

# **Early Learning Board (ELB)**

**Thursday, May 9th, 2024**

**1:30 pm – 3:30 pm**

**Meeting Chair will preside at CEED Center, KCAA**

**2707 South King Street, Honolulu, HI 96826**

**Or Via the Zoom Link**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Stephanie Shipton, Sulma Gandhi, Dayna Luka (for Director Betts), Matthew Shim (for Dr. Kenny Fink), Robert Peters (for Dr. Phil Bossert), Benjamin Naki III, Alanna Bauman, Cheryl Cudiamat, Kau‘i Burgess, Joni Onishi, Lindsey Heathcock, Dr. Rochelle Mahoe (for Superintendent Hayashi), Elaine Yamashita, Stephen Schatz (for President David Lassner)

**Board Members Absent:** Nāpua Rosehill (for Jack Wong)

**Executive Office on Early Learning staff in attendance:** Yuuko Arikawa-Cross, Kevin Kabasawa, Stephanie Tim Sing, Tara Castrovinci, Ian Okamoto, Lane Tsuchiyama, Mikako Deguchi, Ku‘ulei Kaluhiokalani, Kelli Vannoy, Yvette Paglinawan, Tiffany Hirota

**Public in Attendance:** Christina Cox, Mari Uehara, Kiyomi Umezawa, Aldric Ulep, Carol Wear, Charis Sole, Cherilyn Shiinoki, Deanne Goya, Deborah Zysman, Jennifer Padua, Jordana Ferreira, Justina Acevado-Cross, Kaiulani Laeha, Keopu Reelitz, Kerrie Urosevich, Kevin Costa, Kim Guieb, Lynette Kamekona, Malia Tsuchiya, Mei Ou, Robyn Chun, Terry Lock, Vivian Eto

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
<b>MINUTES:</b>		
<p><b>Welcome/ Mission Statement/ Announcements</b> Chair Bob Peters</p>	<p>Chair Peters opened the meeting at 1:30 PM and read the mission statement.</p> <p>Attendance was taken by Chair Peters and a quorum established.</p> <p>Chair Peters asked all the existing and new board members to introduce themselves with a short bio and reason for their interest in being part of the Early Learning Board.</p> <p>Chair Peters announced that 3 items would be deferred from the agenda following a complaint to the Office of Information Practices (OIP) with concerns that the items were too vague and offered insufficient information to the public. The agenda items (5) <i>Executive Office on Early Learning–EOEL Updates</i>, (6) <i>Maui Early Childhood Status/Updates</i>, and (8) <i>Member Updates</i> were all deferred until the next meeting.</p>	
<p><b>Review and Approve Minutes</b> Chair Bob Peters</p>	<p>Elaine Yamashita motioned to approve the minutes from the April meeting. Stephanie Shipton seconded the motion.</p>	<p>Minutes from the April meeting were approved, but with typographical corrections in name spelling to be made; Yes=7, No=0</p>

**Governance  
Subcommittee:  
Board Chair Election  
Process**  
Matthew Shim

Governance Subcommittee Chair, Matt Shim, shared updates in regards to the new Board Chair election process.

- Nomination window for ELB Chair opens on Thursday, May 9, 2024 and closes at 4:30 pm HST on Friday, May 24, 2024.
- Nominations should be emailed to Matthew Shim ([matthew.shim@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:matthew.shim@doh.hawaii.gov)) with the subject line: ELB Chair Nomination.
- Matthew Shim, Governance Subcommittee Convener, will verify interest for non-self nominated candidates via email before the next planned ELB meeting scheduled for June 13, 2024.
- Matthew Shim will submit the names of the candidates who either self-nominated or accepted nomination to the current Chair (Bob Peters) who will organize the ballot preparation for the June ELB meeting.
- Matthew Shim will email or text ballots to the voting members present (either in-person or virtual) during the June meeting. The meeting will pause 5 minutes for voting members to complete their ballots and return to Matthew via text or email.
- Matthew Shim will tabulate votes and announce results during the June meeting. Should there be a tie, a run-off of the top two nominees will be conducted at the next ELB meeting in July.

**Highlighting Innovations in Early Childhood Teacher Preparation in Hawaii**

Dr. Terry Lock,  
University of Hawai'i  
Manoa  
College of Education

Dr. Terry Lock from UH Manoa shared a slide presentation on early childhood teacher preparation in Hawaii.

Dr. Lock is the Principal Investigator and Project Director for the University of Hawaii at Manoa: Early Childhood Educator Excellence and Equity (ECE3) Program.

Link to the presentation is below and will also be posted to the EOEL's meeting minutes website page.

[https://earlylearning.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Highlighting-Innovation-in-ECTeacher-Prep\\_pptx.pdf](https://earlylearning.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Highlighting-Innovation-in-ECTeacher-Prep_pptx.pdf)

- Chair Peters asked Dr. Lock if recent efforts have brought more interest and if more recruitment has taken place in the early learning field. Dr. Lock answered that the stipend program has been making an impact and has likely resulted in higher numbers of early learning students entering programs throughout the University of Hawai'i system.
- Stephanie Shipton asked Dr. Lock about the unified framework and goals or targets in regards to the way the system might be shifting or changing. Dr. Lock shared that other states (Vermont, D.C. in particular) have been making headways. She stated that apprenticeship models have been gaining interest in other states and moving the interest forward.

<p><b>Executive Office on Early Learning</b> Yuuko Arikawa-Cross</p>	<p>Staff from the Executive Office on Early Learning introduced themselves to the new board and gave brief details on their positions at EOEL. Staff introductions were made by:</p> <p>Tara Castrovinci, Communications Specialist</p> <p>Mikako Deguchi, Institutional Analyst</p> <p>Kevin Kabasawa, Data Processing User Support Technician (DPUST)</p> <p>Ku‘ulei Kaluhiokalani, Early Childhood Education Specialist</p> <p>Alohi Maiava Shigeta, Program Specialist</p> <p>Ian Okamoto, Workforce Development Specialist</p> <p>Yvette Paglinawan, State Office Teacher</p> <p>Stephanie Tim Sing, Contract Specialist/ASA</p> <p>Lane Tsuchiyama, Institutional Analyst</p> <p>Kelli Vannoy, Business Management Officer</p> <p>Director Arikawa-Cross introduced herself, her background, and welcomed the new board members.</p>	
<p><b>Public Comments</b></p>	<p>No public comments were made.</p>	
<p><b>Board Orientation</b> Bob Peters</p>	<p>Chair Peters introduced this portion of the meeting as an effort to introduce newly appointed Board Members to the Executive Office on Early Learning and the Early Learning Board by offering an overview of both.</p> <p>Director Yuuko Arikawa-Cross shared a slide presentation on the EOEL’s history, mission, responsibilities, organization, and strategic priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director Arikawa-Cross touched on the mission and vision of the Executive Office on Early Learning and focus on ensuring</li> </ul>	

	<p>all children in Hawai‘i have access to quality early education, as well as efforts to support the early learning workforce, and develop strong partnerships and collaborations to ensure a solid foundation of early learning in Hawaii (including the statutory charge of Chapter 302-L2.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Director Arikawa-Cross shared a graphic <i>Early Learning Opportunities in Hawai‘i</i> and clarified which programs EOEL has control of and which they support at a local, state and federal level.</li> <li>● Director Arikawa-Cross shared Ready Keiki data highlighting efforts to serve the underserved preschool population in Hawai‘i. She detailed how EOEL is looking into workforce opportunities in the future as well as utilization of stipends and grants to encourage students to continue their education in the early learning fields.</li> <li>● Director Arikawa-Cross also emphasized the expansion of public and community based Pre-K as well as the PDG B-5 grant and increasing parent and family engagement.</li> </ul> <p>Chair Bob Peters shared the Early Learning Board (ELB) history, responsibilities, organization, website materials and resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chair Peters shared information on the different ELB committees as well as the roadmap plan designed to meet the pre-k expansion to meet the goals of Act 46.</li> <li>● Chair Peters shared ELB documents available for new board members including legislative history, guiding principles, legislature advocacy, practices and policies, strategic action plan, early learning plans, and the responsibilities of the Director. He also shared an overview of the EOEL website</li> </ul>	
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	along with a description of the requirements for completion of financial disclosure forms and ethics training.	
<b>Review Agenda Outcomes and Announcements</b> Bob Peters	Chair Peters reminded Board members about the time frame for nominations of a new Chairperson to be elected at the June meeting.	
<b>Closing</b> Bob Peters	Meeting adjourned at 2:59 PM.	

Notes submitted by: Tara Castrovinci  
Early Learning Board Meeting for 05/09/2024