

EOEL Updates - for the Early Learning Board Meeting, July 9, 2020
(as of July 2, 2020)

2020 Legislative Session

The Legislature reconvened on June 22 and is scheduled to remain in session until July 10.

Budget:

The Legislature passed SB126 CD1 to amend the changes made through HB2200 SD1 in its last reconvening

SB126 CD1 made the following changes to EOEL's/ELB's budget:

- Cut \$719,000 for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 – no details specified.
- Cut 8 positions and associated funding for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.
- Restored the 8 positions but did not restore the associated funding for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.
 - 1 position directly impacts EOEL's systems-building/coordination work.
 - 7 of these positions are at the school level – direct instructional staff for the EOEL Public Pre-K Program.
 - These are positions/funding that are necessary for the classrooms to operate.
 - EOEL is working with principals and families to help them prepare for the potential of classroom closures with as much advance notice as possible.
 - All of these positions were considered vacant, despite the fact that there are individuals currently filling the positions.

The bill is now on the Governor's desk for consideration.

The Legislature has instructed us to contact the Department of Budget and Finance regarding the lack of funding for the restored positions. EOEL has communicated information to both the Department of Budget & Finance and Governor's Office regarding the impacts of no funding, and has requested their approval for funding.

HB2543 (access to early learning bill in joint House-Senate-Governor package):

- The Senate Ways and Means Committee passed the bill with amendments on 6/30. The new draft has not yet been posted.
- The bill is headed to the full Senate for a vote and if passed, will await House agreement/disagreement.

HB1346 (suspension and expulsion in the EOEL Public Pre-K Program):

- The Senate Ways and Means Committee passed the bill with amendments on 6/30. The new draft has not yet been posted.
- The bill is headed to the full Senate for a vote and if passed, will await House agreement/disagreement.

Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) Initial Grant

- **Needs Assessment (Activity 1).** The [reports](#) are live on the EOEL website, under the “Resources” tab. Please share.
- **Strategic Planning (Activity 2).**
 - The Activity 2 report has been accepted by the federal Administration for Children and Families. We are now finalizing the plans for public consumption.
 - More details will be presented during this meeting about EOEL’s plan for re-engaging the Early Childhood State Strategic Implementation Plan champions.
- **Sharing Best Practices among Early Care and Education Providers (Activity 4).** A Resiliency and Wellness Toolkit for each of the four recognized settings is almost complete. Next steps are to coordinate and design webinars to be paired with the toolkit.
- **Other updates.** Our second no-cost extension request to extend our work until the end of December 2020 has been approved.

EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program

DOE Department Schools

We are continuing to work with schools on reopening the classrooms. We have plans in place for reopening that follow the provisions of the recently announced “Return to Learn” guidance from DOE and MOU with HSTA, with additional practices based on DHS and CDC guidelines. However, we are awaiting updated information and feedback from individual schools, which will define additional parameters that need to be considered or may result in a revision of our plans.

DOE Department Schools – Privately funded Pre-K

- We continue to work with Kamehameha Schools and DOE to develop a MOA for School Year 2020-2021 for 6 classrooms.

Charter Schools – programs for 3-year-olds

- We continue to work with Kamehameha Schools to approve a MOA for Ka ‘Umeke Kā’eo Kai Koholā Preschool.

Recruitment for EOEL Positions

- **Program Specialist V – Project Management.** Position posted externally as of 11/15/19.
- <https://ehr.k12.hi.us/hrprod/faces/p/ap/pages/ApJobRequestDetails.jspx?id=67613>

Recruitment is on hold per the Governor's 4/3/20 executive memorandum, which implements a freeze on filling of vacancies until further notice. We have requested an exception to the freeze for this position.

Note: To be "posted internally" means applications will be accepted from individuals who are currently DOE employees. If candidates are not hired through the internal process, the position may be posted externally (i.e., may become available to non-DOE employees).