

# Superintendent's EDUCATION UPDATE

HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION | MAY 2019

## New contracting method expediting repairs

The Hawai'i State Department of Education (HIDOE) is more quickly working through backlogged roof repair projects at schools utilizing a new contracting method to expedite common repairs.

The Department successfully completed several roofing projects in recent weeks using a method known as Job Order Contracting (JOC), a key part of HIDOE's Future Schools Now initiative.

The JOC method allows the Department to contract several vendors through competitive bidding to perform commonly encountered repair projects at fixed prices over the life of a multi-year contract, rather than having to bid out individual repair jobs. Eight school roof repair projects took on average 34 days to move through the procurement process

using JOC. Construction completion ranged from eight days to 23 days. By comparison, the traditional design-bid-build method takes on average seven years to move through the appropriation,

design, bidding and construction phases for HIDOE projects.

Over the last three months, HIDOE has procured more than \$2 million in roof repair construction work.



Castle High's auditorium roof restoration took 31 days to move through the procurement process.

## Ala Wai El's Kwee named national LifeChanger of the Year

Lori Kwee, a fourth grade teacher at Ala Wai Elementary School, was named a national 2018-2019 LifeChanger of the Year Grand Prize Finalist during an assembly held in her school's cafeteria.



Kwee

Kwee received a \$5,000 prize, which will be awarded as a \$2,500 individual prize and a \$2,500 donation to Ala Wai Elementary School. The award was presented by National Life Group representative Mallorie Manosh, as well as Kwee's principal and nominator, Michelle DeBusca.

Kwee is being recognized for her ground-breaking approach to

educating students. At the beginning of each school year, she asks her students two questions: "What are you interested in? What are you curious about?" These two questions shape the instruction her students receive.

For the 2018-19 school year, Kwee has themed her instruction around anti-bullying. She established a safe classroom environment where students could talk about bullying without fear of punishment, retribution, criticism or embarrassment. Two of her students even admitted they were bullies themselves, and they were able to see the negative impact their actions had on others.

Through this process, students learned about forgiveness, forgiving their bullies, and forgiving themselves. When one of the

student bullies had to leave the school because of family circumstances, her students organized a farewell party. They produced video clips, wrote letters, and made a Lego statue in his honor. The bully became their friend.

"The value of the process to provide meaningful opportunities for our students to activate their voice can't be measured," said DeBusca. "Lori has elevated student motivation to levels that go beyond an assignment, grade, or even the school day. It's just amazing how her instruction has inspired teachers, students, parents, and myself."

Kwee was selected as a LifeChanger of the Year winner out of more than 832 educators and school employees nationwide.

# STRIVE HI

## Opportunities

### EDUCATORS

All HIDOE employees are invited to participate in a survey for the adoption of the **National Health Education Standards: Achieving Excellence (NHES)**.

The HIDOE is advancing the adoption of the NHES and projecting to present to the Hawai'i State Board of Education in the school year 2019-2020. The survey will be available until June 5.

<http://bit.ly/2XQVbfg>

### The Good Idea Grant

**Program** from the Public Schools of Hawai'i Foundation is designed to enhance innovation in the classroom and challenge teachers to think creatively and boldly. Grants up to \$3,000 each will be awarded to support innovative programs that strive to increase student interest and academic achievement.

Apply by June 14. <http://psfh.org/grant-program/>

Apply for a \$2,500 or \$5,000 grant from the **NEA Foundation Learning & Leadership Grants**. The NEA Foundation provides grants to support public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or faculty and staff in public institutions of higher education. Apply by June 1.

<https://www.neafoundation.org/for-educators/learning-and-leadership-grants/>

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## More students graduate with honors

SCHOOL DESIGN TEACHER COLLABORATION STUDENT VOICE

More than one fourth of the graduates in the Class of 2018 statewide earned a Hawai'i State Department of Education's (HIDOE) Honors Recognition Certificate, completing a rigorous course of study to prepare them for college and career. To receive an Honors Recognition Certificate, students must meet all of the requirements for a Hawai'i high school diploma with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 and complete additional, rigorous requirements such as earning additional credits in math and science and meeting or exceeding performance-based assessments.

The recently published College and Careers Readiness Indicators Report (CCRI) released by Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education shows a steady increase in the number of students who have earned the HIDOE's Honors Recognition Certificate; 28 percent in the Class of 2018, up 10 percentage points from 18 percent in the Class of 2016. The

Honors Certificate program was introduced in 2016, the same year that graduation requirements for all students were made more rigorous with the implementation of Board of Education Policy 102-15. Even with the enhanced graduation requirements, the on-time graduation rate for the Class of 2018 increased to 84 percent from 82 percent for the Class of 2013.

The Class of 2018 also included more students who took the Advanced Placement (AP) exam in high school; 35 percent for the Class of 2018 compared with 27 percent in the Class of 2013. High school completers who scored at least a 3 on an AP exam increased by five percentage points for the Class of 2018 from the Class of 2013. The AP exam is designed to measure students' mastery of AP courses and can earn students college credits.

"Given the opportunities and the right supports, our students are driving their success and attaining

and demonstrating more rigorous learning in greater numbers," said Superintendent Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto. "I want to especially congratulate them, as well as our educators, extended support staff, families and communities who support them. These results validate the work of our ongoing partnership with UH to ensure students are prepared for opportunities after high school."

For more than a decade, UH and HIDOE have collaborated to strengthen alignment between high school and college, so that more students make a successful transition to postsecondary education. The collaborative efforts have included reviewing and revising placement policies at UH campuses to allow students to be placed into college-level courses based on their achievements in high school. Taking dual-credit courses that allows high school students to earn both high school and college credits while in high school, and a number



### HIGH-IMPACT STRATEGIES

[bit.ly/HIDOE-strategies](http://bit.ly/HIDOE-strategies)

of other efforts designed to boost student achievement and success in higher education.

"We are thrilled to see that Hawai'i's public high school graduates are more prepared for college than ever, and I encourage these high school graduates to consider which UH campus will help them meet their career goals. We had the largest ever first time freshmen enrollment at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in history, and we hope that trend continues for all of the UH campuses," said David Lassner, president, UH System.

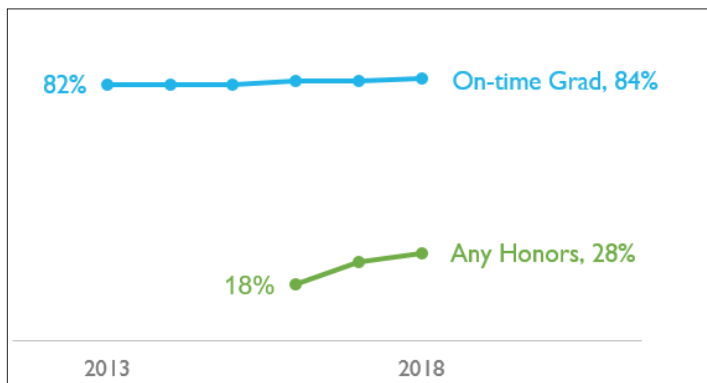
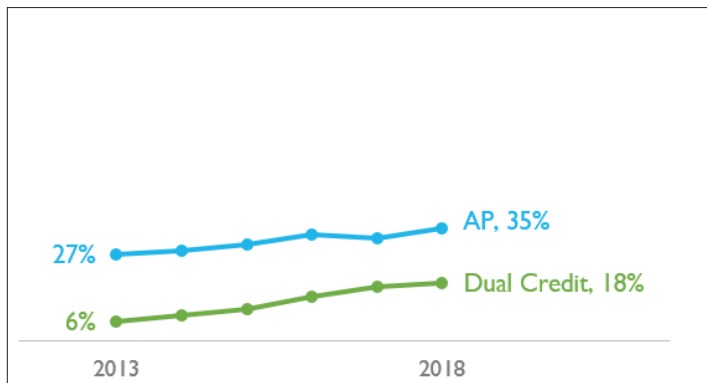


PHOTO: Hawai'i P-20

**TOP:** A higher percentage of students are completing high school on time and earning honors certificates. **BELOW:** The percent of completers taking an AP exam has steadily increased and participation in dual credit has tripled.



### SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

Several schools are spotlighted in College and Careers Readiness Indicators Report by Hawaii P-20, including:

#### HONOKA'A HIGH AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

- Increased college enrollment to 44 percent for the Class of 2018 from 33 percent for the Class of 2013.
- Increased enrollment in college-level English courses to 74 percent for the Class of 2018 from 38 percent with the Class of 2013.
- Decreased enrollment in below college-level math and English courses to 4 percent for the Class of 2018, from 46 percent for the Class of 2013.

#### KAISER HIGH SCHOOL

- More than half of the Class of 2018 earned a HIDOE Honors Certificate.
- 58 percent of students in the Class of 2018 took AP exams, an increase of 26 percentage points from the Class of 2013.
- Increased four-year college enrollment to 58 percent for the Class of 2018 from 44 percent for the Class of 2013.

#### WAIKĀKEA HIGH SCHOOL

- Increased the number of students taking dual credit courses to 31 percent for the Class of 2018, from 8 percent for the Class of 2013.
- Leads the state with the highest increase in high school completers earning six or more dual credits.
- Increased enrollment in college-level math at UH by 25 percentage points, from 34 percent for the Class of 2013 to 59 percent for the Class of 2018.



## Success Stories

MILILANI MIDDLE BREAKS GROUND ON NEW CLASSROOM

MILILANI, OAHU – Construction on Mililani Middle School's New Classroom Building project launched in a groundbreaking ceremony with students, parents, staff and community members. The new three-story structure will house 15 classrooms to serve Mililani Middle's nearly 1,900 students. When complete, the new facility will provide the expanded classroom capacity needed to allow the school to adopt a single-track school year to replace its current multi-track calendar.

"The new classrooms will be a significant expansion and allow Mililani Middle to accommodate its entire student body," said Superintendent Dr. Christina Kishimoto. "They will provide our students enhanced learning opportunities and resources to prepare them for the local and global challenges of the 21st century."

Mililani Middle School currently serves 1,866 students in grades 6 through 8 who come from five elementary feeder schools in the Mililani Complex. Since its opening in 1998, the middle school has operated on a year-round, multi-track calendar to allow the large number of students equitable access to classrooms, teachers and facilities. Students are divided into four groups called tracks that allow instructional time and breaks periods at regular intervals to be distributed among the tracks independently throughout the year. These different instructional schedules currently allow three-fourths of the student body to be in school at any given time.

"The new classroom facilities will expand students' academic opportunities here at the state's largest middle school and help them to achieve their potentials," said Senator Michelle Kidani. "The single-track calendar will also assist parents by keeping children on the same timetable, making it much easier to plan



From left to right: Kahu Kordell Kekoa, City & County of Honolulu Managing Director Roy Amemiya, Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Representative Lauren Matsumoto, Senator Michelle Kidani, First Lady Dawn Amano-Ige, Governor David Ige, Principal Elynne Chung, Representative Ryan Yamane, Representative Val Okimoto.



The new three-story building will provide 15 classrooms (five per floor) and over 34,000 square feet of space, along with a new parking area and utilities, on the campus' west side.



The new facility will provide the expanded classroom capacity needed to allow Mililani Middle to replace its current multi-track calendar with a single-track school year.

daily schedules, extra-curricular activities and family trips."

"Additional classrooms will enable the transition to a single track calendar and provide Mililani families with a better quality

*"They will provide our students enhanced learning opportunities and resources to prepare them for the local and global challenges of the 21st century."*

**SUPERINTENDENT  
DR. CHRISTINA M. KISHIMOTO**

of life," said Senator Donovan Dela Cruz. "We appreciate the Department of Education and City and County of Honolulu for prioritizing this project for the community."

The new three-story building will provide 15 classrooms (five per floor) and over 34,000 square feet of space, along with a new parking area and utilities on the campus' west side. It will be built over approximately one acre of land, previously owned by the City & County of Honolulu's Department of Parks and Recreation, that was formerly part of the adjacent Mililani Mauka Community Park. The new building is anticipated to be ready for use by the spring of 2021 at an approximate construction cost of \$14 million.

"Now in our twenty-first year, the multi-track calendar has served us well and has allowed us to stay a step ahead of population growth in the Mililani community," said Principal Elynne Chung. "When our new building is completed, moving to a single-track calendar will help us to ease the transition between the elementary, middle and high school levels by keeping our students on a regular schedule throughout their academic development."

Mililani Middle is currently the state's largest middle school and has the eighth largest enrollment among public schools statewide, following seven high schools. Two other public schools, Kapolei Middle and Holomua Elementary, are also on multi-track calendars.

## Don't Miss This! EVENTS, DEADLINES & FUN STUFF

### MAY >>>

#### MENES ARE IN THE TOP AGAIN

Moanalua High's art program is once again competing for the \$75,000 top prize in the **Vans Custom Culture Contest!** Public voting ends May 3 at 2:00pm HST (<https://customculture.vans.com/>). Top 5 announcement will be made May 6-10. Good luck, Menes!



### MAY 7

#### NATIONAL TEACHER DAY

If you have a remarkable teacher, give them thanks during **National Teacher Appreciation Week**, May 6-10 and May 7 is National Teacher Day. Show your support for teachers by wearing #REDforED on May 9. Resources: <http://www.nea.org/grants/teacherday.html>



### <<< MAY 6

#### NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Awareness Day 2019: "Suicide Prevention: Strategies That Work" event will take place on May 6. <https://www.samhsa.gov/childrens-awareness-day>



## Supt's Corner DR. CHRISTINA M. KISHIMOTO



With recent positive news around our efforts to expedite school repairs, I thought it'd be a good time to provide some updates on our Future Schools Now initiative. This initiative is a great example of our strategic commitment to modernizing the business side of our education system to create efficiencies that improve work-life experiences.

In November we announced a multi-strategy effort to modernize and streamline our facilities maintenance program. We called it Future Schools Now to convey the urgency of modernizing all of our public schools to foster innovation and world-class learning. By adopting this

standard of quality, we reflect the respect that we have for community, our haumana, and our kumu.

Here's a status update on where we are with the three strategies:

**Job Order Contracting:** Streamlining how we contract repair services to fast-track priority projects.

We began using this new contracting method in January for school roof repairs, and we've already successfully completed eight projects in record time.

Under JOC, these projects took on average 34 days to move through the procurement process while construction ranged from a

week to 23 days.

Over the last three months, we've procured more than \$2 million in roof construction work under JOC, and we have at least a dozen more roof repair projects lined up for the summer.

This will be our new normal.

**CIP Project Tracker:** Increasing stakeholders' access to project details with an online database that provides real-time information.

This database started as an internal tool for our facilities team and Complex Area staff to track and monitor CIP projects from start to finish in real-time. It can also break down our

repair and maintenance list into categories, showing where our greatest needs are.

With added transparency, we will be able to improve equitable access to quality learning spaces through data-informed decision making about project priorities.

**Facilities Master Plan Guide:** Integrating a data- and community-driven facilities study into our planning and budgeting process for capital projects.

This work is still under development and I look forward to sharing a final report soon.

We've created a [resource page](#) on the HIDOE website to provide information and updates on Future Schools Now.

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