

**Department of Education
Queen Liliuokalani Building
Committee on Weights XI
June 21, 2019**

Minutes

Members: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto (Co-Chair), Mitchell Otani (Co-Chair), Kristen Brummel, Erik Burkman, Justin Carmichael, Chad “Keoni” Farias, Carl Hinson, Justin Hughey, Wendy Matsuzaki, Gail Nakaahiki, Noel Richardson, Malaea Wetzel

Absent: Heather Dansdill, Katina Soares, Adam Tuifagu, Osa Tui

Staff: Kimberly Chee, Miles Dodo, Brian Hallett, Keli Houston, Ken Kuraya, Wendy Sekiya, Ryan Shimabuku, Shannah Smith, Gary Zane

Topic	Speaker	Discussion
9:00 a.m. Welcome	Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto and Mitchell Otani	Chair Mitchell Otani welcomed Committee members and thanked them for their attendance.
Approval of June 7, 2019 Minutes		Carl Hinson motion to accept minutes. Justin Hughey second. Passed unanimously.
Public Testimony		Alexandra Obra – Principal, Waiahole Elem. Provided written testimony requesting the Committee on Weights (COW) to consider how WSF creates inequities for small schools. Jennifer Luke-Payne – Principal, Kaaawa Elem. Provided verbal and written testimony to request the COW to consider the basic funding needs of small schools. Richard Seder – Testified in support of Nolan Kawano’s written testimony at the COW July 7, 2019 meeting on the inequities in the distribution of WSF funds. In particular, the use of actual versus average salaries in the purchasing of resources for a school. Elton Konshita – Principal, Lanai High and Elem. Submitted written testimony in support of additional funding for small and rural schools.
Academic Plan and Financial Plan	Wanelle Kaneshiro, Keli Houston, Brian Hallett	Presented the layout of the new academic plan and the current financial plan. Shared with the COW the Department’s new strategic plan “The Promise Plan” and the 5 promise themes - Hawaii, equity, school design, empowerment, and innovation. Requested the COW to keep in mind the 5 promise themes when working on the WSF.
Adequacy	Ken Kuraya, David Shimoda	Reviewed how Washington, California, and Kansas educational jurisdictions define adequacy. Continued discussion on the definition of adequacy.

10:18 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Break		
Small and Rural School Equity	Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto and Mitchell Otani	The COW discussed separating the discussion into two parts - small school equity and rural school equity. Should there be a small school weighted factor within the WSF calculation? How can rural schools be funded adequately?
Teacher Recruitment and Retention	Sean Bacon, Kimberly Miyamoto, Keri Shimomoto	Continue the discussion on the Department's recruitment and retention effort for teachers and induction and mentoring program.
12:10 p.m. Working Lunch		
	Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto and Mitchell Otani	Combined the discussion on teacher recruitment and retention and rural school equity in regards to the use of average salary. Considered a possible weight or a set amount to provide additional resources for rural schools.
Drafting of Committee on Weights XI Recommendation	Small-Group Breakout	<p>The COW broke into small groups to draft recommendation on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Education Fiscal Work Group Recommendation • Adequacy • Academic Plan and Financial Plan • Small and Rural School Equity • Hawaiian Language Immersion Program • Teacher Recruitment and Retention <p>Each group reported their recommendation.</p>
2:29 p.m. Adjournment		