

STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO P.O. BOX 2360 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96804

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

May 12, 2025

- TO: The Honorable Roy Takumi Chairperson, Board of Education
- FROM: Keith T. Hayashi
- SUBJECT: Report of the Superintendent: (A) Update on Student Transportation (B) Awards and Recognitions for Students, Employees, and/or Schools (C) Update on 2025 Legislative Session

<u>UPDATE</u>

The attached presentation highlights key milestones for the Hawaii State Department of Education (Department): an update on student transportation, recent awards and recognitions for Department students and employees, and an update on the legislative session.

In addition, the Department continues to provide regular updates to communicate about our public schools:

- Ho'oha'aheo: Weekly newsletter with Department highlights (38,000 subscribers);
- HIDOE Huddle: Monthly newsletter with staff announcements;
- HawaiiPublicSchools.org: Public website (over 6,000 users daily); and
- Social media: Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn (over 60,000 followers).

KTH:toc Attachment





Agenda Item III: Report of the Superintendent

- A. Update on student transportation
- B. Awards and recognitions for students, employees, and/or schools
- C. Update on 2025 legislative session

Hawai'i State Board of Education General Business Meeting May 15, 2025

Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent

SECTION

Update on Student Transportation



Student transportation update, 2025-26

In April the Department provided an early update on school bus transportation plans to help families prepare for next school year. **What to expect for School Year 2025-26:**

- Route Prioritization: HIDOE will continue to prioritize school bus service for elementary students and students receiving special education services. Applications will open July 14. <u>https://go.hidoe.us/HIDOE-SchoolBusService</u>
- **Public Transit Expansion**: In partnership with counties, the Department is expanding its free county bus pass program, EXPRESS, to include middle/intermediate school students. High school students will continue to be eligible. Interested students must meet the transportation qualifications to be eligible (reside a certain distance from campus). <u>https://bit.ly/HIDOE-EXPRESS</u>

The expansion aims to give more families access to reliable transportation options in areas where school bus service may be limited or impacted. Online applications will open July 14.

• **Carpool Pilot Program**: A new carpool pilot program will launch in two school complexes: Mililani (Central O'ahu) and Kekaulike (Upcountry Maui). The program will provide support and resources to help families connect with others in their area to share school drop-off and pickup responsibilities.

SECTION

Awards and Recognitions for Students, Employees, and/or Schools



2025 Masayuki Tokioka Excellence in School Leadership

Babā Yim, poʻo kumu (principal) of Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'O Ānuenue, was named the 2025 Masayuki Tokioka Excellence in School Leadership Award recipient at the Public Schools of Hawai'i Foundation annual dinner. He received a \$25,000 prize. Two semi-finalists were also recognized: Kailua High Principal Kimberly Anthony-Maeda and Hōnaunau Elementary Principal Noreen Kunitomo.



Photos from left to right: Babā Yim, Kimberly Anthony-Maeda and Noreen Kunitomo with HIDOE leadership.

Milken Educators of Hawai'i 2025 Teacher of Promise

 Haha'ione Elementary kindergarten and Japanese teacher Kylie Nakano was honored with the 2025 Teacher of Promise award by the Milken Educators of Hawai'i.

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 Nakano was awarded a \$4,000 cash prize sponsored by HawaiiUSA Federal Credit Union for professional development.



Nakano during a surprise ceremony at a faculty meeting.

Nationally Honored Student Councils

National Council of Excellence Winners:

- Kea'au High School
- Kealakehe Intermediate School
- Molokai High School

National Council of Excellence – Gold Level Winners:

- 'Aiea High School
- Henry J. Kaiser High School
- Henry Perrine Baldwin High School
- Highlands Intermediate School
- Hilo High School
- 'Tao Intermediate School
- James Campbell High School
- Kahuku High and Intermediate School
- Kailua High School



- Kalāheo High School
- Kaua'i High School
- Maui High School
- Mililani High School
- Moanalua High School
- Pāhoa High and Intermediate School
- President Theodore Roosevelt High School
- Waiākea High School
- Wai'anae High School

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Kapa'a High senior makes history with dual graduation

 Veronica "Bonnie" Nagahisa is graduating with both her high school diploma from Kapa'a High and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Chaminade University.

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 Nagahisa will start her master's degree this fall at Chaminade University.



Nagahisa proudly holds her Chaminade University diploma.



Localicious Recipe Contest Finalists







Skye Alvarado Henry J. Kaiser High Grade 12 Guava BBQ Pulled Chicken Sandwich with Whole Grain Bun and Liliko'i Coleslaw with locally sourced guava and liliko'i puree, chicken, and cabbage Halia Kaaua Kalani High Grade 11 Sweet Sea with locally sourced a'u fish and 'ulu (breadfruit) Mark Angelo Ragonton Molokai High Grade 11 Tsunami Elote Shrimp with locally sourced shrimp and corn SECTION

Update on 2025 Legislative Session



Fiscal Year 2025 operating budget summary

The state budget bill – House Bill 300, Conference Draft 1 – was passed on final reading by the Legislature on April 30, 2025. The bill awaits Gov. Josh Green's action.

The bill provides more general fund support than was requested by the Department and approved by the Board of Education in October 2024.

Funded priorities include: Summer learning, student meals, skilled nursing services, school security, workforce development, and utilities.

General Fund Requests	Fiscal Year 2025-26	Fiscal Year 2026-27
House Bill 300, Conference Draft 1	\$190,909,992	\$185,886,481
Department request	\$99,207,295	\$97,665,328



Fiscal Year 2025 capital improvements summary

The state budget bill also appropriates funds for Capital Improvement Program (CIP) needs in the following categories:

Lump Sum CIP

Deferred Maintenance: \$71 million

Compliance: \$61 million

Health & Safety: \$40 million

Support Facilities: \$18 million

Project Completion: \$50 million

Recurring CIP Funds

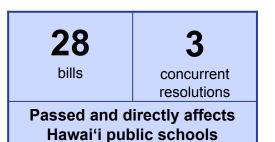
Deferred Maintenance Backlog: \$75 million



Kalani High School



HIDOE legislative packages highlights Status of bills as of May 2, 2025



Key Measures Pending Governor's Approval

Senate Bill 1300	Provides free school meals for families up to 300% of federal poverty level	
House Bill 110	Aligns benchmarks for locally sourced agricultural and food products (30% by 2030)	
House Bill 133	Provides funding to establish surfing as an interscholastic sport	
House Bill 430	Supports expansion of internships and workers' compensation coverage; includes \$1.8 million for internships	
House Bill 862	Authorizes use of motorcoaches, small buses and vans for school bus services	
House Bill 1293	Exempts purchases of local edible produce less than \$250,000 from the electronic procurement system requirement	