

Early Learning Advisory Board (ELAB) Retreat

Thursday, September 11, 2014

1:30 am – 4:00 pm

The public may attend the meeting in any of the locations specified below:

Main Site: KCAA Preschools of Hawai`i, Center for Early Education and Development (CEED)
2707 South King Street, Honolulu, HI 96826

Meeting Chair and Vice Chair will preside at the CEED location.

Advisory Board Members in Attendance:

Dana Balansag (for Pankaj Bhanot), Kaina Bonacorsi, Lynn Cabato, Albert Castle, Christina Cox, Louise Kido Iwaishi (for Malia Shimokawa), Christine Jackson, Solomon Kaulukukui (for Kathryn Matayoshi), Ku`ulani Keohokahole (for Michael Fahey), Nalani Mattox-Primacio, Ben Naki, Chris Pating, Anna Peters, Robert Peters, Namaka Rawlins, Danette Tomiyasu (for Linda Rosen), Joanne Taira

Absent: Lisa Kimura

Executive Office on Early Learning staff in attendance: GG Weisenfeld, Kerrie Urosevich, Kalei Keolanui, Deanne Goya, Wimmie Wong Lui

Public in Attendance:

Jonathan Gillentine, Kim Guieb

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
MINUTES:		
Welcome, Introductions, Retreat Purpose and Outcomes —Bob Peters, Miki Lee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Miki Lee: housekeeping and meeting guidelines• Bob Peters: the length of the meeting will depend on Member conversations<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Welcomed Nalani Mattox-Primacio as the ELAB's Family-Child Interaction Learning Program Representative○ Dr. Louise Kido Iwaishi attending as Malia Shimokawa's	

	<p>alternate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ku’u Keohokahole of GBA is taking notes for Mike Fahey ○ Congratulations to Lisa Kimura on the birth of her son ○ Thanks to KCAA for the use of the facilities: Christina Cox and staff Kit Winkoop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Explore the possibilities of the ELAB no matter the outcome of the general elections and the Con Am ● Plan a legislative agenda ● Member Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>KS</u> (Chris Pating): opened the Maili Early Learning Facility—Open House in January ▪ <u>Philanthropic</u> (Alfred Castle): Castle Foundation will continue to work on everything—the Erickson Institute of Chicago grant for a pre-math curriculum ▪ <u>UH System</u> (Joanne Taira): working on a national survey of higher ed courses and the assessment content in various programs, and alignment with early learning and higher education ▪ <u>EOEL</u> (GG Weisenfeld): early learning is alive and well, it’s an exciting time ▪ <u>Head Start</u> (Lynn Cabato): Kokua project in Maili, and the oral health peer advocate program ▪ <u>FCIL</u> (Nalani Mattox-Primacio): her first meeting as an ELAB Member; 80% of the FCIL programs are applying for WINHEC Accreditation ▪ <u>PACT</u> (Ben Naki): PACT has a classroom partnering with KS in the Maili Early Learning Center ▪ <u>DOH</u> (Dani Tomiyasu): keeping Deliana’s vision alive, for all children to be safe, healthy and ready to learn, and continuing working with the Action Strategy to achieve that goal ▪ <u>DHS</u> (Dana Balansag): pilot capturing data from their licensing reviews and entering it into the system 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Head Start Collaboration</u> (Chris Jackson): Office of Childcare training opportunities ▪ <u>Council of Mayors, Maui</u> (Kaina Bonacorsi): Mayor Arakaki attended a national forum and after sitting at the Early Education table is now committed to early childhood ▪ <u>Pediatrics</u> (Louise Kido Iwaishi): Dr. Richard Antonelli of Boston Hospital is visiting-implementation of health transformation ▪ <u>Council of Mayors, Kauai</u> (Anna Peters): to facilitate the Kauai Keiki to Career Initiative, the CAS has opened his home as the meeting venue for a council of parents and educators ▪ <u>Hawaiian Language Medium</u> (Namaka Rawlins): Aha Puna Leo classrooms have increased enrollment, and last year they had 100% graduation rate, with 100% attending college ▪ <u>Center-Based</u> (Christina Cox): most licensed preschools are full, and they have been able to open more classrooms, Kamaaina Kids is partnering with PACT, Howard Hughes Foundation asking to be a partner in the new preschool in Kakaako ▪ <u>HAIS</u> (Bob Peters): serving as a Castle trustee, he approves schools for accreditation and helps award grants to continue the work 	
<p>SB 2545/ACT 178: Original Intent and Looking Forward— Senator Jill Tokuda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACT 178 was necessary because government did not make the commitment to early learning • The private sector had to bear the responsibility of providing early learning opportunities • SB 2545 was like giving birth from May 2011 to January 2012: it had to be written to survive whatever Administration came next to stand the test of time • It triggered the kindergarten age change law, which was necessary 	

	<p>to kill Junior Kindergarten, which was a myth—we had to invest real dollars in early education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Executive” stayed in the title of the office because it needed to be kept a priority and prevent it being shoved into DOE • Question: How did you envision the relationship of EOEL and ELAB? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ We explored how other Boards functioned, and wanted to make sure ELAB would be able to function supportively during Session. EOEL needed to be able to do what they needed to do to build the system with ELAB’s support. • Question: What happens if the new administration is not supportive? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It will be up to the ELAB to carry the torch. The legislative intent was for EOEL to be an Agency so it could possibly be a department in the future • Question: What is the fall-out of the elections and the future of EOEL? Pediatricians no longer have access to the DOE. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ That is why it is so important you have an independent agency who understands the system and the need of departments to work together. • ELAB needs to write in their letter to the next Governor the question: “Will the EOEL Director be at your Cabinet meetings?” • Question: If amendments come up, is there a possibility that SB 2545 could be overturned? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Yes • I don’t regret anything we’ve done—I wish I had been less trusting of the legislators • It is very important we act as an advocate for EOEL with the new administration • ELAB Suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Advocate for EOEL ○ Consider changing the law to improve standing/structure ○ # Meetings 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funds for positions 	
<p>Executive Office on Early Learning Update — GG Weisenfeld</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural issues need to be explored—how does EOEL fit within the structure of the State system: is it a department, an agency, attached to the DOE, under the DOE, etc.? • The official last day and time for EOEL under this administration is December 1, 2014, at 12:00PM • EOEL is still attached to the Governor’s office until June 30, 2015 • The Action Strategy is supported by a trust fund set up by private funding channeled through the Governor’s office • HS Collaboration Office Director is a Federal position, but also ends December 1, 2014—it will be up to the next Governor to keep Chris • EDN 700 line item in the DOE is another possibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EOEL meeting with the DOE Assistant Superintendent and Sol to talk about the federal preschool development grant ○ To get the money, EOEL needs to have a certain classification, and since we don’t know what EOEL is going to look like under the new administration, DOE is going to have to house the grant • Role of ELAB: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sustainability: how are we going to sustain the money? 2. Continuous quality improvement 3. Needs assessment of communities, schools and services—where do we really need these classrooms? • EOEL staff are currently writing their transition plans for the next administration, detailing the individual tasks for which each staff is responsible (due November 1) • Can ELAB please let EOEL know what needs to be included for the next office • Please look at our website for the grant and our comment form—we would appreciate your feedback • Castle Foundation invested \$65,000 for the grant application 	

	<p>production</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOE can ask for accreditation and assessment 	
<p>Context: Hawaii’s Early Childhood Landscape-- All</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bob and Christina met with DHS, DOE, UH, & DOH ELAB representatives prior to this retreat: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DHS: they are primarily responsible for fulfilling Federal mandates and reviewing new regulations and changes—POD continues to be a priority 2. UH: besides Joanne Taira, President Lassner wants to convene College faculty to provide professional development opportunities, such as UH-sponsored Early Education Meetings involving data systems, professional development and academic program alignment 3. DOE: currently assessing the best fit for EOEL—OCISS or Superintendent? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EO position remains unfilled ▪ Can promote the HELDS assessment 4. DOH: they will make sure the work started with the alignment of DOH and Action Strategy Teams 1-3 continues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All their work has to be needs driven • <u>Lunch Discussions:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How to ensure Hawaii’s Early Learning System is a priority for the new administration 2. What is the relationship of ELAB to DOE once EOEL is attached to DOE? 3. How can we be more effective securing and increasing legislative support? 4. How to encourage cross-sector coordination—state and private 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gains: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Contributed to public dialog ○ Communication strategy and support ○ Public investment ○ ELAB influenced policy ○ National recognition ○ Stakeholder involvement ○ P-3 initiative work accomplished ○ Preliminary QRIS work combined with assessment ○ Family Partnership Guidelines ○ Executive Office on Early Learning ○ Public prekindergarten established, mandatory kindergarten that is all-day ○ Formal acknowledgement of the 4 early learning settings ○ Hawaiian Language Medium at the table—a true focus on the Hawaiian language ○ Department silos are breaking down because of Federal influence ○ State Action Strategy Teams and their work • 2015 Legislative Wish List: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ramping up DOE Prekindergarten program 2. Set the 4 settings in statute—reintroduce the implementation bill, HB2276 3. Maintain the DHS budget request of \$6 million for POD • Concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How have we performed against ACT 178? ○ Do we have shared goals? ○ How do we support a mixed delivery system for more kids? ○ How to integrate our advocacy to include families? ○ How do we guarantee DOE will maintain a high-quality pre-k program without qualified pre-k teachers for the pre-k 	
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	<p>programs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Define highly qualified preschool teacher ○ Define highly qualified early childhood practitioner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Con Am—what happens if it passes, and how does it affect ELAB’s work? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Families will have access to preschool ○ Requirements on programs to have access to the system ○ Budget requests and legislative requests, than Administrative Rules, AG approval of the Admin Rules, etc. ○ Communities impacted differently—need to understand each community ○ Need to look at the enabling legislation again ○ Multi-year process ○ Meet and educate new legislators ○ Be prepared for HSTA opposition ○ Explore rapid ramp up among various stakeholders ○ Community-based needs assessment ● Con Am does not pass—Impacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ELAB will need to promote the HELDS implementation, sustain quality, needs assessment ▪ Lend yourself to the next administration as the early childhood experts, and stress the importance of EOEL as an agency ▪ Support and expand POD ▪ Support community-based preschools who will need ELAB’s help ▪ ELAB need to stress professional development in both the public and private sectors to guarantee quality across the board (don’t keep them separate) 	
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<p>Action Strategy Update —Kerry Urosevich</p>	<p><i>(See Handouts)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Teams are going over different scenarios on how to continue their Action Strategy work during the transition between administrations • It is more strategic to keep the Action Strategy in government • It is a bipartisan effort • If the new Governor is not supportive, the Action Strategy will transfer to a private entity to continue the work • Chair Bob Peters requested Kerrie email the ELAB Members the Action Strategy strategies • EOEL Role—Early Childhood/Early Learning clearinghouse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health, social services, education ○ Development and learning 	
<p>ELAB 2015 and Beyond: Our Purpose, Role and Function—Miki Lee</p>	<p>ELAB 2015 & Beyond: Possibilities & Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to the Governor’s Cabinet, a statewide body • ELAB keeps the momentum going by keeping the public conversation alive • Keep ELAB’s original intent and message alive for the 0-8 system • Remember the Continuum/Holistic perspective: prenatal and beyond • Advocate EOEL be designated an agency attached to ? • Role should be simple in function—we need to focus on only what is key next year • Promote and participate in Action Strategy work • Work closely with new EOEL staff • ELAB should select the Director of EOEL (seek approval from the Senate) • A representative from the business community • A representative from the Military • A representative from the legislature 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another Council of Mayors representative • More clarity on the roles of the Board and EOEL • Statewide/regional county Boards • Needs to be self-sustaining = admin support required • Foundation document/Charter: what ELAB plans to do • Is it the Action Strategy or the Action Plan? • Need a plan for rigorous discourse that leads to implementation • Incremental gains are great • Incremental gain vs. transformational gain • Present a transformational early learning plan to each candidate that makes them look good • Now that we are not bound by the SAC fund regulations, we can do what we need to do more freely • ELAB has endorsed the Action Strategy, but it is not housed under ELAB—working on it • Consistent, coherent, and clearer talking points are needed <p>Action: For the next meeting, Chair Bob Peters asked that Members bring their drafts of the focus statement and come up with talking points, using the AS talking point for a start. Look in statute to make sure your ideas are in line.</p>	
<p>ELAB Business Meeting—Bob Peters</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorsement of the <i>Seven Guiding Principles for Crafting Policies to Improve Early Childhood Assessment Practices</i> document: 16 Aye’s / 0 No’s 2. USDOE Preschool Development Grant: sustainability, needs assessment, quality, and evaluation needs to be included in the application: 16 Aye’s / 0 No’s 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorsement for Seven Guiding Principles for Crafting Policies doc: 16 Aye’s / 0 No’s 2. Endorsement of the application for the USDOE Preschool Development Grant: 16 Aye’s / 0 No’s
<p>ELAB Member News and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaina Bonacorsi: on October 11, as part of the HAEYC conference 	

<p>Updates—Christina Cox</p>	<p>Leadership Day, can ELAB give an update (who we are, what we are doing)? Email Bob if you want to volunteer, or he will email you if you don't</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alfred Castle: he's going to Aspen October 10 for a meeting on a 2 generation strategy fighting poverty through early education, family engagement, workforce training, etc. 	
<p>Public Comment—Bob Peters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ku'u Keohokahole: GBA is conducting candidate surveys • Wimmie Wong Lui: October 5 is Children & Youth Day at the Capitol—EOEL has secured a booth for the ELAB if they want to volunteer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chair Bob Peters requested Kalei send ELAB the information so they can volunteer • Jonathan Gillentine: Anna Peters observed that the Kauai DOE Prekindergarten classrooms look like Jr-K; Jonathan responded that the resource teachers are currently working with them on the curriculum • Deanne Goya: over 90% of the DOE PreK classrooms are full 	
<p>Next Steps—Bob Peters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELAB Members will share their focus statement and talking point drafts at the next meeting • ELAB will work on more ways to support and sustain the Action Strategy • Today's comments and observations were very encouraging • Future meetings will have less reporting and more implementation • We will have more projects together and collaboration between our organizations 	
<p>Closing—Mike Fahey (from San Francisco)</p>	<p>(via Ku'u Keohokahole)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>I left my heart in San Francisco.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">--George Cory & Douglas Cross</p>	

Submitted by: Kalei Keolanui