

# Early Learning Board (ELB)

Thursday, October 14, 2021

1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

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

**Meeting Chair will preside via the Zoom link.**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Scott Nakasone (for Dir. Betts), Ben Naki, Matt Shim (for Dir. Char), Stephen Schatz (for President Lassner), Bob Peters, Melodie Vega, Erin Henderson-Lacerdo, Cherilyn Shiinoki, Bob Davis (for Superintendent Kishimoto), Kerrie Urosevich, Justina Acevedo-Cross, Ka’iulani Laeha

**Absent:** Leilani Au, Wai’ale’ale Sarsona (for Jack Wong), Mari Uehara

**Executive Office on Early Learning staff in attendance:** Coleen Momohara, Alohilani Maiava, Chris Jackson, Keli Houston, Jordana Ferreira, Keopu Reelitz, Ashley Miura

**Public in Attendance:** Anne Horiuchi, Deborah Zysman, Barbara DeBaryshe, Brandon Lee, Cassia Simms, Cheri Nakamura, Danny Cup Choy, Aldric Ulep, Helen Au, Kim Guieb, Moevanu Jameson, Robyn Chun, Ted Burke, Terry Lock, William Wolff, Dayna Luka, Scott Fuji

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
<b>MINUTES:</b>		
<b>Welcome/Introductions—</b> Bob Peters	Bob began the meeting at 1:33 PM and asked Cherilyn Shiinoki to read the mission statement. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.  Keopu Reelitz, EOEL’s Communications Specialist and moderator of the ELB Zoom meetings, reminded everyone of the Zoom etiquette and chat rules, while Bob added that all votes on action items would need to be conducted by roll call.	

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Early Learning Board

<http://earlylearning.hawaii.gov/early-learning-board/>

Thursday, October 14, 2021

	<p>Bob announced that because the originally scheduled November meeting falls on a holiday (Veterans Day), the next ELB meeting will be held on November 18<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-4:00 p.m. He also announced that there was no need for an Executive Session today as there were no questions raised by ELB members about the Executive Session minutes that had been sent out earlier.</p>	
<p><b>Review and Approve 9/9/21 Minutes, 9/23/21 Special Meeting Minutes, and 9/23/21 Special Meeting Executive Session Minutes—Bob Peters</b></p>	<p>The 9/9/21 meeting minutes were approved as distributed. (Ben/Kerrie: Y--8; N--0)</p> <p>The 9/23/21 special ELB (public) meeting minutes were approved as distributed. (Kerrie/Cherilyn: Y—8; N—0)</p> <p>The 9/23/21 special ELB meeting Executive Session minutes were approved as distributed. (Cherilyn/Ben: Y—8; N—0)</p>	
<p><b>Public Comment—Bob Peters</b></p>	<p>No public comments were offered.</p>	
<p><b>UH Center on the Family Mapping Project—Barbara DeBaryshe</b></p>	<p>Bob introduced Barbara DeBaryshe from the University of Hawaii Center on the Family, who then provided an overview of her organization’s mapping project, and a quick tour of the project’s website. Recognizing the need to move forward with expansion, the genesis of the project was to ensure the State has sound data to make policy decisions. The project is a “proof of concept”, funded by a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant, and utilized 2019 data from DHS’s Market Rate Study and the American Survey data. Goals of the mapping project include: (1) driving action and policy; (2) creating family-centered measures; and (3) creating an access index for things like affordability, quality, and nearby seats. , Barbara is hoping to find resources to update this mapping project using 2020 data and to demonstrate any COVID-related changes.</p> <p>Key takeaways from the discussion that followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Because of limited access to updated live data currently, the</li> </ul>	

	<p>only index that would immediately benefit parents/families is the provider data with links to tuition costs and available seats in real time, which Barbara hopes will be cleaned up in the near future. However, the other indexes, like affordability, require a lot of statistical analysis, and therefore will take a little more time to update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In regards to the ideal map desired by the ELB Systems Mapping Subcommittee (SMS), would also like Family-Child Interactive Learning programs, early intervention, home visiting, and family support programs to be included. The map should not be purely focused on center-based programs. That being said, mapping efforts should not be duplicated either recognizing there are other entities that house some existing data.</li> <li>• The SMS map would also require funding and time, so whichever entity houses the map should have both kinds of resources available.</li> <li>• Funding is needed for sustainability.</li> <li>• How do we keep data current without burdening providers in having to submit data multiple times?</li> <li>• Potential uses of a map like this include: (1) improve decision-making for Act 46 implementation; (2) identify underserved and high need areas for services; and (3) guide the strategic allocation of resources.</li> </ul>	<p><b>The Systems Mapping Subcommittee will report out to the Board at its next meeting.</b></p>
<p><b>Executive Office on Early Learning Updates— Budget and Legislation— Coleen Momohara</b></p>	<p>Coleen began by sharing an update on the current total enrollment in the EOEL pre-k program (approximately 318 students currently), as well as informing the Board that EOEL is completing the annual NIEER report.</p> <p>Coleen asked Alohi Maiava, EOEL’s PDG B-5 Program Specialist, to</p>	

	<p>share PDG B-5 updates. Alohi requested those present at the meeting to review the pages on the workforce website to ensure that they are user-friendly. She also reported that she will be reaching out to subject matter experts for feedback.</p> <p>Coleen asked Chris Jackson, EOEL’s Head Start Collaboration Director, to share Head Start updates. Chris reminded everyone that October is Head Start Awareness month, and that while programs would normally be celebrating in different ways in a typical year, the ongoing pandemic has been preoccupying their time. On behalf of the six (6) Head Start and Early Head Start programs, Chris shared about Head Start’s 55-year legacy and services rendered, including some data about Hawaii’s programs. She also shared that because of the number of COVID-19 cases, statewide, HS/EHS programs have had to resort to temporary closures of many in-person classrooms on all islands, while still providing comprehensive services virtually. All programs are supposed to be at full enrollment and providing services in-person by January 2022.</p> <p>Finally, Coleen asked Jordana Ferreira, EOEL’s Government Affairs Specialist, to provide legislative updates. Jordana announced that both the Governor’s Office and Budget and Finance have confirmed receipt of EOEL’s request for two (2) FTE position counts, approved by ELB, and that a review of those requests will be done in the next few months. EOEL will keep ELB informed of the Governor’s decision when made.</p>	
<p><b>Director Search Subcommittee Report—</b> Matt Shim</p>	<p>Matt updated the Board on the status of the Director search from last month’s Executive Session. Matt shared that neither of the two finalists were brought forward to ELB for the director position and the Search Subcommittee was asked to provide recommendations to the ELB to move forward.</p> <p>Matt then asked Justina to present the current and proposed Director’s Search process. The proposed search process is different from the current process in the following ways:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be 6 ELB members on the Search Subcommittee instead of 5.</li> <li>• Currently, the Search Subcommittee reviews and vets applicants in one batch based on a set application deadline. Under the proposed process, applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until February 28, 2022. The Search Subcommittee will regularly review and vet viable applicants at least once a month. The Advisory Group will be activated to review viable candidates.</li> <li>• Under the current process, three (3) finalists were selected for consideration by the ELB. Under the proposed process, there will be no minimum number of applicants for the Board to consider as finalists.</li> <li>• Currently, ELB is supposed to approve a finalist and a contingency finalist. Under the proposed process, the ELB will only approve a single finalist.</li> <li>• The Executive Search firm (Inkinen) will help implement the proposed process, if approved.</li> </ul> <p>Key takeaways from the discussion that followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A viable candidate can be identified prior to the February 2022 deadline. The deadline exists as the absolute latest timeframe within which to make a decision.</li> <li>• Even if a candidate is selected by the Board, applications will continue to be accepted in case the selected candidate is unable to accept or withdraws. Should the candidate accept, the application and review process for all other candidates will cease.</li> </ul> <p>Actions taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A motion was made/seconded to approve the proposed search process as presented. The motion passed. (Matt/Melodie: Y—8;</li> </ul>	<p><b>The Board approved the recommendation of the Director’s Search Subcommittee to adopt a new proposed search process.</b></p>
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	<p>N—0)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A motion was made/seconded to approve Erin Henderson-Lacerdo and Cherilyn Shiinoki as two additional members to the Search Subcommittee, with Erin replacing Edel Baguio-Larena, whose term on the Board ended in June 2021. The motion passed. (Matt/Justina: Y—8; N—0)</li> </ul> <p>Finally, Matt announced that due to an increase in his workload, he will be stepping down as Chair of the Director Search Subcommittee (but will remain on the Subcommittee). The Subcommittee will select a new Chair for the Board to approve at the next ELB meeting.</p>	<p><b>The Board approved two new members for the Director Search Subcommittee.</b></p> <p><b>Search Subcommittee members will come back to the next Board meeting with a recommendation for a new Chair.</b></p>
<p><b>ELB Priorities 2021-2022—Bob Peters</b></p>	<p>Bob began this agenda item by reminding the Board that the State Legislature will be starting a new session soon, and that there are priorities that the Board should be keeping in mind, some of which carry over from the previous year. Bob reviewed the goals and priorities from the previous year (categorized by Board-related, System-related, and EOEL-related) that have already been completed, and pointed out ones that have not yet been achieved (e.g., selecting a new EOEL Director). Bob asked for comments for additional priorities and reported that he will organize the list of priorities, and bring this back for further discussion at the next meeting.</p> <p>Key takeaways from the discussion that followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This discussion will be helpful to EOEL in setting its own priorities by knowing what the Board’s priorities are.</li> <li>• It is still unclear as to how to create another permanent seat on the Board, if the Board wishes to do so. What criteria should we use if enough people feel that there should be additional representation? Bob made a note to himself to continue to look into Board structure.</li> <li>• Plans to hire the Early Learning Coordinator (to support Act 259) are on hold because it is still uncertain where DOE and</li> </ul>	<p><b>The Board explored possible priorities for the upcoming year, and the chair will attempt to shape them with the Board’s feedback</b></p>

	<p>EOEL fit into the process. Further discussion with the Attorney General’s office is necessary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workforce was an issue identified by several Board members as an area that needs to be a priority of the Board.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public Comment</b> —Bob Peters	No public comments were offered.	
<b>Member Updates</b> —Bob Peters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ben Naki</i> reported that the six (6) Head Start and Early Head Start grantees in Hawaii are continuing to look for eligible children for their programs across all islands. The grantees are Parents and Children Together (PACT) and Honolulu Community Action Program (HCAP) on Oahu; Child and Family Service (CFS) on Kauai; Maui Economic Opportunity (MEO) and Maui Family Support Services (MFSS) on Maui; and PACT and Family Support Hawaii (FSH) on Hawai‘i Island. There are many openings available, and everyone is recruiting. Chris and Ben can help anyone interested in getting in touch with these programs.</li> <li>• <i>Stephen Schatz</i> reported that the 2021 Hawaii P-20 Virtual Data Summit Registration will run from October 27, 2021 to November 17, 2021. He asked Kim Guieb to inform the Board on how to register for the sessions. Kim provided the following link in the chat box: <a href="http://go.hawaii.edu/PZu">http://go.hawaii.edu/PZu</a></li> <li>• <i>Cherilyn Shiinoki</i> reported that the Association for Infant Mental Health will be looking for an Executive Director, so if anyone is interested, the job description will be coming out soon. Cherilyn also said she would send more information to the Board in response to a member’s request.</li> <li>• <i>Justina Acevedo-Cross</i> reported that Hawaii Community Foundation is partnering with the Hawaii Children’s Trust Fund on a grant opportunity. While the deadline for the grant application is 4 p.m. on October 15, 2021, Justina wanted to share this opportunity in the event that someone might</li> </ul>	

	<p>interested and able to put together a proposal in a short amount of time. The grant will provide \$10,000 to combat child abuse and neglect. Justina provided the following link in the chat box:</p> <p><a href="https://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/strengthening/providing-for-youth-development">https://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/strengthening/providing-for-youth-development</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Bob Peters</i> reported that the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS) will be sponsoring a series of three wellness workshops in response to requests from preschool directors and heads of schools. The workshops will discuss how to take care of adults in the early childhood learning community. Danny Goya is serving as the facilitator.</li> </ul>	
<b>Executive Session</b>	No items from the AG.	
<b>Review Agenda Outcomes—Bob Peters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Systems Mapping Subcommittee will report back to the Board at the November 18<sup>th</sup> ELB meeting.</li> <li>• The Board approved the recommendation of the Director Search Subcommittee for its new search process.</li> <li>• The Board also approved two new members for the Director Search Subcommittee.</li> <li>• Search Subcommittee members will come back to the Board with a new Chair recommendation.</li> <li>• The Board explored possible priorities for the upcoming year, and the Chair will attempt to shape these, along with the Board’s feedback, and bring these back for approval.</li> </ul>	
<b>Announcements</b>	None.	
<b>Closing—Kerrie Urosevich</b>	“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one, directly affects all, indirectly.” –Martin Luther King, Jr.	

Submitted by Ashley Miura and Chris Jackson