

Early Learning Advisory Board (ELAB)

Thursday, October 10, 2013

1:30 am – 3:45 pm

Department of Health Kinau Hale, 1st Floor Boardroom

Advisory Board Members in Attendance:

Dana Balansag (for Pankaj Bhanot), Kaina Bonascorsi, Alfred Castle, Christina Cox, Leolinda Parlin (for Michael Fahey), Deliana Fuddy, Christine Jackson, Joanne Taira (for Linda Johnsrud), Chris Pating (for Dee Jay Mailer), Robert Peters, Pamela Perkins (call-in member), Nalani Mattox-Primacio (for Lora Perry), Namaka Rawlins

Absent: Ben Naki, Lynn Cabato, Katherine Matayoshi, Malia Shimokawa, Angela Thomas

Executive Office on Early Learning staff & consultants in attendance: GG Weisenfeld, Deanne Goya, Kerrie Urosevich, Kalei Keolanui

Public in Attendance:

Keiko Bonk, Cindy Hirai, Patricia Heu, Kimberly Itagaki, Jeanne Marie Iorio, Susan Matoba Adler, Kuulani Keohokalole, Deborah Zysman, Dave Tom, Stephen Teves, Robyn Chun, Dani Wong Tomiyasu, Terry Lock, Kim Guieb, Linda Buck, Jacce Mikulanec, James Raymond

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
MINUTES:		
Opening/Welcome —Bob Peters	At the Chair’s request, each member at the table introduced themselves, including EOEL	
Review and Approve 10/10/13 Minutes —Bob Peters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Minutes approved after the additional clarification on page 5 regarding the Con Am Discussion and the bullet:<ul style="list-style-type: none">ELEU very concerned expressions of their faith will be hinderedNalani Mattox-Primacio clarified that by “expressions of their	Minutes approved with clarification

	<p>faith” ELEU means “icons of Christianity”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair agreed to clarify the statement by including “icons of Christianity” in parenthesis after “expressions of faith” in the Meeting Minutes 	
<p>Higher Education Impact Study—Jeanne Marie Iorrio and Susan Adler</p>	<p>NOTE: Chair changed order of meeting agenda items by presenter request</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GG had requested this conversation with UH West Oahu faculty to gather input for the ELAB regarding the posting of the McREL study • Presenters asserted the study is flawed and invalid due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Data findings and recommendations were predetermined ○ Lack of transparency in data collection methods led to the perception of participant coercion ○ Overall methodology for the study is weak ○ No recognition of vulnerable populations ○ Insufficient data collected to make conclusions or generalizations ○ “Next Steps” have a weak or no connection to the data 	
<p>Executive Office on Early Learning – Director GG Weisenfeld, Ph.D.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GG presented her PPT report (<i>see attached</i>) summarizing the current status of the office: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Finished EOEL staff hiring—6 EOEL staff ○ Funded with state, federal, and private funds ○ Meetings ○ School Readiness Program ○ Contracts ○ Legislator Visits ○ Change in K-Entry Age ○ Communications ○ Strategic Plan 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GG also asked members for recommendations for Kerrie’s replacement on the Board 	
Action Strategy Project Updates —Kerrie Urosevich	<p><i>(See the Focus Area handout)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The focus areas are organized as if seen through the lens of a child. Progress will be measured along this continuum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There is a point person for project under each focus area ○ The original Teams will remain, but are now operationalized by these focus areas • The Action Strategy All-Teams Meeting will be on November 14, 2013 from 9AM-1:00PM at the Koolau Ballrooms, with the ELAB meeting to follow. Board members are encouraged to attend. 	
Con Am Strategy Update and Discussion —Bob Peters, GBA, EOEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GBA/Jacce Mikulec: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Did their first poll in August—generally favorable response ○ GBA is still in the early planning stage ○ They are looking for someone to head the new campaign ○ Their focus right now is fundraising—this election year means more expensive media spots will be required • <u>Member comments:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chair: We are counting on your help ○ Vice Chair: Does it make a difference that this is an election year? ○ <i>Response—Steve Teves:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A smaller vote count is better ▪ This will get a lot of coverage—messaging is important • Alfred Castle discussed a recent meeting of Keiki Funders in which the Hawaii Baptist Preschool Association director indicated that Baptist preschools would not participate in the Governor’s plan but that the Baptist preschools supported more public investment in 	

	<p>children generally. Mr. Castle mentioned that he was heard similar positions expressed by other faith-based providers but that the situation is fluid and many are taking a “wait and see” position at this time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair moved to vote for an Executive Session to discuss the role of the ELAB and the Con Am after the meeting, which was unanimously approved: 13 in favor, 0 opposed 	<p>Chair’s move to vote for an Executive Session to discuss the Con Am after the ELAB meeting unanimously approved, 13 in favor, 0 opposed</p>
<p>Family Partnership Guidelines Endorsement—Chris Jackson</p>	<p><i>(See handouts)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Guidelines are not mandatory • They are supplemented with toolkits and other resources • In response to her insightful questions, GG asked Nalani Mattox-Primacio to help with the toolkits phase • Chair moved to endorse the Family Partnership Guidelines: members voted unanimously to approve: 13 in favor, 0 opposed 	<p>Family Partnership Guidelines endorsed by the ELAB: 13 in favor, 0 opposed</p>
<p>Early Learning Advisory Board Strategic Plan Communication Strategy—GG Weisenfeld</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the number of items on the agenda, the Chair agreed to GG’s request to move her presentation to the end of the meeting if there was enough time—otherwise, add it to the agenda for the next ELAB meeting 	<p>ELAB Strategic Plan Communication Strategy moved to next meeting agenda</p>
<p>Hi’ilei Hawaii—Leolinda Parlin, Keiko Nitta, and Patricia Heu</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPT presentation of <i>Hi’ilei Hawaii Developmental Follow Along Program for Young Children</i> which provides a safety net for high-risk children not eligible for EI services • The establishment of HAR Chapter 11-140 takes effect 10/21/13, when Early Intervention criteria will change • Responds to Federal law that children have access to early intervention services 0-3 • Responds to the concerns of children and families • Spots normally open to 3-year-olds may be closing 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fits in with the DOH strategic plan • Key components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 0-3 years ○ Family-driven ○ Natural environment ○ Trans-disciplinary approach • The service is provided where the child is at • Challenge is learning how to work with parents to help their children catch up with where they need to be • DOH will release the rules this month • The Hi'ilei Hawaii project acts as a broker, encouraging families to sign up so they can get them into the screening • Encourages families to take advantage of the ACA • Continues to look for support for each child and family • Program staffed with seasoned mothers of disabled children who are the initial contact; the program will then connect families with the services • There is no separate funding stream; it is a potluck of services—if there are more requests than they can provide, they must document the need • ELAB can support the project by helping to educate those parents whose children might need screening • Nalani requested a handout to distribute to her organization, encouraging distribution at large events • There is a concern that the capacity of the EI providers is already extended • Chair maintained support from ELAB can continue as long as they are educated in the process • Chair requested ELAB members contact Leolinda with their comments and concerns. Leolinda will provide them with her 	
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	contact information.	
Member Updates – Bob Peters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris Jackson: October is Head Start Awareness Month, which began October 22, 1982. Irony is that sequestration has resulted in 72 fewer children being served in Hawaii and a loss of \$1.3 million, and 23 programs have closed • Nalani Mattox-Primacio: WiPC:E is here this month of October until the 15th, and then visiting neighbor island schools until returning to Oahu the 19th-24th. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Invited ELAB to help host at the reception on the grounds of Keiki O Kaina on 10/24/13 • Namaka Rawlins: All of Aha Punana Leo schools will be visited on the islands during the WiPC:E site visits • Leolinda Parlin: Mike Fahey asks (in his role as a chair of the ECAS Team 5, Continuity), ELAB members to recommend web sites they think might be important to link with the Early Learning Office web site, specifically around the information on the Change in K Entry 2014. We want to reach as many parents and educators as possible to ensure a smooth transition for the late-bourns. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Suggestions for reaching the public would also be welcome 	
Public Comment - Bob Peters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave Tom of Navy Region Hawaii announced the October 16 6:30-8:30PM and October 19 9:00AM-12:00PM Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Child Care Job Fair, with over 200 part and full-time jobs available 	
Review Agenda Outcomes—Bob Peters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Today ELAB endorsed the Family Partnership Guidelines • Next ELAB meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kerrie will provide the latest update on the progress of the Action Strategy teams ○ Continue the Con Am conversation ○ Discuss the posting of the McREL study 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Communication strategies GG is preparing--messaging 	
Announcements and Closing —Bob Peters	<p>Meeting adjourned at 3:45PM, going immediately into the closed Executive Session.</p> <p>The next ELAB meeting will be on Thursday, November 14, 2013, 1:30-4:00PM, Koolau Ballrooms.</p>	

Submitted by: Kalei Keolanui