

Early Learning Board (ELB)

Thursday, April 14, 2022

1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

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

Meeting Chair will preside in-person at the KCAA CEED and via the Zoom link.

Board Members in Attendance: Dayna Luka (for Dir. Betts), Ben Naki, Keiko Nitta (for Dir. Char), Stephen Schatz (for President Lassner), Bob Peters (for Executive Director Bossert), Melodie Vega, Erin Henderson-Lacerdo, Cherilyn Shiinoki, Justina Acevedo-Cross, Ka’iulani Laeha, Leilani Au, Wai’ale’ale Sarsona (for Jack Wong), Mari Uehara, Rochelle Mahoe (for Acting Superintendent Keith Hayashi)

Absent: Kerrie Urosevich

Early Learning Board Staff: Lane Tsuchiyama

Executive Office on Early Learning staff in attendance: Alohilani Maiava, Chris Jackson, Keli Houston, Jeff Larson, Jordana Ferreira, Keopu Reelitz, Kevin Kabasawa, Ashley Miura

Public in Attendance: Michael Azuma, Lynette Kamekona, Christina Cox, Carol Wear, Cassia Simms, Charis Sole, Courtenay Burns, Dawn Kurisu, Deborah Zysman, Helen Au, Edel Baguio-Larena, Joseph Campos, Jon Shear, Ka’ano’i Walk, Kevin Costa, Kim Guieb, Moevanu Jameson, Silvia Sharrar, Ted Burke, Terry Lock, Vivian Eto, Tiarha Huerta, Deanne Goya, Jordan Smith, Mei Ou, Robyn Chun, Danny Cup Choy, Mary Ann Nemoto

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
MINUTES:		
Welcome/Introductions— Bob Peters	Chair Peters began the meeting at 1:34 PM and asked Ben Naki to read the mission statement. The Chair then welcomed everyone to the first hybrid (in-person and virtual) ELB meeting, and explained that regardless of in-person attendance, protocols would proceed as normal, including attendance and votes being taken by roll call. Quorum was	

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

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	<p>established.</p> <p>Chair Peters announced that while Act 220 allows for remote meetings at this time, at least one meeting needs to be open to the public. Chair expressed his thanks to KCAA for the use of their facility and also announced that there would be no Executive Session (ES) today as there were no changes that needed to be made to the ES minutes sent out.</p>	
<p>Review and Approve 3/10/22 Meeting Minutes and 3/24/22 Special Meeting Minutes—Bob Peters</p>	<p>The 3/10/22 ELB meeting minutes were approved as distributed (Melodie/Cherilyn: Y—10, N—0).</p> <p>The 3/24/22 Special Meeting/Executive Session minutes were approved as distributed (Cherilyn/Ben: Y—10, N—0).</p>	
<p>Public Comment—Bob Peters</p>	<p>No public comments were given.</p>	
<p>Executive Office on Early Learning Updates—Coleen Momohara</p>	<p>Coleen asked Jordana Ferreira, EOEL’s Government Affairs Specialist, to provide the legislative updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>2022 Bill Updates</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ H.B. No. 2000 H.D. 1 S.D. 1 (Appropriates funds to the SFA for construction of preschool facilities)—WAM held a public decision making on 4/7/22. ○ S.B. No. 2819 S.D. 2 H.D. 2 (Teacher compensation)—The House Committee on Finance recommended its passage. ○ S.B. No. 2820 S.D. 2 H.D. 1 (Teacher compensation)—The House Committee on Finance recommended its passage. ○ S.B. No. 2701 S.D. 2 H.D. 1 (subsidy pilot program and appropriations to Early Learning Special Fund)—The House Committee on Finance recommended its passage. ○ S.B. No. 2700 S.D. 2 H.D. 1 (require staff of licensed and registered early childhood programs to annually 	

	<p>provide specific information to the DHS)—The House Committee on Finance recommended its passage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ S.B. No. 3110 S.D. 2 H.D. 1 (renames the preschool grant program and authorizes the child care grant program special fund to be used to give grants to child care facilities)—The House Committee on Finance recommended its passage. ○ S.B. No. 2634 S.D. 1 H.D. 1 (extends Medicaid postpartum coverage)—The House Committee on Finance recommended its passage. ○ S.B. No. 2482 S.D. 1 H.D. 1 (Establishes a temporary Office of Wellness and Resilience)—The House Committee on Finance recommended its passage. ○ H.B. No. 1600 H.D. 1 (supplemental State budget)—WAM had a public decision making on 4/7/22 and passed the Senate Draft. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● *All bills not listed that were included in the “<i>ELB Bills to Consider</i>” Document disseminated to ELB members at the February 2022 ELB meeting have not moved forward. ● <i>2022 Resolution Updates</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HCR 69 / SCR 53 (designating September as child care provider appreciation month)—For HCR 69, the House Committee on CPC recommended its passage, unamended on April 5, 2022. For SCR 53, the Senate Committee on LCA recommended its passage on April 4, 2022. ○ HR 93 and SCR 217 / SR 210 (urging ELB to develop a roadmap for Act 046)—For HR 93, The House Committee on FIN recommended its passage, unamended, on April 5, 2022. SCR 217 has crossed over from the Senate to the House on March 31, 2022. ○ SCR 13 / SR 7 (universal pre-k feasibility study)—The 	
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	<p>Senate Committee on WAM recommended its passage, unamended, on April 5, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SCR 34 (ELB Board composition)—Crossed over from the Senate to the House on March 31, 2022 and referred to the House Committees on Education and Finance. ● <i>2022 Legislative Deadlines to Note</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Second Crossover is April 14, 2022. ○ April 14, 2022 is also the last day for the originating body to disagree with bill amendments. ○ April 19, 2022 is second lateral for Senate Concurrent Resolutions. ○ April 25, 2022 is second crossover for Concurrent Resolutions. ○ April 28, 2022 is final decking of non-fiscal bills. ○ April 29, 2022 is final decking of fiscal bills. ○ May 5, 2022 is sine die. ● <i>Miscellaneous Legislative Updates</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EOEL and DHS participated in the House Legislative Informational briefing on April 5, 2022 to review efforts underway regarding COVID-19 mitigation efforts and early learning expansion. ○ We continue to work with other departments and stakeholders as appropriate to coordinate testimony in alignment with the Office’s mission, vision, and statutory responsibilities. ○ We’ve attended hearings in-person as the Capitol has opened to the public. <p>With regard to the feasibility study resolution (SCR13/SR7), the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) is the agency being urged to conduct this study. LRB submitted comments in their testimony that indicated LRB lacks the expertise or experience in matters relating to</p>	
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	<p>early education or in fiscal projections for the implementation of such programs.</p> <p>Keopu Reelitz, EOEL’s Communications Specialist, reminded the Board that earlier in the pandemic when vaccines were first made available, EOEL developed materials to encourage vaccinations with the goal of centering the conversation around how vaccinations for everyone impact the early learning community, especially young children. Since then, questions have arisen around whether vaccinations are appropriate for children in the youngest age groups.</p> <p>Keopu introduced Jon Shear from the Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) as the COVID-19 Project Support Team Lead and asked him to provide information on the pediatric COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign. In his presentation, Jon provided updates on Hawaii’s vaccination of keiki aged 5-11, and the steps DOH is taking to prepare for Hawaii to vaccinate the under-5 population. He also discussed the COVID-19 National Preparedness Plan’s Education Sector Guidance, and outlined next steps that the DOH is planning to take.</p> <p>Key takeaways from the discussion that followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vaccinations are rolled out on K-12 campuses, but whether this will be possible for organizations that serve the under-5 population remains to be seen because the early childcare sector is so decentralized. If any organizations are interested in hosting vaccination sites, DOH has a survey (Event Coordination Survey) they can fill out with their information and to let DOH know what they are willing and capable of doing.• EOEL and DOH will coordinate getting information out to providers and will leverage their partnership to do so.• There is a minimum of ten vaccine doses per vial, so ideally, there would be at least ten children who can receive the	
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	<p>vaccination per location. However, if there are only two children at a site, providers will still administer the doses, especially with the understanding that in the early phases it may be difficult to gather a lot of people to have their under-5 children vaccinated. The hope is that once the under-5 vaccine gets approved, there will be more of a demand, and DOH wants to be able to meet it. At the same time, they want to minimize waste, so the intent is to communicate early and often.</p> <p>At this time, Chair Peters invited the Board to pose any questions they might have related to the EOEL Updates handout. Key takeaways from that discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The reason for the large gap between the number of approved applications and number of students actually enrolled in EOEL public pre-k classrooms is because some schools have more applications submitted to them than others, and due to the limited amount of space—decreased from 20 seats to 10 seats per classroom due to COVID-19—as well as due to some denials, not all applicants will get enrolled. Some classrooms are larger than others and can accommodate more children without masks than other classrooms. There is no way of being able to tell when this policy will change.• While DOE does not recommend physical distancing anymore, EOEL pre-k classrooms also have to follow DHS guidelines and requirements related to basic health and safety for young children, which includes keeping children without masks six feet apart. DHS is planning on updating their guidelines, but they will likely remain in alignment with DOH’s recommendations.• Coleen also wanted to share that there is a typo in the EOEL updates: the induction program for new schools participating in the EOEL program will not happen in the school year (SY)	
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	2022-2023, but in SY 2023-2024, and their classrooms will operate in SY 2024-2025.	
Subcommittee Reports— Subcommittee Heads	<p>Leilani Au provided an update on behalf of the Systems Mapping Subcommittee (SMS). SMS is scheduling meetings to take place in the beginning of May to coordinate the Keiki Central and AUW/211 data, so that Keiki Central maps can be built. In addition, PATCH is exploring mapping of child care provider options. SMS will look at how the maps can link or at least refer to one another. SMS also wants to connect with Scott Nakasone of DHS to understand what they have in mind for their Consumer Ed website.</p> <p>SMS would like to modify their timeline and fundraise the 2-year funding between May-June and begin the work in July, with an anticipated launch of Keiki Central maps by January 2023. Ideally, PATCH maps will be complete by that time, as well. A draft for the SMS mapping budget has been created and requires partner input. Leilani shared the rough draft for the budget and reminded Board members that SMS is not sure what their exact requests might be at this point, so the numbers shown are very rough estimates.</p> <p>Chair Peters provided an update on behalf of the Director Search Subcommittee. The Subcommittee has selected Yuuko Arikawa-Cross, currently the principal of Daniel K. Inouye Elementary School, as the new EOEL Director. She will start on May 2, 2022 and will be introduced to the Board at the May 12, 2022 ELB meeting. Bob gave his final thanks to the Director Search Subcommittee, the Search Advisory Group, Inkinen Executive Search firm, and the EOEL staff. He especially extended a big mahalo to Coleen Momohara for her leadership in stepping up and providing stability to EOEL as interim director during an incredibly challenging transition period.</p>	<p>SMS presented the Board with a draft of their budget. They will come back after more work with partner agencies to share with the Board recommendations for a budget and the source of the funding.</p> <p>The Director’s Search Committee has completed their work and a new EOEL Director has been selected.</p>
Early Learning	Coleen Momohara and Dayna Luka provided the ELB with the	DHS and EOEL presented

<p>Expansion—EOEL and DHS (Coleen Momohara and Dayna Luka)</p>	<p>presentation they had previously provided at the House Education Legislator briefing. After brief overviews of their respective organizations, Coleen and Dayna covered the COVID-19 pandemic’s effect on the childcare community, and how it highlighted child care as a critical and essential service. DHS and EOEL’s efforts focused on stabilizing the childcare community, as the pandemic highlighted the fragility of the child care sector. However, there were temporary and permanent closures of childcare facilities and family child care homes, and a reduction in the child care workforce, leading to a delay in implementation of Act 46.</p> <p>Moving forward, DHS and EOEL want to focus on four areas: program expansion and maintenance; interagency data work; workforce and program support efforts; and community engagement. With regard to program expansion and maintenance, EOEL has planned an expansion timeline which includes time for schools to apply for a pre-k classroom (February through April 2022), an induction program for these schools in SY 2023-2024, and the opening of classrooms in SY 2024-2025, contingent upon funds approved through the next legislative session. EOEL also provided budgetary estimates for this expansion. EOEL is organizing a data workgroup that will, among other things, establish and execute a data governance program among the state agencies and identify a monitoring and communication process to report on progress. P-20 will facilitate the data workgroup. There were no questions or discussion following this presentation.</p>	<p>on Early Learning Expansion and provided an in-depth look at the groundwork that has been laid despite obstacles created by the pandemic.</p>
<p>Leadership Update— Chair Peters</p>	<p>Chair Peters began this agenda item by introducing the new Act 46 Coordinator/Institutional Analyst, Lane Tsuchiyama, more formally to the Board. The interview panel recommended Lane for this position due to his understanding of state agencies and the legislative process, along with his strategic planning skills, familiarity with Act 46, and his eagerness to learn. Lane’s background includes work in the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, the state agency that represents</p>	<p>Lane Tsuchiyama, Act 46 Coordinator/Institutional Analyst was introduced to the Board.</p>

	<p>public interests for the Public Utilities Commission; work as Deputy Attorney General for the Department of Education; and work with the Charter School Commission.</p> <p>Lane explained that what attracted him to the Act 46 Coordinator/Institutional Analyst position was that he felt his unique experiences—most notably, his work with very behind-the-scenes offices such as the AG’s office—equipped him with the kind of skillset needed to work with the Board on implementing Act 46. For his first week in the position, Lane is trying to familiarize himself with EOEL and the early learning sector and has discovered that there is a vast network and a lot of push-and-pull between partnerships, so he welcomes any offered help. In response to a question, Chair Peters reminded the Board that Lane is working <i>out</i> of the EOEL office, but he is not working <i>for</i> them.</p> <p>Next, Chair Peters announced the PDG B-5 Center’s Early Childhood Systems Workshop/Webinars opportunity and encouraged Board members to attend. He explained that everyone sitting on the Early Learning Board has different views about the system and what it looks like, and the webinar encourages states to not only define clearly what their systems look like, but also to come up with a graphic visualization to help others understand. Other states also share their experiences with mapping out their early childhood systems. Board members can reach out to Alohi Maiava, EOEL’s PDG B-5 Program Specialist, for more information on how to attend. System-building is a Board priority, moving forward.</p> <p>Bob also announced the new Board members joining in July 2022. Ben Naki and Ka’iulani Laeha will serve another term each, while Justina Acevedo-Cross will remain in the philanthropy representative seat in a holdover capacity for one more year. Kerrie Urosevich is experiencing</p>	<p>The Board was updated on member confirmation.</p>
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	<p>a delayed decision for re-confirmation. Megan McCorriston of Seagull Schools will be the new center-based representative, taking over from Leilani Au. Mei Ou will be the new parent representative, taking over from Cherilyn Shiinoki.</p> <p>Finally, Chair Peters reviewed the testimony submitted on behalf of ELB for legislative resolutions. The first one has to do with the effort to re-examine the Board’s composition and charter, and the testimony centered around the Board already acknowledging this is a discussion they need to have. The testimony explains that ELB has already taken steps to move forward, so the Board will support the intent. The second resolution urges ELB to develop a roadmap for the implementation of Act 46. In the testimony, some context is provided for the legislature, such as information about the new position Lane is occupying and the particular responsibilities around that position. There was also a request to the legislature to consider extending the due date that gives the Board fewer than six months to provide the information required in the resolution. In order to provide the kind of report that can truly reflect community needs, but also function as a roadmap moving forward, the testimony requested more time.</p>	
<p>Member Updates—Bob Peters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Matt Shim</i> reported that the report on the oral health survey conducted back in 2018 is finally published. The report is entitled “Oral Health of Hawaii’s Low Income Head Start Children”. The information is about to be sent out to legislators, and it is currently available on the DOH website, on the homepage in the banner section. • <i>Justina Acevedo-Cross</i> reported that next week is the Kahewai Summit, a professional development summit for all B-5 providers. 300 people are anticipated to attend. The summit is virtual and low-cost, and all topics are about supporting children and families with trauma-informed approaches, including infant and early childhood mental health. She 	

	<p>included a link to more information in the chat box: https://www.hais.us/RelId/766721/ISvars/default/Kahewai_Summit.htm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ben Naki</i> reported that enrollment levels for Head Start Hawaii is at about 75% capacity, so there are still vacant seats in most of the programs. The national average is sitting at 75% right now when looking at Head Start enrollment across the country. Programs here in Hawaii are eagerly looking to recruit families to finish out this current school year, as well as to begin the upcoming school year. • In response to a question, Chair Peters explained that the Governance Standing Subcommittee was not able to meet since last month's meeting, so the Board is not ready to discuss the proposed standing up of a Strategic Implementation Subcommittee yet. This will be on the agenda for the May ELB meeting. 	
Public Comment —Bob Peters	No public comments were given.	
Review Agenda Outcomes —Bob Peters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Systems Mapping Subcommittee presented the Board with a draft of their budget. They will come back after more work with partner agencies to share with the Board recommendations for a budget and the source of the funding. • The Director Search Subcommittee has completed their work, and a new EOEL Director has been named. • The new Institutional Analyst (Act 46 Coordinator) was introduced to the Board. • The Board has been updated on the status of ELB members, including current and new member confirmations. • DHS and EOEL presented on Early Learning Expansion and provided an in-depth look at the groundwork that has been laid in spite of obstacles created by the pandemic. 	
Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None were provided. 	

Closing —Bob Peters	Kerrie Urosevich was not present to provide closing remarks, so Bob closed out the meeting with his thanks and aloha to everyone who attended.	
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Submitted by Ashley Miura and Chris Jackson