

**Early Learning Advisory Board (ELAB)**  
**Thursday, January 10, 2013**  
**1:30 am – 4:00 pm**  
**Hanahau‘oli Schools – Professional Development Center**

**Advisory Board Members in Attendance:**

Dana Balansag (for Pankaj Bhanot), Kaina Bonascorsi, Alfred Castle (on phone), Christina Cox, Michael Fahey, Loretta Fuddy, Christine Jackson, Joanne Taira, (Linda Johnsrud), Terry Kelly (for Dee Jay Mailer), Diane Young (for Katherine Matayoshi), Ben Naki, Pamela Perkins, Lora Perry, Robert Peters, Namaka Rawlins, Angela Thomas, Kerrie Urosevich

**Absent:**

Lynn Cabato, Kenneth Nakamura

**Executive Office on Early Learning staff & consultants in attendance:** Terry Lock, Melodie Vega, Kalei Keolanui, JoAnn Farnsworth, Jodi Hardin, Kathie Reinhardt

**Public in Attendance:**

Kathy Murphy, Grace Fong, Cindy Hirai, Keiko Nitta, Robyn Chun, Ed Yonamine, Tom Yokota, Jcce Mikulanec, Dani Tomiyasu, Deborah Zysman

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
<b>MINUTES:</b>		
<b>Opening/Welcome</b> – Deliana Fuddy, Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions were made</li> </ul>	
<b>Minutes – 12/13/12</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reviewed 12/13 minutes</li> <li>2. Namaka Rawlins provided a summary of Hawaiian Language medium presentation made by Dr. Kamanā and Dr. Wilson</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How will the ELAB ensure the Hawaiian medium standards are</li> </ul>	Minutes approved with the following amendment(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include summary of Hawaiian Language medium presentation in the minutes</li> </ul>

	<p>included in the HELDS?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A workgroup would be convened under EOEL in partnership with P3.</li> <li>• Would follow the same process the original development of the HELDS went through</li> <li>• EOEL would be responsible for following through with completing this portion of the HELDS</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Action Strategy and Implementation Presentation, Discussion and Appropriate Action –</b> Terry Lock and JoAnn Farnsworth</p>	<p>JoAnn Farnsworth reviewed power point and draft document with ELAB members – purpose is to ask ELAB to make a decision to endorse the State’s Early Childhood Action Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JoAnn provided background as to the intent of the Action Strategy document <i>Taking Action for Hawaii’s Children</i>. It is meant to be a call to action, synopsis of the strategies and action steps proposed by the six teams. It will be housed on the EOEL website and available for the public.</li> <li>• It will be backed up by a detailed workplan, finalized by the end of February that will be housed at the office. This document will have details of timelines, responsible parties and indicators of achievement.</li> <li>• It was also clarified that the EOEL chose the finalized the priorities in the Action Strategy based on the workgroups suggestions.</li> <li>• A request was made to have presenters make reference to the <i>Early Starts</i> (p.43) of document as each goal presentation is made</li> </ul> <p>Team leaders reviewed the strategies in each Goal. The following comments were suggestions and questions,</p>	

	<p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was suggested that we do not use the term “fully implemented” as that means “completed”.</li> <li>• A concern that EOEL clarify the use of the terms standards versus guidelines.</li> <li>• It was clarified that currently when we talk about program standards we are referring to the school readiness program standards that the EOEL is developing</li> </ul> <p>Goal 5:</p> <p>Question was raised whether making Kindergarten mandatory would help with chronic absenteeism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was expressed that the schools have a disclaimer for Kindergarten and cannot do anything when a child in Kindergarten is chronically absent because Kindergarten is not required.</li> <li>• It was suggested that we need to use stronger language regarding sustaining and expanding the current efforts of P3.</li> <li>• It was further suggested instead of using the word “support”, stronger language is required such as “sustain”, “expand”, or “enhance”.</li> <li>• It was expressed there is a definite alignment with these strategies and the DOE strategic plan.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Question: Why is Goal 6 only referring to effective teaching for k-3 – shouldn’t it be in all early childhood or early learning? It was noted that effective teaching in other settings is in Goal 4.</li> <li>• Only 5% of Kindergarten teachers currently have ECE qualifications</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A broader discussion is needed about DOE HR teacher’s standards board discussion?</li> </ul> <p>Discussion regarding action to be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Is endorsement of the Action Strategy the appropriate term for the decision the EOEL was expecting the ELAB to make?</li> <li>-Would the ELAB be expected to organize themselves around the implementation strategies?</li> <li>-It was clarified that all state depts. and other should have a strategic plan.</li> <li>-It was suggested we endorse in concept</li> <li>-It was suggested we acknowledge the importance of the action strategies and are committed to participating in implementation</li> <li>-DOE, DOH, and DHS will work together to help in the implementation</li> <li>-ELAB members generally supportive of all the ideas and strategies</li> <li>-Recommendations mostly involved the structure of the report</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action Taken:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mike moved to make the following recommendation:</li> </ul> <p><i>The ELAB acknowledges the importance of the strategies outlined in taking action for Hawaii’s children. We commit to work together with the EOEL to implement the actions outlined in this report.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Namaka seconded</li> <li>• Group gave unanimous approval</li> </ul>
<p><b>Early Learning Program</b> – Terry Lock</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were comments on how to organize ELAB around the legislative process</li> <li>• The name of the early learning program is now “School Readiness Program” – reason for this - there will be 3 bills put forth:</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. School Readiness programs (to get started in 2014-15.)</li> <li>2. Constitutional Amendment (put on ballot in 2014)</li> <li>3. Early Learning Program (after Constitutional Amendment is ratified)</li> </ol>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A question was asked about timeframe re writing testimony to support the above bills</li> <li>• A suggestion was made that a small group get together prior to next ELAB meeting to assist with writing testimony</li> <li>• A question was asked to clarify the need for constitutional amendment</li> <li>• Terry expressed we need the school readiness bill to start providing services prior to change in constitution – we need the constitutional amendment to create and expand early learning program and ensure program meet educational outcome.</li> <li>• GBA will distribute legislative tracking sheet</li> <li>• We need to draft testimony now</li> <li>• Terry suggested if folks want to submit testimony they can submit to Wimmie Wong in EOEL</li> <li>• Bob expressed ELAB also needs to see language of the bill</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Member Updates – Bob Peters</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A request was made that a written report from the entities working on the system be submitted with the minutes</li> <li>• Deliana suggested a list be drafted of the entities ELAB would like to hear from</li> <li>• Lora expressed maybe ELAB could get the meeting minutes sooner – Kalei expressed the EOEL will try</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Public Comment - Bob Peters</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GBA shared <i>The Power of Preschool</i> publication they put out recently, they also shared the various Be My Voice activities planned for the future.</li> <li>• GBA will be conducting an Advocate Training next Saturday, January 19 at KOKA (Keiki O Ka Aina) 10-12pm</li> <li>• If ELAB members are available to meet with lawmakers let Jacce know as GBA will be mapping out visits with lawmakers led by GBA</li> <li>• Bob Toyofuku is employed by GBA to lobby on behalf of Be My Voice</li> <li>• Bob Peters suggested GBA provide report on what they plan to</li> </ul>	

	<p>do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HELDS mini-proposal deadline is January 31</li> <li>• January 25 – HAEYC will be sharing legislative update at UH</li> <li>• Terry thanked everyone who came to press conference – shared she is scheduled for TV and radio interviews</li> </ul>	
<b>Review Agenda Outcomes– Bob Peters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No review</li> </ul>	
<b>Announcements and Closing</b>	<p>Chris reminded everyone about the Save-the-Date for the next Infant/Toddler Summit</p> <p><i>Next ELAB meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 14, 2013</i></p> <p><i>Next Agenda Items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Review of SAC Grant</li> <li>-Legislative Updates</li> </ul>	
<b>Meeting Adjourned @ 4:15 p.m.</b>		

Submitted by: Melodie Vega and Kalei Keolanui