

Early Learning Board Meeting
Thursday, Nov. 14, 2024
AGENDA

1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Center for Early Education and Development (CEED), 2nd Floor
Kindergarten and Children’s Aid Association (KCAA Preschools of Hawaii)
2707 South King Street, Honolulu, HI 96826

The public may attend the meeting in person or remotely via the ZOOM link (see below)
2707 South King Street, Honolulu, HI 96826
The Chair will preside in person

Early Learning Board Vision: Creating a sustainable early learning system that partners with families to ensure that every child is healthy, valued, and successful in school and life.

Early Learning Board Mission: To support children’s academic and lifelong well-being by directing and supporting the Executive Office on Early Learning for an effective, coordinated, high-quality early learning system from prenatal to kindergarten entry.

Board expectations:

- Inquiry mindset. Ask informed questions. Other mindsets are equity, bold, and radical. *(Anne Douglass)*
- Come informed: Written reports to be read before meetings. Meeting time can be utilized for discussion and decision-making. Not all written reports require decision-making.
- County representatives should be informed about early learning in their county.
- Shifting in our thinking from seeing early educators as objects of change to agents of change. *(Anne Douglass)*

The Board will accept public testimony with each agenda item. Public comments are limited to 2 minutes per agenda item and must address items listed on the published agenda

I.	Welcome/Vision & Mission/Announcements/Roll call: Elaine Yamashita Vision & mission read by: Kau’i Burgess <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Survey results of 10/10/24 board retreat. See board packet.- Folder created in ELB shared drive for documents from retreat.- Procedure to include a member of the public in board discussions. A voting board member can make a motion to “suspend the rules” to allow the community member to speak.	1:30 - 1:35
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II.	<p>Review and Approve Minutes: Elaine Yamashita <i>Action: Approve 10/10/24 Meeting Minutes</i></p>	1:35 - 1:40
III.	<p>Executive Office on Early Learning Updates Report: Director Arikawa-Cross/Staff</p> <p>Roadmap to Achieve the Objectives of Act 46 and Act 210 (SLH 2021) related to early learning and early childhood care opportunities in the State of Hawaii by 2032 – Public Pre-Kindergarten Expansion & Early Learning Board (ELB):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Workforce Development and Support ● Facilities for Early Childhood Education Programs ● Funding for the Early Care and Education Mixed Delivery System ● Program Quality Improvement and Maintenance ● Systems Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Personnel Update: New Government Affairs Specialist ○ New EOEL Website ○ Ready Keiki Backpack Distribution Update ○ Special Needs and Early Intervention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Early Intervention Annual Partner Meeting ○ Family Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Head Start: Migrant Farm Worker Outreach ■ Report on the Family Engagement and Cultural Effectiveness Conference <p><i>Outcome: Information, questions</i> <i>Public comment</i></p>	1:40 - 2:10
IV.	<p>PATCH Update on new initiatives: Nicole Higa and Leah McRae PATCH Registry – Leah McRae, Registry Manager PATCH (People Attentive to Children) manages the statewide Dept. of Human Services Early Childhood Registry. PATCH Registry has recently developed and introduced a statewide online Early Childhood Workforce Registry platform.</p> <p>HELP Resource Kit—Nicole Higa, Resource & Referral Manager A resource rich platform full of editable procedures, handbooks, templates and more to support high quality ECE business operation. PATCH also creates and provides aggregated data on rates and capacity monthly.</p> <p><i>Outcome: Information, questions, discussion</i> <i>Public comment</i></p>	2:10 - 2:50
	Break	2:50 - 3:00
V.	<p>Proposed bill to amend Sec. 302L-1.6(b) HRS (Adds Head Start Collaboration position to ELB as non-voting member to comply with federal Head Start act): October: Board passed a motion to approve the bill with language recusing Head Start collaboration office (HSCO) position from discussions re: EOEL Executive Director. Later in the meeting, it was pointed out that the proposed</p>	3:00-3:15

ELB by-laws include a conflict of interest statement, and that could cover the issue.

Clarification and follow-up:

The proposed bill (**board materials packet**) adds two non-voting members to the Early Learning Board to comply with the Federal Head Start Act (**relevant section in the board materials packet**), and only the HSCO Director was explicitly addressed in the motion passed at the October meeting. The proposed bill addresses the requirement to include:

- (vi) a representative from Head Start agencies located in the State, including migrant and seasonal Head Start programs and Indian Head Start programs; and
- (vii) the State Director of Head Start Collaboration.

The members identified in the Federal Head Start Act in subparagraph (C)(i, ii, iii, iv, viii, ix, and x) are already covered by the non-voting members of the board. One of the current at-large voting members of the board may also satisfy the requirement to include “(v) a representative of local providers of early childhood education and development services” but this requirement is not directly addressed in the current ELB statute.

Recommendation:

- a. The edited bill (**board materials packet**) that adds the Head Start agency representative and Head Start Collaboration Director be approved and submitted for possible inclusion in the Governor's Admin package, and the (to be approved today) ELB by-laws will address cover the conflict of interest issue for the Head Start Collaboration Director instead of the proposed bill.
- b. To meet the timeline for 2025 administration package legislative proposals, address any additional revisions not already included in the proposed bill by requesting edits as the bill moves through committee(s) in the Legislature. This will allow for further discussion of the questions related to a representative of local providers of early childhood education and development services without endangering EOEL's ability to meet the Admin Package deadlines.

Questions to consider:

- a. Should the requirement to include a representative of local providers of early childhood education and development services be clarified in the ELB statute?
- b. If so, would this be a non-voting member or voting member? If a voting member, does the board wish to specify that one of the county or at-large seats must also fulfill this federal requirement, or does the board want to add another voting member to the make-up of the ELB?

	<p>c. In the previous board composition, the Child Care Business Coalition was the representative. Would that be the most appropriate entity? Or, could this requirement be met by any provider of early childhood education and development services?</p> <p><i>Action: Information/discussion/vote</i> <i>Public comment</i></p>	
VI.	<p>Unfinished business: Proposed salary adjustment for EOEL Executive Director: Finance committee, Steve Schatz Postponed at 9/12/24, 10/10/24 meetings. Updated information and memo. Board packet</p> <p><i>Action: Information/discussion/vote</i> <i>Public comment</i></p>	3:15 - 3:20
VII.	<p>Update on proposed salary schedule for EOEL Director: Finance committee, Steve Schatz Update on proposed salary schedule for EOEL Executive Director. Finance is referring the issue to Governance.</p> <p><i>Outcome: Information/Questions/Discussion</i> <i>Public comment</i></p>	3:20 - 3:25
VIII.	<p>Vice-chair election: Governance committee, Matt Shim Nomination and election process was approved at the 7/11/24 meeting. Nominations closed on 10/25/24. Today: announcement of candidates, vote</p> <p><i>Outcome: Voting for vice-chair</i> <i>Public comment</i></p>	3:25 - 3:35
IX.	<p>Proposed Standing subcommittee to handle Legislative matters: Matt Shim Referred to Governance committee at 10/10/24 meeting.</p> <p><i>Outcome: Update, discussion.</i> <i>Public comment</i></p>	3:35 - 3:40
X.	<p>Approval of proposed by-laws for board: Governance committee, Matt Shim Set of proposed by-laws, based on current practices and approved board policies. Presented in October for approval in November.</p> <p><i>Outcome: Discussion, vote</i> <i>Public comment</i></p>	3:40-3:45
XI.	<p>2023-24 Framework of Policy Priorities as a base for 2025: Elaine Yamashita</p>	3:45 - 3:50

	<p>The Framework (board packet) was approved in Dec. 2023 for the 2024 legislative session. It's the same as the 2023 version. Presented today for discussion, to be voted on in the December meeting.</p> <p><i>Outcome: Information, discussion</i></p>	
<p>XII.</p>	<p>Unfinished business: Update on Act 156 (SB 2475 SD2 HS2 CD1) - Establishing the Harm to Students Registry implementation:</p> <p>At the Oct. meeting, the board voted to have this on the agenda for at least two more meetings.</p> <p>Update from board member Phil Bossert (unable to attend today's meeting):</p> <p>“The implementation of the Harm to Students Registry program is moving along – slowly but surely. We are in the process of getting all of the 112 private school heads of school signed up as “primary users” for their institutions. Each school head receives an email from the Registry asking them to complete an “attestation” form by which they say they understand what the Registry is for and that they will use it responsibly. When they return that form to HDOE-IT, their account is established. The primary user is able to search the Registry to see if someone's name is on the Registry and the primary user can also post the name of an offender to the Registry after a proper investigation has been conducted. Then each school can appoint one or two “search-only” users who can check the Registry to see if a potential employee's, volunteer's, or contractor's name in on the Registry.</p> <p>HAIS has conducted two trainings for private schools thus far – one on what the Registry is and how to use it and a second one on how to conduct a fair and effective investigation of an incident of harm to students.</p> <p>The software for the Registry is still in the process of being developed – only Phase One has been released thus far and it allows a person to search the Registry one name at a time. Phase Two will allow a school to submit a list of names to the Registry to see if there are any “hits” that need further research. To our knowledge at this time, there is only one name that has been posted to the Registry.”</p> <p><i>Outcome: Information, discussion</i> <i>Public comment</i></p>	<p>3:50-3:51</p>
<p>XIII.</p>	<p>EOEL Executive Director evaluation criteria: Governance committee, Matt Shim Memo from Governance for 2024 evaluation criteria for the EOEL Executive Director is adapted from Dec. 2023 memo. Governance worked on criteria with the Executive Director. (board packet) Today: vote on memo</p>	<p>3:51-3:55</p>

	<p><i>Outcome: Discussion, vote</i> <i>Public comment</i></p>	
XIV.	Review Agenda Outcomes/Announcements/Closing – Elaine Yamashita	3:55 - 4:00
Items for December agenda		
.I.	<p>Update on possible Family Council: Elaine Yamashita</p> <p>We have been advised that Hawai'i Revised Statutes does not give ELB or EOEL the power to create an attached entity such as a Family Council. EOEL Executive Director was working on implementing one of the previously approved evaluation criteria.</p> <p>Chair and EOEL Executive Director discussed this, and agree that there may be times in the future when ELB will need feedback from a variety of families. EOEL will compile a list of the groups that exist that could be tapped for feedback in the future.</p> <p>Another option is to have a subcommittee of the board rather than a council.</p> <p><i>Outcome: Information, discussion</i> <i>Public comment</i></p>	
II.	<p>Proposed ad hoc or standing committee: System communication and collaboration - Elaine Yamashita</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resource to read before meeting: (board packet) Building Block 5 of the Hawai'i Early Childhood State Plan 2019-2024 (pp. 20-22): OUR keiki OUR FUTURE - Purpose is to establish what information needs to be shared, what the communication channels are, and how the information is available in order to establish and maintain an effective early learning system. - Members would include key system stakeholders. <p><i>Outcome: Discussion/questions. Possible action: Refer to Governance for further definition and development.</i> <i>Public comment</i></p>	
.III.	<p>Proposed policy re: Mixed delivery system: Elaine Yamashita</p> <p>ELB has supported a mixed delivery system, which supports family choice. However, it has not been an articulated policy.</p> <p>Apparently there is a perception in the community, especially with the Ready Keiki expansion, that the state is going to “take over” and there will be fewer</p>	

	<p>families paying tuition and programs will close. That has happened in other states, however, in Hawai‘i, the Lt. Governor is aware and the Preschool Open Doors \$50 million and year-round application is a way the state is supporting community based programs.</p> <p>Chair has been working on a draft policy. Two documents in the board packet give information on mixed delivery systems, as well as the EOEL diagram (link below) which shows the variety of funding that support family choice. The packet also has a link to a short video explaining mixed delivery system.</p> <p>https://earlylearning.hawaii.gov/early-learning-opportunities-in-hawaii/</p> <p><i>Outcome: Information, discussion.</i></p> <p><i>Public comment</i></p>	
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Next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 12, 2024

Public Written Testimony addressing items on the agenda: Interested persons may submit written testimony via email to Tara Castrovinci at tara.castrovinci@eoel.hawaii.gov. For easier recognition, please include the word “TESTIMONY” in the email subject line. Testimony may also be hand delivered or mailed to Tara Castrovinci, Executive Office on Early Learning, Prince Jonah Kūhiō Elementary, 2759 S. King Street, Room C6, Honolulu, HI, 96826. Written testimony must be received no later than 3 p.m. on Nov. 12, 2024, for Board consideration and possible inclusion in the Board Packet. Any written testimony submitted after such time will be retained as part of the record and will be distributed to Board members at the beginning of the meeting. Written testimony may be part of the Board Packet and posted on the Board website; given that possibility, the public should be mindful about sharing personal information in their written testimony.

Remote Oral Testimony addressing items on the agenda may also be provided during the meeting. To provide Video/Zoom Testimony, interested persons may use the Zoom Meeting link https://hidoe.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEseuuqj8qGtfhGwrroC_LXXdEK1-MG38v. They may use any one of the following methods to offer oral testimony: indicate in the chat they wish to offer oral testimony when the Chair announces an agenda item; call or email Tara Castrovinci (see email/phone number below) by 9 am on the day of the meeting to request that the testifier be called on by name to present oral testimony; or, use the “raise hand” feature in Zoom. Public oral testimony is limited to 2 minutes per agenda item and must address items listed on the published agenda.

Board Packets (Meeting Materials) are available on the EOEL/ELB Website at <https://rebrand.ly/ELB>. The Board Packet will also be available for public inspection in the EOEL’s Office (Prince Jonah Kūhiō Elementary, 2759 S. King Street, Room C6, Honolulu, HI, 96826)

The ELB is conducting in-person meetings at the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Center for Early Education and Development (CEED), 2nd Floor Kindergarten and Children’s Aid Association (KCAA Preschools

of Hawaii) location (2707 South King Street, 2nd floor, Honolulu, HI 96826) with some Board members joining remotely. The Public may attend the meeting in person, or may join remotely using the link below:

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Captioning is available through Zoom; the host will turn it on for all.

If you need auxiliary aids/services or other accommodation due to a disability, contact Tara Castrovinci at (808) 784-5350 or at tara.castrovinci@eoel.hawaii.gov as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible will allow adequate time to fulfill your request. Upon request, this notice is available in alternative formats.

If the Zoom connection is interrupted during the meeting, the meeting will recess for up to thirty (30) minutes to allow staff to attempt to restore connectivity. If the audiovisual connection cannot be restored, the meeting may reconvene with audio only using the phone information listed above. If the connection cannot be restored within thirty (30) minutes of interruption, the Board may continue the meeting by notifying the public of the date, time, and place of the meeting at earlylearning.hawaii.gov/about-us/early-learning-board/. Otherwise, the meeting will be automatically terminated.

For help with Zoom, visit: <https://support.zoom.com/hc/en>