

Student Achievement Committee

Name

Adrienne Yanke

Organization

HIDOE Teacher

Position/Title

Secondary Math Teacher

Agenda Item

V. Action on updated mathematics content performance standards in compliance with Chapter 302A-201, Hawaii Revised Statutes

Position

Support

Written Testimony**Write Testimony**

May 12, 2026

Hawai'i State Board of Education
Student Achievement Committee
Bill Arakaki, Committee Chairperson
Kahele Dukelow, Vice Chairperson

Aloha Chair Arakaki, Vice Chair Dukelow, and Members of the Committee,

I am submitting testimony in support of the Hawai'i Common Core Standards for Mathematics (HCCS-Math).

As a fourth year high school math teacher at Farrington High School, every year I have attempted to implement standards-based grading in the math classroom but it has proved impossible year after year with the current Common Core State Standards (CCSS). As an Algebra 1 teacher, the organization of the CCSS high school standards are scattered across groupings, leading to confusion about what is supposed to be covered in Algebra 1 as opposed to Algebra 2 or beyond. I greatly appreciate the reorganization of the HCCS-Math that allows for specific focus in each course. This will not only provide greater clarity across schools and classrooms, but also allow for the opportunity for an organized and concise standards-based grading grade book.

For these reasons, I support the approval of the Hawai'i Common Core Standards for Mathematics.

Respectfully,
Adrienne Yanke

Student Achievement Committee

Name

Samantha Bowe

Organization

UH Maui College

Position/Title

Professor of Mathematics

Agenda Item

V. Action on updated mathematics content performance standards in compliance with Chapter 302A-201, Hawaii Revised Statutes

Position

Support

Written Testimony

Write Testimony

The proposed high school standards will better prepare students for college. They are aligned with Community College pathways as well as 2 and 4 year degree programs. The order, depth, and breadth of the proposed standards will give students relevant content knowledge, thereby helping them apply this knowledge to other disciplines as well.

Student Achievement Committee

Name

Loren Ayresman

Organization

King Kekaulike High School

Position/Title

Mathematics Teacher

Agenda Item

V. Action on updated mathematics content performance standards in compliance with Chapter 302A-201, Hawaii Revised Statutes

Position

Support

Written Testimony

Upload Written Testimony Here

- [BOE-Testimony1.pdf](#)

Date 5/10/26

Hawai'i State Board of Education
Student Achievement Committee
Bill Arakaki, Committee Chairperson
Kahele Dukelow, Vice Chairperson

Aloha Chair Arakaki, Vice Chair Dukelow, and Members of the Board of Education,

I am writing in support of the proposed Hawai'i Common Core Standards for Mathematics.

As a mathematics teacher at King Kekaulike High School for the past 27 years, I have witnessed the evolution of mathematics standards in Hawai'i beginning with HCPS I in 1998. Throughout that time, the Hawai'i State Department of Education has consistently worked to revise and improve standards in order to better serve the needs of our students and communities.

The current Hawai'i Common Core State Standards for Mathematics were largely adopted from the national Common Core State Standards introduced in 2010. Sixteen years later, the world our students live in has changed significantly. We now live in a highly connected digital age where handheld computing devices are ubiquitous and data increasingly influences how people think, communicate, and make decisions. While the foundational principles of mathematics remain unchanged, the relevance and emphasis of certain topics have evolved.

The revised mathematics standards, particularly at the high school level, appropriately elevate the importance of data literacy, probability, and mathematical modeling. Although these topics existed within the previous standards, they were often overshadowed by other topics. The revised standards better reflect the mathematical skills students need to navigate today's world.

Unlike the previous Common Core standards, the revised standards are organized by course, making them significantly more practical and accessible for high school teachers. The former standards were not designed with all students in mind, as evidenced by the overwhelming number of standards, the inclusion of "+" standards, and the designation of "priority" standards, which often encouraged educators to de-emphasize topics perceived as less important. In contrast, the revised standards clearly communicate that every standard matters and establish a coherent set of expectations for all students within each course.

In addition, the revised standards are clearer and easier to interpret. Common Core language that was vague and confusing has been rewritten for clarity. The added clarifications and limitations provide teachers with a much stronger understanding of the intended learning targets and expectations for student achievement.

These revised standards also make it easier to integrate Nā Hopena A'o into mathematics instruction, aligning with a broader national trend of adapting mathematics standards to reflect each state's educational priorities and values.

For these reasons, I respectfully support the approval of the Hawai'i Common Core Standards for Mathematics.

Mahalo nui loa,
Loren Ayresman

Student Achievement Committee

Name

Daphne Okunaga

Agenda Item

V. Action on updated mathematics content performance standards in compliance with Chapter 302A-201, Hawaii Revised Statutes

Position

Support

Written Testimony

Write Testimony

05/11/2026

Hawai'i State Board of Education
Student Achievement Committee
Bill Arakaki, Committee Chairperson
Kahele Dukelow, Vice Chairperson

Aloha Chair Arakaki, Vice Chair Dukelow, and Members of the Committee,

I am submitting testimony in support of the Hawai'i Common Core Standards for Mathematics.

I appreciate that standards are now clearly attached to specific courses rather than being ambiguously assigned to "high school." Beginning the sequence with Geometry makes the curriculum more concrete and accessible for many students. The standards provide clear guidance for mathematical skills all students need, not just those pursuing STEM pathways. Additionally, the revised Algebra 2 scope feels more manageable—fewer, clearer standards allow for greater depth and focus in instruction.

For these reasons, I support the approval of the Hawai'i Common Core Standards for Mathematics.

Respectfully,
Daphne