

Early Learning Advisory Board (ELAB)

Thursday, August 8, 2013

1:30 am – 4:00 pm

Department of Health Kinau Hale, 1st Floor Boardroom

Advisory Board Members in Attendance:

Pankaj Bhanot, Kaina Bonascorsi, Alfred Castle, Christina Cox, Michael Fahey, Deliana Fuddy, Christine Jackson, Joanne Taira (for Linda Johnsrud), Ben Naki, Robert Peters, Pamela Perkins, Lora Perry (and Nalani Mattox-Primacio), Namaka Rawlins, Angela Thomas, Kerrie Urosevich

Absent: Lynn Cabato, Katherine Matayoshi, Dee Jay Mailer, Malia Shimokawa

Executive Office on Early Learning staff & consultants in attendance: GG Weisenfeld, Kalei Keolanui, Wimmie Wong Lui, JoAnn Farnsworth, Miki Lee

Public in Attendance:

Keiko Bonk, Cindy Hirai, Stephen Teves, Grace Fong, Dana Balansag, Teresa Vast, Robyn Chun, Dani Wong Tomiyasu, Vicki Draeger, Terry Lock, Kathy Murphy, Carrie Germeroth, Crystal Day-Hess, Nolan Malone, Wendy Kekahio, Dede Mamiya, Kim Guieb, Linda Buck, Jacce Mikulanec, James Raymond

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
MINUTES:		
Opening/Welcome – Bob Peters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcomed GG Weisenfeld as Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning• Thanked Terry Lock for her contributions as the former EOEL Director, wishing her the best in her continued work supporting the Early Learning initiative from the UH College of Education• Affirmed the Board’s commitment to EOEL objectives and providing legislative support during the upcoming Session	

<p>Review and Approve 5/9/13 and 6/6/13 Minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5/9/13 Minutes approved • Revisions to 6/6/13 Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Correct spelling of Namaka Rawlins' last name ○ Alternate Diane Young attended for Kathryn Matayoshi ○ Dee Jay Mailer was absent 	<p>Amend 6/6/13 Minutes with recommended revisions</p>
<p>Executive Office on Early Learning – Director GG Weisenfeld, Ph.D.</p>	<p>GG Weisenfeld introduced herself and shared her vision for the Executive Office on Early Learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOEL is charged with preparing children for Kindergarten, which includes both establishing and promoting quality programs and the connection with health and development. • EOEL's work is done through connecting services and departments so that we can support children and families and programs. • The backbone of this office is the Action Strategy. You will soon be hearing about how we are building upon this foundation and moving to the next level of implementation of policies. <p>EOEL has 6 full-time positions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Director 2. EOEL Executive Assistant 3. EOEL Policy Analyst 4. HS State Collaboration Director 5. Policy Action Coordinator 6. EOEL Program Manager <p>These positions are funded through several sources: federal, state general funds, and private funds, and are not all filled. As they become filled, announcements will be made.</p> <p>There are three DHS contracts we will overseeing. However, the MOUs between DHS and EOEL are not yet finalized. Once they are</p>	

	<p>more information will be shared.</p> <p>My next steps are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalizing the staff hiring • Working on a messaging plan on the change in Kindergarten entry age • Working with DHS on the School Readiness Program and any support we can provide • Understanding the ramifications of the passage or not passage of Con Am. • Work with JoAnn Farnsworth, consultant, on moving the Action Strategy to the next phase • Meeting with legislators at the Capitol and then traveling to their districts and visiting young children. • NGA Policy Academy <p>ELAB logistics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need to update and verify we have the correct contact info • We are double checking the terms with the Boards & Commission • Travel protocol for travel to meetings • Website ownership needs to be discussed • Ethics Commission information/link will be forwarded, and possible presentation scheduled for a future meeting 	<p>Email Ethics Guidelines to ELAB</p>
<p>July 12 EOEL/GBA Legislative Debrief and Planning Session – JoAnn Farnsworth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation-only meeting where 3 presenters gave their perspective on what worked last session, and what needs to be improved for the upcoming session: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public Advocates: GBA Policy Director Jacce Mikulanec 2. Office of the Governor: Director of Policy, Kendra Oishi 3. Legislature: Human Services Chair Senator Suzanne Chun- 	

	<p style="text-align: center;">Oakland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What worked: getting stakeholders to testify together, being accessible to and engaging key legislators, collaborating with the Governor’s office, and recruiting out-of-the-box testifiers • Needs work: keep oral testimony for Finance Committees brief—put details in writing; build relationships—don’t just rely on printed material; keep materials brief and use street language • Strategies for next session: start building legislative relationships now; have others review your proposals and play devil’s advocate to prepare for questions; work out your differences beforehand to present a united front; prepare alternative plans; determine point of contact for each issue; have one-on-one meetings with lead legislators prior to testifying at the hearing; personalize emails—no mass emails; work more closely with Health Committee chairs; strategically plan rallies and meetings with legislators by closely following the legislative calendar and hearing notices • Senator Chun-Oakland reminded the group that Keiki Caucus and the Children and Youth Summit aid in developing a successful Legislative agenda • Second half of the meeting was to go over the Action Strategy’s Legislative planning for the 2014 session utilizing table discussions by content area: Healthy and Welcome Starts, Health and Development, Family Support & Economic Stability, and Early Care and Education. EOEL and GBA will review the recommendations and discuss them key lead partners: the Governor’s Policy Team, ELAB, department directors, and other lead contacts. • The group plans to convene again before the EOEL Action Strategy 	
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	Keiki Caucus presentation on August 28, 2013	
ConAm Discussion Continued – Miki Lee	<p>Facilitator Miki Lee asked for member comments on her discussion notes from the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree with the what is in the notes • ELEU very concerned expressions of their faith will be hindered • Faith-Based providers’ enrollment will not suffer because their niche is middle-income—the pie will grow as more children are brought into the system • Make it clear to faith-based providers that it is NOT a voucher system • Private providers don’t have a problem with the DOE servicing low-income children—look to Linapuni as a successful example 	Put ConAm on agenda for October 10, 2013 ELAB meeting
Higher Education Study —Carrie Germeroth, McREL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 page Executive Summary distributed to ELAB as a result of a grant from the Federal Office of Head Start for the delivery of an assessment of both public and private higher education institutions in Hawaii supporting early childhood education • The report is meant to support the Action Strategy’s efforts to build the capacity and competency of a professional workforce as a cornerstone of system and program design • Numerous early childhood community stakeholders were involved in the collection of the data through surveys, interviews and focus groups to assess both the capacity of HEIs to support early childhood teachers, and the satisfaction stakeholders have with existing HEIs • Recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Build on the existing strong partnerships between HEIs, 	

	<p>state agencies, and providers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Examine consistency of preparation in the content and quality of early childhood teacher preparation coursework ○ Expand field experiences for longer student teaching experiences combined with synchronized theoretical coursework ○ Increase ongoing professional development opportunities so teachers continue to be supported to expand their knowledge and hone their skills on the job ○ Invest in coaching and mentoring as research has shown it to be more effective in influencing better teaching practices ○ Establish a foundation with a state ECE workforce data system to measure the readiness of the workforce <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The best place to start would be ongoing professional development, since higher education can't bear all the burden ● A good coach and mentor is essential in turning research into practice ● Content of the report was determined by using existing national studies to see what they focused on, and through meetings with locals in the state to get their input 	
<p>Feasibility of Social Impact Bonds Report— Diedre Mamiya</p>	<p><u>Definition:</u> a social impact bond is an agreement between government and an intermediary to implement some sort of intervention service for a social service provider.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If outcomes are met, then the government will pay the investors ● If outcomes are not met, then the investors lose their investment and the government does not lose any money ● A major problem is that investments have a 4-6 year time frame, and usually there is only a 3 year time frame to spend 	

	<p>down government funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is also the issue of trying to determine the criteria for a socially acceptable justification for an intervention <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A few legislators think social impact bonds can replace philanthropists • There is less risk to the state if the effort fails • Use ELAB as a focus group • Social impact bonds should be viewed as supplemental support for specialized, focused areas—not universal preschool! 	<p>Diedre will be sending out a survey to the ELAB</p> <p>Put survey on agenda for October 10, 2013 ELAB meeting</p>
<p>Member Updates – Bob Peters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Namaka Rawlins: Punana Leo submitted their self-study was approved and they are preparing for a site visit during the World Indigenous Peoples’ Conference on Education (WiPC:E), May 19-24, 2013 • Nalani Mattox-Primacio: 3 groups from ELEU are also participating in the WiPC:E • Chris Jackson—Family Partnership Guidelines: there were 15 focus groups in April and May reviewing and vetting the indicators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ P-20 analyzed and aggregated the feedback ○ Early childhood practitioners feel they need more experiences in dealing with families ○ How can we provide technical support to providers without resources? ○ GG: DOE is currently working on gathering tool kits to give to providers ○ No one delivery system—there should be some sharing ○ The 100 page report is being finalized right now, and will need endorsement by the ELAB ➤ Gifted ELAB members the book, <i>How Children Succeed</i> 	<p>Put Family Partnership Guidelines ELAB endorsement on agenda for October 10, 2013 ELAB meeting</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Al Castle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ there is a Keiki Funders Coalition meeting on September 12, 2013 where we need to let the Funders know what we need from them to support us through the upcoming legislative session ○ Castle Foundation recently joined the Federal Philanthropic Fund, and Warren Buffet has asked the republicans to work with the GOP to support Obama's early learning initiative • Pankaj Bhanot—Child Care Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How will we make the school readiness program a reality? ○ DHS has drafted the first preliminary set of rules; the AG just returned the first draft; DHS continues to work on revisions ○ The rules need to be in place ASAP ○ Will be contracting the expanded Preschool Open Doors program for eligibility determination and payment issuance services and the RFP is posted ○ Trying to overcome funding obstacles and off-setting co-pays—currently working with Al Castle to find a solution; private funders are considering the needs of the communities in trying to develop additional ways to assist the families ○ The POD program is based on income-eligibility and is a parental choice program ○ DHS also does not have the resources to provide intensive technical assistance and extensive training on the required child assessment and must be able to be implemented by all programs that accept POD children ○ Needs help in handling the civil libertarians who are 	
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	<p>saying this is education disguised under child care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 80% of the First Five Years Fund’s national survey respondents supported preschool. The survey had been shared by ACF at the CCDF administrators’ meeting in July <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mike Fahey—HCYC Project Manager Position announcement: Kalei, please forward to members 	
<p>Public Comment - Bob Peters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vicki Draeger, INPEACE consultant, recommended Joyce Epstein’s book on family engagement partnerships ● Terry Lock: please explore the Wonder of Learning Exhibit at the UH West Oahu campus—it will be showing until December 7, 2013. There will also be a public forum in the Capitol Auditorium on August 22, 2013 at 5:30-7:00PM ● Kathy Murphy: QRIS is interested in bringing the conference to Hawaii 	
<p>Review Agenda Outcomes—Bob Peters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EOEL is very busy establishing itself with Preschool Open Doors ● ELAB is aware of the challenges it faces for the upcoming session, and can start preparing now ● The Board will prepare to endorse the Family Partnership Guidelines at the next meeting ● Partnership relationships were discussed ● The results of Diedre Mamiya’s social impact bonds survey will be discussed at the next meeting ● The October 10 ELAB meeting agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ConAm discussion: Contingency Plan A, B, C ○ Social Impact Bonds survey ○ Family Partnership Guidelines endorsement ○ DHS update ○ This meeting was the first of the every-other month meeting 	

	<p>schedule, but we will reassess as with each meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meetings will continue to be less reporting, more conversation 	
<p>Announcements and Closing—Bob Peters</p>	<p>The next ELAB meeting will be on Thursday, October 10, 2013, 1:30-4:00PM, location to be determined.</p> <p>Closing words shared by Mike Fahey:</p> <p><i>We cannot solve the problems that do exist if we're distracted by problems that don't exist. Claiming that the system is failing is not only distracting, but creates the wrong climate for improvement—you don't get people to do better by telling them how lousy they are.</i></p> <p>-Gerald W. Bracey</p>	

Submitted by: Kalei Keolanui