

¹ Available at: [http://boe.hawaii.gov/Documents/By-Laws%20\(amended%202019-07-18\).pdf](http://boe.hawaii.gov/Documents/By-Laws%20(amended%202019-07-18).pdf)

attending have been active and engage participants in the discussions. The Board looks forward to working with more community stakeholders and holding more of these community meetings.

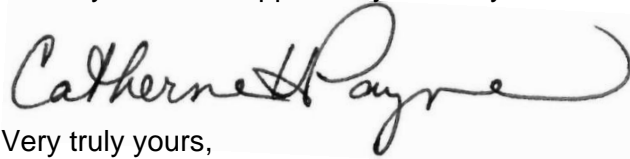
| Date | Location | Topic | Board Members | Attendees | Agenda, Meeting Material, and Testimony |
|------------|--|--|---|-----------|---|
| 06/24/2019 | Leilehua High School Library, 1515 California Avenue, Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786 | Discuss the use and regulation of herbicides and pesticides on our school campuses. | Board Chairperson Catherine Payne | 58 | http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Pages/June-24,-2019-Honolulu-Board-Community-Meeting.aspx |
| 10/25/2019 | Queen Liliuokalani Building, Room 404, 1390 Miller Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 | How Hawaii's business community can partner with our K-12 and higher education systems to advance and strengthen career pathways and readiness. | Board Chairperson Catherine Payne and Board Members Kaimana Barcarse, Margaret Cox, Kili Namau'u, and Dwight Takeno | 50 | http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Pages/October-25%2c-2019-Honolulu-Board-Community-Meeting.aspx |
| 11/07/2019 | Waiwai Collective, 1110 University Avenue, #100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96826 | How strategic plan indicators can be a powerful tool to advance student progress. | Board Chairperson Catherine Payne and Board Members Kaimana Barcarse, Margaret Cox, Kili Namau'u, and Bruce Voss | 40 | http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Pages/November-7%2c-2019-Honolulu-Board-Community-Meeting.aspx |
| 11/20/2019 | Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'o Ānuenuē 2528 10th Avenue, Cafeteria Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 | Share your Hawaiian immersion concerns and solutions and other general concerns. Board Members want to understand how we can be supportive of the immersion community and what we can learn about immersion education in the public schools. | Board Chairperson Catherine Payne and Board Members Kaimana Barcarse, Margaret Cox, Nolan Kawano, Kili Namau'u, and Dwight Takeno | 80 | http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Pages/November-20%2c-2019-Honolulu-Board-Community-Meeting.aspx |
| 02/04/2020 | University of Hawaii Maui College 310 West Kaahumanu Avenue, Science Building, Kahului, Hawaii 96732 | Share your Hawaiian immersion concerns and solutions and other general concerns. Board Members want to understand how we can be supportive of the immersion community and what we can learn about immersion education in the public schools. | Board Chairperson Catherine Payne and Board Members Kaimana Barcarse, and Kili Namau'u | TBD | http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Pages/February-4,-2020-Maui-County-Board-Community-Meeting-(Kahului).aspx |

As to making community forums permitted interactions under Hawaii Revised Statutes Section 92-2.5, the Board believes that this would frustrate the purpose of the community meetings and what has proven to be the strength of these community meetings. The community meetings have been opportunities for Board members and community members to informally and personally interact with each other. The flexibility of the community meeting format has allowed communities to shape the meeting formats to meet their needs, be it getting to know Board Members, explaining concerns in their community, or working with Board Members on possible solutions. It is difficult to see how adding the formal and procedural requirements of a permitted group to community meetings would improve transparency or access to information.

As to the open forum at the end of Board meetings, whether this would result in “thoughtful and intentional engagement with stakeholders,” per the Board’s strategic priorities, is unclear. Sunshine Law would prevent Board members from discussing any concerns or issues members of the public bring up during the open forum until such concerns or issues appear on a properly noticed Board agenda. Open forums alone do not appear to significantly increase access to or engagement with the Board because members of the public would only be allowed to provide their concerns or comments to the Board; the Board would not be able to engage or respond to testifiers. Currently, members of the public are invited to provide any comments or concerns in writing at any time. This allows for direct communication with Board Members, which would essentially have the same effect as delivering those same concerns or comments in person at an open forum, but without requiring members of the public to attend a public meeting or track the Board’s meeting notices.

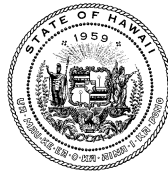
Lastly, the Committee should note that the Board, in practice, already allows testimony at its meetings from the members of the public on topics that are not on the meeting agenda. Members of the public are not prevented from testifying on matters not on the meeting agenda and, in compliance with Sunshine Law, the Board only accepts such testimony and does not discuss it. Further, at the end of every community meeting, attendees are asked if they have any concerns (other than the specific issue discussed at the community meeting) and are invited to share them.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of the Board.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Catherine Payne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Payne
Chairperson, Board of Education
Chairperson, 2020 Legislative Ad Hoc Committee



**STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD OF EDUCATION**
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Senate Committee on Education

Friday, January 31, 2020
2:45 p.m.
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229

Senate Bill 2664, Relating to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committees:

The Board of Education ("Board") supports the intent of SB 2664 but has comments. SB 2664 would require the Board hold at least six community forums each year with at least one in each county to receive public input on public education and public library issues, would make these forums permitted interactions under Hawaii Revised Statutes Section 92-2.5, and would require an open form at the end of each public Board meeting so that attendees can testify on matters not on the agenda.

One of the Board's strategic priorities for the 2019-2020 school year relates to communication and engagement. The Board supports measures that 1) support informed decision-making and priority setting through thoughtful and intentional engagement with stakeholders, and 2) improve transparency and access to information to encourage an informed and engaged community of citizens.

The Board believes community meetings improve the public's access to the Board and provide the Board with more information from the community to help in its decision-making and priority setting. This belief is reflected in its bylaws,¹ which require it to hold no less than six community meetings annually, including at least one in each county, which is what this measure seeks to legislate.

Starting this school year, the Board has been taking a different approach to its community meetings by making a concerted effort to invite community stakeholders to partner with the Board in developing these meetings. The table below shows the recent community meetings and the topics covered. The community stakeholders select the topic that they want to discuss and the location and time that where they want the meeting held. The Board works with them to tailor the meeting format to meet their needs and meeting goals. Communities have responded positively to these meetings with more people attending than ever before. Moreover, the people

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attending have been active and engage participants in the discussions. The Board looks forward to working with more community stakeholders and holding more of these community meetings.

| Date | Location | Topic | Board Members | Attendees | Agenda, Meeting Material, and Testimony |
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| 06/24/2019 | Leilehua High School Library, 1515 California Avenue, Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786 | Discuss the use and regulation of herbicides and pesticides on our school campuses. | Board Chairperson Catherine Payne | 58 | http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Pages/June-24,-2019-Honolulu-Board-Community-Meeting.aspx |
| 10/25/2019 | Queen Liliuokalani Building, Room 404, 1390 Miller Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 | How Hawaii's business community can partner with our K-12 and higher education systems to advance and strengthen career pathways and readiness. | Board Chairperson Catherine Payne and Board Members Kaimana Barcarse, Margaret Cox, Kili Namau'u, and Dwight Takeno | 50 | http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Pages/October-25%2c-2019-Honolulu-Board-Community-Meeting.aspx |
| 11/07/2019 | Waiwai Collective, 1110 University Avenue, #100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96826 | How strategic plan indicators can be a powerful tool to advance student progress. | Board Chairperson Catherine Payne and Board Members Kaimana Barcarse, Margaret Cox, Kili Namau'u, and Bruce Voss | 40 | http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Pages/November-7%2c-2019-Honolulu-Board-Community-Meeting.aspx |
| 11/20/2019 | Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'o Ānuenuē 2528 10th Avenue, Cafeteria Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 | Share your Hawaiian immersion concerns and solutions and other general concerns. Board Members want to understand how we can be supportive of the immersion community and what we can learn about immersion education in the public schools. | Board Chairperson Catherine Payne and Board Members Kaimana Barcarse, Margaret Cox, Nolan Kawano, Kili Namau'u, and Dwight Takeno | 80 | http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Pages/November-20%2c-2019-Honolulu-Board-Community-Meeting.aspx |
| 02/04/2020 | University of Hawaii Maui College 310 West Kaahumanu Avenue, Science Building, Kahului, Hawaii 96732 | Share your Hawaiian immersion concerns and solutions and other general concerns. Board Members want to understand how we can be supportive of the immersion community and what we can learn about immersion education in the public schools. | Board Chairperson Catherine Payne and Board Members Kaimana Barcarse, and Kili Namau'u | TBD | http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Pages/February-4,-2020-Maui-County-Board-Community-Meeting-(Kahului).aspx |

As to making community forums permitted interactions under Hawaii Revised Statutes Section 92-2.5, the Board believes that this would frustrate the purpose of the community meetings and what has proven to be the strength of these community meetings. The community meetings have been opportunities for Board members and community members to informally and personally interact with each other. The flexibility of the community meeting format has allowed communities to shape the meeting formats to meet their needs, be it getting to know Board Members, explaining concerns in their community, or working with Board Members on possible solutions. It is difficult to see how adding the formal and procedural requirements of a permitted group to community meetings would improve transparency or access to information.

As to the open forum at the end of Board meetings, whether this would result in “thoughtful and intentional engagement with stakeholders,” per the Board’s strategic priorities, is unclear. Sunshine Law would prevent Board members from discussing any concerns or issues members of the public bring up during the open forum until such concerns or issues appear on a properly noticed Board agenda. Open forums alone do not appear to significantly increase access to or engagement with the Board because members of the public would only be allowed to provide their concerns or comments to the Board; the Board would not be able to engage or respond to testifiers. Currently, members of the public are invited to provide any comments or concerns in writing at any time. This allows for direct communication with Board Members, which would essentially have the same effect as delivering those same concerns or comments in person at an open forum, but without requiring members of the public to attend a public meeting or track the Board’s meeting notices.

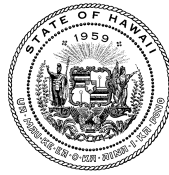
Lastly, the Committee should note that the Board, in practice, already allows testimony at its meetings from the members of the public on topics that are not on the meeting agenda. Members of the public are not prevented from testifying on matters not on the meeting agenda and, in compliance with Sunshine Law, the Board only accepts such testimony and does not discuss it. Further, at the end of every community meeting, attendees are asked if they have any concerns (other than the specific issue discussed at the community meeting) and are invited to share them.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of the Board.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Catherine Payne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Catherine Payne
Chairperson, Board of Education
Chairperson, 2020 Legislative Ad Hoc Committee



**STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD OF EDUCATION**
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

House Committee on Judiciary

Monday, February 10, 2020
2:05 p.m.
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 325

House Bill 2510, House Draft 1, Relating to the Board of Education

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Buenaventura, and Members of the Committee:

The Board of Education ("Board") supports the intent of HB 2510 HD1 but has comments. HB 2510 HD1 would: (1) rename "community meetings" to "community forums" and require the Board hold at least six community forums each year, with at least one in each county, to discuss and receive public input on public education and public library issues; (2) make these forums permitted interactions under Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS") Section 92-2.5; and (3) require an open forum at the end of each public Board meeting to afford attendees to testify on matters not on the agenda.

Senate committees have heard two similar measures, SB 587 (a carryover bill from last session that passed through its final Senate committee and will likely cross over to the House) and SB 2664 (the companion to HB 2510). The Board has reviewed the testimony submitted on all three bills, which we reference and address in our comments below.

Please note that our testimony uses "community meeting" and "community forum" interchangeably. The Board does not have a preference on either term, although we note that it is common for people to confuse a general business meeting the Board holds at site outside of its offices as a community meeting under HRS Section 302A-1106.5 and vice versa.

Comments on requirement of at least six community forums each year

One of the Board's strategic priorities for the 2019-2020 school year relates to communication and engagement. The Board supports measures that 1) support informed decision-making and priority setting through thoughtful and intentional engagement with stakeholders, and 2) improve transparency and access to information to encourage an informed and engaged community of citizens.

The Board believes community meetings improve the public's access to the Board and provide the Board with more information from the community to help in its decision-making and priority

setting. The Board has codified this belief in its bylaws,¹ which require it to hold no less than six community meetings annually, including at least one in each county.

The current draft of this measure seeks to legislate what the Board has already codified in its own policies. Also codifying this policy in statute seems duplicative, and the rationale for doing so is not clear to the Board. Still, if the Legislature feels it is necessary, the Board does not oppose.

The Board, however, does have concerns about the suggestion from the House Committee on Lower & Higher Education (“LHE”), as noted in its committee report, to amend HB 2510 to “specifically require community forums to be held on the islands of Maui, Molokai, and Lanai, rather than only generally requiring forums in the County of Maui.” The Board believes being accessible to all communities, no matter how remote, is important. In some instances, a community meeting in a unique, remote community like Molokai, Lanai, or Niihau (which LHE’s suggestion does not contemplate) is the most effective way to engage the community on a particular issue. However, in many other instances the Board should address or redirect community issues in other more appropriate ways.

In this regard, the Board does not believe it is effective nor a good use of time and resources, especially considering the added logistical challenges when holding community meetings in remote areas, to require annual community meetings in specific remote communities. The Board advocates for holding community meetings in each county every year while allowing the Board to identify the specific communities it thinks would benefit most from the community meetings, which statute currently provides.

Comments on making community forums permitted interactions under Sunshine Law

As previously noted, the Board reviewed the testimony submitted for this measure and related measures, and we feel the testimony from two organizations deserve further attention and discussion.

First, testimony from the Office of Information Practices (“OIP”) on SB 587 last legislative session noted that HRS Section 302A-1106.5 contains “a confusing exemption from portions of Sunshine Law.” In its testimony on the same measure this session, OIP recommended amending the measure to mirror the language in HB 2510 and SB 2664, which would make community forums permitted interactions under HRS Section 92-2.5 and presumably clarify for OIP the applicability of Sunshine Law to the Board’s community forums. Note that in previous testimony, the Board misunderstood the proposed statutory amendment to mean that community meetings would be subject to the requirements of a permitted interaction group, pursuant to HRS Section 92-2.5(b), which would add burdensome procedural requirements and reduce the inherent flexibility of community meetings. OIP has since clarified for us that the

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proposal would make community forums their own type of permitted interaction without the procedural requirements of other kinds of permitted interactions.

However, the second testimony we would like to highlight, from the Civil Beat Law Center (“Civil Beat Law Center”) for the Public Interest on both HB 2510 and SB 2664, raises concerns about making community forums permitted interactions. Specifically, the Civil Beat Law Center notes that by designating community forums as permitted interactions, this measure would eliminate the requirements of the Board to provide written public notice of the community forum, open the forum to the public, and accept testimony from all interested persons. LHE’s committee report also notes this concern and requests your Committee consider it. The Board is dedicated to “thoughtful and intentional engagement with stakeholders” and “improv[ing] transparency and access to information,” per its strategic priorities, and it would like to find a way to address the concerns raised by the Civil Beat Law Center.

The Board believes it is possible to reconcile both the concern from OIP about the unclear applicability of Sunshine Law to community meetings and the Civil Beat Law Center’s concerns about the transparency and access of community meetings to the public while maintaining the Board’s operational flexibility in executing these meetings. Each kind of permitted interaction under HRS Section 92-2.5 has its own set of conditions. Therefore, a reasonable solution is to designate community meetings/forums as permitted interactions, as this bill currently does, and expand the conditions of that kind of permitted interaction to address transparency and access concerns raised by the Civil Beat Law Center. To this end, the Board’s recommended amendments to the relevant portions of HRS Section 302A-1106.5 (starting from line 11 in this bill) are as follows:

~~“The board chairperson shall designate board members to attend [the] each community [~~meetings-~~] forum. These community [~~meetings~~] forums shall not be held for the purpose of formulating education policy. The community [~~meetings~~] forums shall be [~~exempt from sections 92-2.5, 92-7, 92-9, and 92-41; provided that the board shall give written public notice of each community meeting. The meeting notice shall indicate the date, time, and place of the meeting, and shall be filed in the office of the lieutenant governor and in the board’s office for public inspection six calendar days before the meeting. The notice shall also be posted at the site of the meeting.~~] a permitted interaction under section 92-2.5; provided that:~~

- (1) The board shall give a written public notice that indicates the date, time, and place of each community forum; provided that the notice shall be subject to the same posting and filing requirements of board meeting notices, pursuant to section 92-7(b);

- (2) Community forums shall be open to the public and all persons shall be permitted to attend; provided that the removal of any person or persons who wilfully disrupts a community forum to prevent and compromise the conduct of the community forum shall not be prohibited;
- (3) The board shall afford all interested persons an opportunity to submit data, views, or arguments, in writing or in person, on any public education or public library issues at each community forum;
- (4) No commitment relating to a vote on a matter is made or sought at any community forum; and
- (5) At the next duly noticed meeting of the board, the board members shall report their attendance and the matters presented and discussed at each community forum.”

Here are highlights of the key differences between our proposal above and the current version of this bill:

- The above proposal removes the amendment that would allow only less than a quorum of Board members to attend a community forum. The Board does not believe limiting the number of Board members who can attend a community forum provides any benefit; rather, it hampers the Board’s ability to meet the purposes of community forums in some instances. Current law already prohibits the Board from formulating policy at community meetings, and the proposal above adds an additional safeguard by prohibiting Board members attending community forums from making commitments relating to votes on matters.
- The above proposal keeps the requirement of a written public notice but subjects the notice to the same posting and filing requirements for other meeting notices rather than outdated posting and filing requirements.
- The above proposal ensures community forums are open to the public and attendees have an opportunity to share their views by using similar language found in HRS Section 92-3, which sets similar requirements for other public meetings.

Comments on requiring an open forum at the end of each Board meeting

The Board recently piloted the open forum concept at a couple of its meetings. The Board held a “community open forum” at the end of its March 7 and May 2, 2019, general business meetings and received comments from five individuals in total. The Board found that open forums at the end of Board meetings do not result in “thoughtful and intentional engagement with stakeholders” or “improve[d] transparency and access,” per the Board’s strategic priorities.

Open forums alone do not appear to increase access to or engagement with the Board because while members of the public can provide their concerns or comments to the Board, the Board is not be able to engage or respond to testifiers. Sunshine Law prevents Board members from discussing any concerns or issues members of the public bring up during open forums until such concerns or issues appear on a properly noticed Board agenda. In the Board’s pilot, this surprised some members of the public who attended the open forum with the assumption that they could have a conversation with the Board.

Currently, the Board invites members of the public to provide any comments or concerns in writing at any time. This allows for direct communication with Board members, which essentially have the same effect as delivering those same concerns or comments in person at an open forum but without requiring members of the public to attend a public meeting or track the Board’s meeting notices.

Further, your Committee should note that the Board, in practice, already allows testimony at its meetings from the members of the public on topics that are not on the meeting agenda. The Board’s presiding officers do not prevent members of the public from testifying on matters not on a meeting agenda and, in compliance with Sunshine Law, the Board only accepts such testimony and does not discuss it. This is essentially the same effect of an open forum. In addition, at the end of every community meeting, Board members ask attendees if they have any issues or concerns to discuss (other than the specific topic of the community meeting) and invite them to share. Community meetings tend to be more productive for members of the public because they can have a conversation with Board members, unlike Board meetings.

While the Board does not necessarily oppose mandatory open forums at the end of Board meetings, the Board has significant doubts about these open forums producing the results this bill intends based on its recent experience. The Board believes continuously improving the execution of community meetings/forums and exploring other ways to engage members of the public better serve of intentions of this bill.

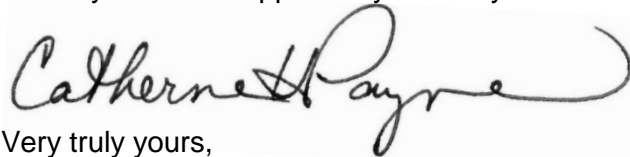
For example, starting this school year, the Board has been taking a different approach to its community meetings by making a concerted effort to invite community stakeholders to partner with the Board in developing these meetings. The table below shows the recent community meetings and the topics covered.

| Date | Location | Topic | Board Members | Attendees | Agenda, Meeting Material, and Testimony |
|------------|---|---|---|-----------|---|
| 06/24/2019 | Leilehua High School Library, 1515 California Avenue, Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786 | Discuss the use and regulation of herbicides and pesticides on our school campuses. | Board Chairperson Catherine Payne | 58 | http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Pages/June-24,-2019-Honolulu-Board-Community-Meeting.aspx |
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| Date | Location | Topic | Board Members | Attendees | Agenda, Meeting Material, and Testimony |
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| | Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 | advance and strengthen career pathways and readiness. | Barcarse, Margaret Cox, Kili Namau'u, and Dwight Takeno | | Community-Meeting.aspx |
| 11/07/2019 | Waiwai Collective, 1110 University Avenue, #100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96826 | How strategic plan indicators can be a powerful tool to advance student progress. | Board Chairperson Catherine Payne and Board Members Kaimana Barcarse, Margaret Cox, Kili Namau'u, and Bruce Voss | 40 | http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Pages/November-7%2c-2019-Honolulu-Board-Community-Meeting.aspx |
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| 02/04/2020 | University of Hawaii Maui College 310 West Kaahumanu Avenue, Science Building, Kahului, Hawaii 96732 | Share your Hawaiian immersion concerns and solutions and other general concerns. Board Members want to understand how we can be supportive of the immersion community and what we can learn about immersion education in the public schools. | Board Chairperson Catherine Payne and Board Members Kaimana Barcarse, and Kili Namau'u | 100 | http://boe.hawaii.gov/Meetings/Notices/Pages/February-4,-2020-Maui-County-Board-Community-Meeting-(Kahului).aspx |

The community stakeholders select the topic that they want to discuss and the location and time of the meeting. The Board works with them to tailor the meeting format to meet their needs and meeting goals. Communities have responded positively to these meetings with more people attending than ever before. Moreover, the attendees have actively participated in the discussions and engaged with Board members rather than simply observe. The Board finds this kind public engagement to be far more effective than an open forum, and the Board looks forward to working with more community stakeholders and holding more of these types of community meetings.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of the Board.



Very truly yours,

Catherine Payne
Chairperson, Board of Education
Chairperson, 2020 Legislative Ad Hoc Committee