

Early Learning Board (ELB)

Thursday, July 13, 2023

1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

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

**Meeting Chair will preside at CEED Center, KCAA
2707 South King Street, Honolulu, HI 96826
Or Via the Zoom Link**

Board Members in Attendance: Justina Acevedo-Cross, Megan McCorriston, Ka‘iulani Laehā, Ben Naki, Robert Peters (for Director Bossert), Napua Rosehill (for KS CEO), Mari Uehara, Melodie Vega, Rochelle Mahoe (for Superintendent Hayashi), Matt Shim (for Director Fink), Stephen Schatz (for President Lassner)

Absent: Erin Henderson-Lacerdo, Mei Ou, Kerrie Urosevich, Dayna Luka (for Director Betts)

Executive Office on Early Learning staff in attendance: Yuuko Arikawa-Cross, Alohilani Maiava Shigeta, Jeff Larson, Kevin Kabasawa, Lane Tsuchiyama, Mikako Deguchi, Stephanie Tim Sing, Ashley Miura

Public in Attendance: Anne Horiuchi, Danny Cup Choy, Dawson Carrigan, Elaine Yamashita, Kim Guieb, Kiyoko Noguchi, Ke‘ōpū Reelitz, Kevin Costa, Terry Lock, Chris Jackson, Vivian Eto, Raya Esteban, Malia Tsuchiya, Sylvia Luke, Aldric Ulep, Ka’ano’i Walk, Deanne Goya, Cherilyn Shiinoki

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
MINUTES:		
Welcome/Introductions— Bob Peters	Chair Peters began the meeting at 1:35 PM and asked member Rochelle Mahoe to read the mission statement. He reminded everyone that regardless of in-person attendance, protocols would proceed as usual, with votes conducted by roll call. Attendance was taken, and quorum was established.	

Early Learning Board

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

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<p>Review and Approve 5/25/23 Special Meeting Minutes and 6/8/23 Meeting Minutes—Bob Peters</p>	<p>The Chair entertained a motion to approve the 5/25/23 special meeting minutes. The minutes were approved as distributed (Ben/Melodie: Y—7; N—0)</p> <p>The Chair entertained a motion to approve the 6/8/23 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved as distributed, with a change to mark Erin Henderson-Lacerdo’s attendance as absent. (Ben/Mari: Y—6; A—1; N—0)</p>	
<p>Public Comment—Bob Peters</p>	<p>No public comments provided.</p>	
<p>Executive Office on Early Learning Updates—Yuuko Arikawa-Cross</p>	<p>Director Arikawa-Cross provided legislative updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill signing: The Governor enacted H.B. 300, the budget bill, on Friday, June 30, 2023. EOEL’s budget requests remained intact; the budget bill includes funding to expand EOEL public pre-k programs and also for the Early Childhood Educator Stipend Program. • The Governor enacted the following early learning bills on July 3, 2023: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SB 239—which establishes an early learning accreditation program under the Department of Human Services (DHS) ○ HB 960—relating to the school facilities authority ○ HB 961—which expands EOEL public pre-k and the Preschool Open Doors (POD) program to 3-year-olds • EOEL held a joint press release with Lt. Gov Sylvia Luke and the University of Hawaii on July 6th at 9:00 am for the early childhood educator stipend program. The press release highlighted the joint effort to implement the program, celebrated the appropriation of general funds to the program, and encouraged interested individuals to apply for the next rounds of applications in July. 	

	<p>Alohi Maiava Shigeta, EOEL’s Program Specialist provided updates. Alohi shared that the Early Childhood State Plan Dashboard planning would be addressed during the Subcommittee Updates portion of the meeting and that EOEL is currently meeting with state partners to vet data and information that is included in the dashboard. Once revisions and vetting data are complete, EOEL will meet again with the Strategic Implementation Subcommittee (SIS) in order to finalize the dashboard for a full Board preview.</p> <p>Director Arikawa-Cross provided EOEL personnel updates. Ku‘ulei Kaluhiokalani is now temporarily assigned to Coleen Momohara’s former position (Educational Specialist III) while Lane Tsuchiyama is a permanent Institutional Analyst in EOEL. Position descriptions have been created for three different Educational Specialists, one Office Assistant, and one Program Specialist. As for Head Start Collaboration Office Specialist—the position formerly held by Chris Jackson until her retirement—Yuuko is first seeking input from Region 9 Head Start before posting it, in order to ensure accuracy of desired qualifications in the job description. There are currently interviews scheduled for Business Manager, Communication Specialist, and Workforce Specialist. For FY 2023-2024, Yuuko is working with Ku‘ulei to post and hire 10 new permanent 12-month Early Learning State Office Teachers (ELSOTs).</p> <p>Director Arikawa-Cross then introduced Mikako Deguchi, the Institutional Analyst hired for data collection and research. Mikako has a doctorate in dental surgery, a master’s in business administration, and a post-baccalaureate certificate in secondary education. She was a dentist in Nagoya, has published pieces for the International Dental Journal and the Hawaii Journal of Medicine and Public Health. Her past employment includes with the UH Departments of Public Health and Native Hawaiian Health, the Hawaii State Judiciary, and most</p>	
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	<p>recently, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. She has also been a freelance writer and translator, a teacher, and a business owner. Mikako expressed her excitement to work with EOEL in the future.</p> <p>Regarding Head Start, Director Arikawa-Cross shared they are undergoing a strategic planning period and have published their annual Head Start Fact Sheet for 2023.</p> <p>Director Arikawa-Cross gave updates about the EOEL Public Pre-Kindergarten Program. As part of their Professional Learning Support efforts and their professional development support for the workforce in both the public and private sectors, the EOEL Pre-K Team is once again part of the instructional team for the ECE Summer Institute in July. <i>Intersections: Weaving Place, Story, and Documentation in the Early Years, the MEd Early Childhood Education Summer Institute 2023</i> is a joint collaboration between the MEd Early Childhood Education Program at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa and the Executive Office of Early Learning (EOEL). 2023 ECE Summer Institute FLYER (This 2-page flyer may take several seconds to load.)</p> <p>EOEL Public Pre-K Application & Enrollment numbers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enrollment for SY 22-23, Total number of students enrolled across the state as of Quarter 4 was 463 (Last year SY 21-22 Q4: 344)• Applications from Families for EOEL Public Pre-K Program for SY 23-24: current number of applications processed statewide is 583 (Last year SY 21-22 July was 444)• Currently experiencing a high volume of applications; processed applications number does not include those that are incomplete or under review.	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications are accepted throughout the school year. <p>Finally, Director Arikawa-Cross shared that the Federal Department of Health and Human Services is proposing to amend the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) regulations.</p> <p>Key takeaways from the discussion that followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOEL has not been able to discuss the CCDF regulation amendments thoroughly yet. • Chair Peters pointed out that creating a 7% income cap for how much families have to pay for preschool is something the Board should support. • The developmental screening for pre-K students refers to certain screenings—for instance, vision and hearing—that are currently conducted “as necessary” but not mandated; EOEL is looking into that. PDG B-5 milestones also suggest looking at “ages and stages” of early learning development, and social-emotional learning. • Member Mari Uehara shared with others that screening outside of a “pass” and “refer” result sometimes ends up in a gray area that requires follow up. 	<p>Director Arikawa-Cross will provide a link for Board members to comment on rule changes being made and the federal grant process if anyone is interested.</p>
<p>Subcommittee Reports— Subcommittee Heads</p>	<p>Member Matt Shim, head of the Governance Standing Subcommittee (GSS), provided updates. GSS will ask the other subcommittees to compile their Board transition information in Google docs. GSS will create a survey with questions for the other subcommittees to fill out that Bob will send out to everyone.</p> <p>Member Ben Naki, head of the Strategic Implementation Subcommittee (SIS), provided SIS updates. He asked Alohi and Jeff to update the Board on the Early Childhood Dashboard by sharing a few snapshots of it. In 2020, the Board recommended two things around monitoring the State Plan. One of them was to develop a web-based</p>	<p>Member Matt Shim will prepare a questionnaire to be addressed by each of the Subcommittees, which Chair Peters will send out. Matt and GSS have also created a google doc that will be available to house all the information for each Subcommittee.</p>

dashboard around data. At the time, EOEL was looking at a wide audience of stakeholders who would be interested in this information; they wanted to make sure there was content that described the goals, like strategies and priorities, and ensure there were charts, graphs, and visuals that discussed the indicators of success within the five building blocks. The other recommendation was to use the dashboard to discuss anticipated challenges, emergent opportunities, or reset goals along the way. At the March 2023 ELB meeting, SIS agreed to ELB's decision not to go live with the dashboard just yet, and that ELB would review the dashboard before it went live. SIS did a deep review of each of the state plan building blocks and looked at all the vital signs in the current data. They were able to determine a framework and structure that was most effective for the Board. After gathering feedback from SIS, Jeff and Alohi are conducting ongoing meetings with public agencies to vet the data with them to make sure they're comfortable with what information will be communicated, and also provide context from the information and data that is available. These meetings are with a wide range of providers, from home-visiting services to DHS, and there will also be meetings with Child Welfare Services to better understand certain data that will be included in the early childhood dashboard. Using this feedback, Jeff and Alohi will revise the dashboard so that it can be approved by SIS and presented to the full Board.

Jeff reviewed the dashboard. It has five pages that correspond to the five building blocks and relevant data on each page. The goals of this project included tracking State Plan progress at a high level; monitoring 17 vital signs and key milestones; and assessing progress. As the dashboard is not meant to be prescriptive, it does not serve the purpose of providing recommendations. Revisions currently underway include adding narrative and brief explanations in certain areas, and meeting with experts for input as Alohi had stated previously. The dashboard is meant to be an iterative, learning process, so in the future,

	<p>it can evolve with changing priorities or new plans. New breadth and depth could be added, and it could be used as a tool for ongoing data-informed decision making.</p> <p>In conclusion, SIS members are looking forward to seeing the near-final draft. Currently, they are trying to set up some final meetings with some experts but because of their busy schedules, it is uncertain as to whether or not the revised dashboard can get back to the Board by the next ELB meeting.</p>	<p>ELB was updated on the State Plan Data Dashboard.</p>
<p>Leadership Update: Board Transition Status—Bob Peters</p>	<p>Chair Peters updated the Board on the status of the Board composition. Governor Green signed a series of education bills on July 3, including those pertaining to early learning; among them was S.B. 1022 H.D. 1 C.D. 1, which has now become Act 170. All ELB members’ terms have officially expired, but at the same time, until the Governor appoints a new Board, current serving members will continue to operate as a de facto ELB, with the decisions they make functioning as valid decisions made by a governing Board. Now that the bill has passed into law, this past week, Chair Peters has had conversations with Boards and Commissions about the process and procedures moving forward, as well as the current situation. At the moment, the Governor’s office is in the process of looking for nominees for the new Board. Chair Peters has asked Boards and Commissions to keep him informed so he can share with the other members anything new he has discovered. There will be an August meeting unless the Chair indicates otherwise.</p> <p>Key takeaways from the brief discussion that followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If anyone applied earlier this year to fill positions that were going to be vacant, they will have to apply again. • The Governor does not currently have a timeline for any decision making in regard to the new Board. 	<p>Contact has been made with Boards and Commissions. The Governor’s office is in the process of seeking out qualified nominees to fill the new Board composition.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interested applicants should use the existing process and go on the Boards and Commissions website to apply for “the Early Learning Board.” Chair Peters also suggested to reach out to Boards and Commissions personally as well as the Office of the Governor to make sure both parties know the candidate is expressing interest. 	
Public Comment —Bob Peters	No public comments were provided.	
Member Updates —Bob Peters	No member updates were provided.	
Review Agenda Outcomes —Bob Peters	<p>Chair Peters reviewed the following agenda outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director Arikawa-Cross will provide a link for Board members to comment on role changes being made and the federal grant process if anyone is interested. Member Matt Shim will prepare a Board transition questionnaire to be completed by each of the Subcommittees; Chair Peters will send it out. Matt and GSS have also created a google doc that will be available to house all the information for each Subcommittee. ELB was updated on the State Plan Data Dashboard. Contact has been made with Boards and Commissions. The Governor’s office is in the process of seeking out qualified nominees to fill the new Board composition seats. 	
Announcements	None provided.	
Closing —Bob Peters	“Individual commitment to a group effort—that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.” –Vince Lombardi	

Submitted by Ashley Miura