

**Early Learning Board (ELB)**  
**Thursday, November 18, 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, Kerrie Urosevich, Justina Acevedo-Cross, Ka’iulani Laeha, Wai’ale’ale Sarsona (for Jack Wong), Mari Uehara

**Absent:** Leilani Au, Bob Davis (for HIDOE Interim Superintendent Hayashi)

**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, Brandon Lee, Carol Wear, Casey Harlow, Danny Cup Choy, Helen Au, Kim Guieb, Terry Lock, Vivian Eto, Scott Fuji, Cassia Simms, Mary Ann Nemoto, Namaka Rawlins, Kathleen Algire, Dayna Luka

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
<b>MINUTES:</b>		
<b>Welcome/Introductions—</b> Bob Peters	Bob began the meeting at 1:33 PM and asked Justina Acevedo-Cross to read the mission statement. 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 will need to be conducted by roll call.	
<b>Review and Approve</b> <b>10/14/21 Meeting Minutes—</b> Bob Peters	The 10/14/21 meeting minutes were approved as distributed. (Justina/Cherilyn: Y--9; N--0)	
<b>Public Comment—</b> Bob Peters	Terry Lock shared that the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) has released a new report—“Preparing a Profession: Perspectives of Higher Education Leaders of the Future of the Early Childhood Education Workforce”—around higher education being an essential partner in building a stronger early childhood workforce. She will send the report to Keopu and suggested that it be posted on the EOEL	

<p><b>DOE ESSER Plan—Ken Kakesako</b></p>	<p>website.</p> <p>Ken Kakesako had originally planned to present the Department of Education (DOE) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funding Plan and to ask for ELB’s feedback and suggestions, but he and his staff needed to attend the Board of Education meeting (also taking place on 11/18/21) and were thus unable to attend today’s ELB meeting. Bob explained that the ESSER plan describes how federal funds will be utilized to address the impact of COVID-19, specifically aimed at the K-12 sector.</p> <p>The ESSER plan focuses on several areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety in conducting in-person learning, following health protocols and using metrics to measure them;</li> <li>• A heavy emphasis on accelerated learning to address the attendance and learning needs of individual students, particularly those who have been impacted by virtual learning;</li> <li>• A focus on staff and student social-emotional well-being; and</li> <li>• An emphasis on equity in all areas of the plan.</li> </ul> <p>Because there will not be another opportunity for DOE to present to the Board and ask for feedback due to time constraints, Bob suggested that ELB members who might want to provide feedback contact Ken Kakesako directly.</p>	
<p><b>Executive Office on Early Learning Updates—Build Back Better Initiative—Coleen Momohara</b></p>	<p>Coleen provided an overview of the Build Back Better (BBB) Initiative to begin a conversation about its implications for EOEL, particularly around the Child Care Entitlement and Universal Pre-K sections of the Act. Next steps for EOEL include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing an internal EOEL team to understand and analyze BBB and to coordinate outreach efforts among partner agencies, community organizations and ELB;</li> <li>• Having preliminary meetings with sister agencies;</li> <li>• Conducting talk story sessions with community stakeholders;</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuing to provide updates to the ELB and to connect with Board members, as needed.</li> </ul> <p>Key takeaways from the discussion that followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This initiative requires services to be provided through a mixed delivery system of public and private entities and settings; this will require revisiting the constitutional amendment issue.</li> <li>The bill in its current state requires a tiered quality system – Hawaii will need to revisit putting some sort of tiered quality system in place.</li> <li>ELB will need to ensure that the needs of Hawaii’s mixed delivery system, including non-child care options such as home visiting and Family-Child Interaction Learning program options, are included as part of the state plan.</li> <li>If this initiative is passed by Congress, it will become a big part of the new EOEL Director’s job, which the Board should keep in mind as the Director search continues.</li> <li>It was suggested that ELB may consider taking a proactive approach by starting conversations early with the Governor about BBB and outlining a preferred path for receiving federal funds, as well as what kinds of financial mechanisms will need to be in place for the state match requirements in subsequent years.</li> <li>EOEL has been having in-office discussions regarding EOEL’s partnership with DHS and how that will play into this new initiative. EOEL staff will meet with DHS the week of 11/22/21 to discuss this further.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Subcommittee Reports—</b> Subcommittee Heads</p>	<p>Matt Shim, Chair of the Director Search Subcommittee, started this Subcommittee’s updates by making a motion to approve Stephen Schatz as the new chair. Stephen volunteered to take over from Matt, who is stepping down due to other commitments. The motion was approved. (Matt/Justina: Y—10; N—0)</p>	<p><b>The Board approved Stephen Schatz as the new Chair of the Director Search Subcommittee.</b></p>

	<p>Stephen continued the Director Search Subcommittee report by reviewing the current “Competencies, Responsibilities, Qualifications, Pay, and Benefits” document, and asking for input on the “Competencies” segment, specifically, which competencies should be “necessary” and which should be “desired.”</p> <p>Key takeaways from the discussion that followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ideal applicant should know how to conceptualize shared goals and effectively utilize resources to accomplish goals. S/he should have the ability to identify, coordinate and integrate all the pieces of the early learning system together.</li> <li>• It is difficult to capture the scope of all of the EOEL Director’s duties, as well as the needs of the early learning system in general, into a job description. That being said, while being knowledgeable is important, other staff can help fill in the gaps in content knowledge that the candidate may not have. What is more important is that the applicant be able to bring different people and organizations together and to work with everyone to achieve specific goals – to be an effective communicator, collaborator and facilitator.</li> <li>• It is important to emphasize Hawaii’s unique situation and needs as it pertains to our early learning system, especially as BBB comes into play.</li> <li>• It is important to recognize that while we want to be aspirational in our search for a Director, we also need to be realistic. As we vet candidates, it is important to recognize that there will be opportunities for mentoring and providing executive coaching to that individual.</li> </ul> <p>Kerrie Urosevich, Chair of the Systems Mapping Subcommittee (SMS), gave brief updates. SMS has established a more specific and defined goal and has established minimum requirements for the early learning systems map they want. Because other states have already done this type of work, SMS feels it would be worthwhile to look to them as examples. SMS also gathered family feedback and learned that most families rely on Google and word of mouth in order to find early care and education programs.</p> <p>Kerrie outlined next steps for SMS that include meeting with PATCH on</p>	
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	<p>12/2/2021 to discuss the feasibility of making child care information more public, and meeting with AUW sometime after that to discuss their timeline for revamping the interface of 211. SMS would also like to explore opportunities for sustaining the UH Center on the Family’s mapping project, and to continue to discuss with ELB the opportunities for funding mapping enhancements and ongoing maintenance that will be required.</p> <p>Key takeaways from the discussion that followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• States that have done mapping projects have listed their sources of funding (e.g., CCDBG, PDG, philanthropy) which is another reason to use other states as resources.</li> <li>• SMS will do more research and come back with funding models and financing strategies to help guide financing conversations with the Board around mapping enhancements and sustainability.</li> <li>• DHS does primary funding of PATCH, and DHS will house a consumer education website making some provider information publicly available.</li> </ul> <p>Wai’ale’ale Sarsona, Chair of the Governance Standing Subcommittee (GSS), asked for three items to be approved by the Board.</p> <p>A motion was made to approve the Act 210 Coordinator position description. During the discussion that ensued, the position title was confirmed to be “Institutional Analyst II” because that is the closest position within the HIDOE that matches the position description and duties. The motion passed with a change on page 2 - “Executive Office on Education Learning” was changed to “Executive Office on Early Learning.” (Wai’ale’ale/Kerrie: 10—10; N—0).</p> <p>A motion was made to authorize the ELB Chair to work with the HIDOE to enable the recruitment process to go forward for the Act 210 Coordinator. (Wai’ale’ale/Kerrie: Y—9; N—0; A—1).</p> <p>A motion was made to authorize the ELB Chair to establish an interview panel of no more than six members (including the Chair) to complete</p>	<p><b>SMS will investigate and bring back information about how other states have funded their efforts to enhance and maintain their mapping projects.</b></p> <p><b>The Board approved the Act 210 Coordinator position description.</b></p> <p><b>The Board approved authorization of the ELB Chair to work with the HIDOE on the Act 210 Coordinator recruitment process.</b></p> <p><b>The Board approved authorization of the ELB Chair to establish an interview panel to complete interviews and make a</b></p>
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	interviews of candidates and make a recommendation to the Board. (Wai’ale’ale/Ben: Y—10; N—0).	<b>recommendation to the Board.</b>
<b>ELB Leadership Update/Priorities 2021-2022</b> —Bob Peters	<p>Bob began this agenda item by returning to the ELB Priorities 2021-2022 draft document. He reviewed the changes he had made to the Priorities based on Board feedback from the October ELB meeting, and asked Board members for feedback before the Priorities list was finalized.</p> <p>Priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan and implement smooth leadership transition process to on-board the new director;</li> <li>• Enhance board capacity; and</li> <li>• Systems-related components that increase access, capacity, and use of high-quality early childhood development programs by hiring an Institutional Analyst to launch efforts and collaboration with agencies to move Act 046/210 forward, and support efforts to expand workforce capacity building.</li> </ul> <p>Key takeaways from the discussion that followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The private sector should be included in the first bullet under “System-Related” because they are an important part of the early learning system.</li> <li>• A priority for the Board (under “Systems-Related”) should be to prepare to handle federal funds in anticipation of the BBB Act.</li> <li>• Mapping efforts should be included in “Systems-Related” priorities.</li> </ul> <p>Following this discussion, Bob reported that he will bring back a set of priorities for approval at the December ELB meeting.</p>	<b>Chair will bring back a set of priorities for approval at the December ELB meeting.</b>
<b>Public Comment</b> —Bob Peters	Terry Lock provided a comment that on the ELB 2021-2022 priorities document, the bullet point for the policy around workforce capacity- building should include early childhood educator workforce policies.	
<b>Member Updates</b> —Bob Peters	<i>Kerrie Urosevich</i> reported that Early Childhood Action Strategy will be contracting with Jonathan Stinger to develop Community Profiles for Maui and Honolulu Counties between January and June 2022, and hopefully, for Kauai and Hawaii Counties between July and December. This means that by the end of the year, there will be community profiles for every county. If	

	anyone would like to provide input on the kind of information and data that should be collected, that would be helpful. The goal is to have these community profiles updated every other year so that there is ongoing, live community data.	
<b>Executive Session</b>	No items from the AG.	
<b>Review Agenda Outcomes—</b> Bob Peters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Board approved Stephen Schatz as the Chair of the Director Search Subcommittee.</li> <li>• The Board approved three motions brought before it by the Governance Standing Subcommittee.</li> <li>• The Board should consider how ELB might approach the Governor in a proactive manner in anticipation of the passage of the Build Back Better initiative.</li> <li>• The Systems Mapping Subcommittee has agreed to investigate and bring back information about how other states have funded their efforts to enhance and maintain their mapping activities.</li> <li>• Chair will bring back a set of priorities following today’s discussion for approval at the December meeting.</li> </ul>	
<b>Announcements</b>	None.	
<b>Closing—</b> Kerrie Urosevich	“Wherever you are, it is your friends who make your world.” –William James, psychologist	

Submitted by Ashley Miura and Chris Jackson