



December 1, 2022
Special Meeting

Dear Chairman Voss and Members of the Board,

We would like to submit comments for the NASBE Strategic Planning training session for the BOE.

We are advocates for equity in education and continue to represent the voices of our high-needs students who are not able to advocate for themselves.

We hear too often that when students graduate from our high schools, they are not fully prepared for college, career, and citizenship, the over-arching goal of our previous HIDOE Strategic Plan. We have heard about engineering students in college not being able handle the mathematics, or those wanting to go into a carpenter's apprenticeship program not being able to pass the mathematics examination. We also hear about students not having the foundation to pass the military ASVAB examination.

We are also perplexed when we look at graduation rates and the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) proficiency results for high school. Statewide graduation rates are at 86% while proficiency rates are only at 52% for English Language Arts (ELA), 38% for math and 40% for science.

We know that the DOE has a longitudinal data system and has an abundant amount of information on formative and summative assessments, course marks, and more recently, social and emotional learning (SEL) assessments, but we are not sure that the data is being utilized to know where students are. For example, in high school, through the SBA, we only know if students are not proficient at the 11th grade, but we do not know at what grade level they actually are. Are they at 10th grade? Are they at 8th grade? What proficiently level would they need to be at to be college, career, and citizenship ready? What other measures would we need to consider?

These questions lead us to think that perhaps HIDOE needs a better **data system**, one that can in **real time**, let us know where students are. This is the first critical step so that we can know what supports are appropriate and needed for students in **real time**. We think that ultimately, there should be data systems in place with which we can help create individualized goals for students based on where they are and where they would like to strive in their futures. This data system would be utilized at all levels. In the formative elementary years, it would inform teaching and learning so that students would be able to build strong foundations. In secondary years, it would help inform if students are prepared for their college and career goals.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

HE'E Coalition Members and Participants

Academy 21	Joint Venture Education Forum
Alliance for Place Based Learning	Junior Achievement of Hawaii
American Civil Liberties Union	Kamehameha Schools
Atherton YMCA	Kanu Hawai'i
*Castle Complex Community Council	*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council
*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS	Keiki to Career Kaua'i
*Education Institute of Hawai'i	Kupu A'e
*Faith Action for Community Equity	*Leaders for the Next Generation
Fresh Leadership LLC	Learning First
Girl Scouts Hawai'i	McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation	Native Hawaiian Education Council
*HawaiiKidsCAN	Our Public School
*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance	*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning
*Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice	*Parents and Children Together
*Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists	*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars	Special Education Provider Alliance
*Hawai'i Children's Action Network	*Teach for America
Hawai'i Education Association	The Learning Coalition
Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition	US PACOM
* Hawai'i State PTSA	University of Hawai'i College of Education
Hawai'i State Student Council	* Youth Service Hawai'i
Hawai'i State Teachers Association	<i>Voting Members (*) Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.</i>
Hawai'i P-20	
Hawai'i 3Rs	
Head Start Collaboration Office	
It's All About Kids	
*INPEACE	