Youth people are balancing rapid change, locally and globally, with unprecedented opportunities and challenges. To support students in shaping a positive future for themselves and our state, the Board of Education (BOE) and Department of Education (HIDOE) are partnering with the community to review and extend the state’s Strategic Plan for public education. Our planning has been grounded in listening to students and the community about our students’ hopes and aspirations, what inspires them to learn at their best, and supports that they need to succeed.

This spring, HIDOE conducted 108 diverse focus groups across the state and heard from 1,429 people through an online survey (see Phase I report, below). This fall, you can get involved at BOE community meetings (bit.ly/SPCommMtgs) to provide input on a plan that will support student success for every student at every school. Everyone also can continue to contribute by posting ideas to the community conversation blog (hiqualityed.tumblr.com) and sharing posts on social media with #HIQualityEd.

Hawai’i’s updated and extended Strategic Plan will be completed by December 2016, and will inform the state plan for the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, BOE policies, budget cycles and more. It will:

• Support all of our youth so they can achieve their goals;
• Support student, classroom and school-level innovations to improve quality education and state office innovations to better support schools and student learning; and
• Support a positive path forward that builds on growth and lessons learned.

OUR MISSION
We serve our community by developing the academic achievement, character, and social-emotional well-being of our students to the fullest potential. We work with partners, families, and communities to ensure that all students reach their aspirations from early learning through college, career, and citizenship.

OUR VISION
Hawai’i’s students are educated, healthy, and joyful lifelong learners who contribute positively to our community and global society.

TIMELINE

April-June: Broad community input (statewide focus groups, interviews, online survey) to define student success and how to support it.


August-September: DOE/BOE community meetings to gather input on state strategies to ensure they support the updated definition of student success, school and community innovations, professional development, leadership and more. Align key concepts within planning & policy: ESSA, BOE policies, biennium budget cycle.

October: Draft of Strategic Plan update presented to Board, public comment period begins.

November: Summary of public comments, alignment within planning and policy.

December: Present final plan to Board of Education.

PHASE I REPORT
The statewide listening tour provided an opportunity to hear from students, educators, parents, and community members. Focus group coordinators made a particular effort to talk with a diverse range of students, providing an opportunity to learn about how students with different experiences define success, and the types of support that will help them meet their goals. The independent analysis of focus group and survey input found a great deal of common ground for a definition of student success. Students are:

• Giving back to the community, environment, and world.
• Discovering and pursuing their passions so they can reach their full potential.
• Demonstrating strong academic and soft skills, and showing an ability to think critically, solve problems, and apply knowledge to new situations or contexts.
• Being prepared for life after high school, including setting clear goals and developing short- and long-term engagement in learning.
• Exhibiting strength, confidence, and resilience in their everyday lives, and being generally healthy and happy.
• Gaining strong cultural understanding and appreciation for Hawai’i.