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David Miyashiro
Executive Director

HawaiiKidsCAN Testimony Board Action on Student Achievement Committee recommendations concerning computer science standards

Hawaii State Board of Education General Business Meeting
David Miyashiro, Founding Executive Director, HawaiiKidsCAN

May 3, 2018

Aloha Chair Mizumoto, Vice Chair De Lima and Members of the Board,

My name is David Miyashiro, founder and executive director of the nonprofit organization HawaiiKidsCAN: The Hawaii Campaign for Achievement Now. We are 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. HawaiiKidsCAN is a branch of 50CAN: The 50-State Campaign for Achievement Now.

On behalf of HawaiiKidsCAN, I respectfully submit testimony in strong support of adopting the K-12 Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) Standards for the Hawaii State Department of Education.

Computer science (CS) and other science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills will become increasingly important as our diverse economy evolves. Between 2017 and 2027, STEM-related occupations are projected to grow by 8 percent in Hawaii, compared with just 4 percent growth for all other occupations.¹ In particular, some of Hawaii's fastest-growing occupations between 2014 and 2024 will require CS experience, including web development (26 percent growth), computer systems analysis (20 percent growth) and software development (18 percent growth).² In 2016, these and other computer and mathematical occupations carried a median hourly wage of \$35.87 in Hawaii, nearly double the median hourly wage of \$19.24 for all jobs that year.³

¹ "ECS Vital Signs: STEM Demand Hawaii." *Education Commission of the States*. <http://vitalsigns.ecs.org/state/Hawaii/demand>

² Software development includes systems software and applications software. "Employment Projections for Industries and Occupations." August, 2016. *Hawaii Workforce Infonet*. <https://www.hiwi.org/admin/gsipub/htmlarea/uploads/Long-TermProjections-2014-2024-State.pdf>

³ "Occupational Employment and Wage Data - State of Hawaii 2016." August, 2017. *Hawaii Workforce Infonet*. https://www.hiwi.org/admin/gsipub/htmlarea/uploads/OES_2016_publication.pdf

These new skills are increasingly important as our economy changes, with reports suggesting that automation may eliminate a third of our nation’s jobs by 2030.⁴ An initial investment in our students—and their chance to develop these skills—will come back to us tenfold when our students become the innovative workforce of tomorrow that primes Hawaii to survive, and thrive, in the changing global economy.

The CSTA Standards under consideration today represent a strong and fundamental step toward CS education equity, access and quality in our local schools. The standards establish clarity for students and teachers for CS learning, built with a holistic approach that maps the logical progression a student would follow to develop excellent CS knowledge and skills.

Overall, there is momentum growing for computer science education across Hawaii, for instance through the complementary efforts of the Legislature, Governor Ige’s participation in the bipartisan Governors’ Partnership for K-12 Computer Science and school-industry collaborations that connect public schools with companies such as DevLeague and Oceanit.

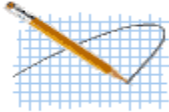
We also commend the Department of Education’s computer science team for pulling together a diverse set of stakeholders for its action plan, around which HawaiiKidsCAN has been a proud partner. We hope to keep this momentum for equity and access, which is why we continue to advocate for more funding to support teacher professional development in computer science—and allowing computer science courses to count toward mandatory graduation credits for math or science, both of which could have an immediate impact on CS participation.

The world around us is changing, so we can’t take our time. States such as Idaho and Arkansas have seized these new educational opportunities and are aggressively moving ahead with policies that mandate computer science equity and access and provide the resources to make this happen. Hawaii must embrace the challenge of providing our children with an education that keeps up with the world. For more data on the importance of CS education in Hawaii, please explore the latest report from HawaiiKidsCAN, *The State of Computer Science Education in Hawaii 2018* at <https://tinyurl.com/StateofCS>.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

David Miyashiro
Founding Executive Director
HawaiiKidsCAN

⁴ “Jobs Lost, Jobs Gained: Workforce Transitions in a Time of Automation.” Manyika, J. et al. *McKinsey Global Institute*. December 2017. <https://goo.gl/GLShNP>



[Redacted]
05/02/2018 11:00 AM

To testimony_boe@notes.k12.hi.us
cc
Subject Re:

[Redacted]

I, [Redacted], respectfully submit testimony in strong support of approving the adoption of the K-12 Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) Standards for the Hawaii State Department of Education.

I believe that computer science needs to be more strongly emphasized and enforced in the department of education. I personally have received 6 college credit and am a future computer science major at Arizona State University. Computer science is my passion and a gateway to future advancements. I believe more students must be made aware of computer science through the education system.

2018-05-02 10:52 GMT-10:00 [Redacted]
[Redacted]

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**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

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TO: Board of Education

DATE: May 2, 2018

FROM: Sione Thompson, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

RE: Agenda Item- Board Action on charter school waivers from Board Policy 102-15, High School Graduation Requirements and Commencement, for the following schools: Hakipu‘u Learning Center; Hawaii Technology Academy; Kanu o ka ‘Āina New Century Public Charter School; and University Laboratory School

Chairperson Mizumoto and members of the Board of Education:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony supporting the actions of the Board of Education (BOE) as it pertains to charter school waivers from Board Policy 102-15.

The Commission appreciates the BOE’s clarification of the duration of waivers from graduation requirements and identifying the graduating classes to which the waivers will apply. This clarification clearly articulates the BOE’s position on these waivers for the charter schools affected, as well as for the Commission.

The Commission further supports the recommendations provided by the Chairperson and looks forward to consulting with the charter schools on what BOE policies should apply to charter schools and working with Board staff on these charter-specific items.

The Commission would like to request guidance from the BOE on options for charter schools interested in seeking waivers from Board Policy 102-15 while the Commission develops the guidelines and criteria for the waiver process. The Commission looks forward to continued collaboration and cooperation with the BOE on this matter.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.