Equity, Excellence & Innovation in Hawai'i's Public Schools

PHASE I FEEDBACK SESSION SCRIPT

Hosting your feedback session is an exciting endeavor and we appreciate you leading it. Conversations like the one you are leading are happening all across the state. The Department of Education developed this script to aid you in moving through the feedback activities and having the most engaging discussion possible with your attendees. The companion Protocol will also aid your conversation. Thank you again for hosting.

SCRIPT

It will take approximately 60-70 minutes total to run through the protocol.

Slide 2: Welcome and Agenda (3 minutes)

Hi, my name is _____ and I'll be facilitating this Hawaii Department of Education Strategic Plan feedback session. (Joining me as facilitator(s) is/are _____.)

We are here to contribute to the creation of the Hawaii Department of Education's new 10-year Strategic Plan by gathering your input around public education as a change agent for Hawai'i. Taking the work that has been done over the past few years, Five Promise Themes have been identified.

Your feedback today will help the Department dive further into what is needed to achieve improved student experiences related to the Five Promise Themes.

Here's a short video from Superintendent Christina Kishimoto to provide a quick introduction to this work.

Slide 3: Video from Superintendent Christina Kishimoto (2 minutes)

(After the video)
For the feedback process today, we will review where we are now with regards to each Promise Theme. After this, we will go through a process where participants will:
- Choose the Promise Theme that most resonates with you.
- Convene into small groups for each theme to engage in discussion and find consensus on two to three "Big Ideas," followed by two to three "Actions" to achieve those ideas by 2030.

Slide 4: Process and Timeline (2 minutes)

The Department is collecting this first phase of feedback through August 1, which will help to inform the first draft of the 2020-2030 Strategic Plan. The second phase of the process will involve soliciting comments and reaction to the first draft, as well as asking participants to put a "stake in the ground" to help make the Strategic Plan vision for 2030 a reality.

By winter of 2020, the Department will present the plan to the Board of Education for approval so we can use it starting with the 2020-2021 school year.

Slide 5: Forward Focus (1 minute)

The stakeholder engagement will run through the beginning of summer and will generate feedback around the work that's needed to bring equity, excellence, and innovation to every public school in Hawai'i.

(Go over questions and responses on the slide)

Slide 6: Promise Themes (2 minutes)

Each Promise Theme addresses qualities that the Department wants the PreK-12 public education experience to embody. These themes are based on Department policies, extensive public feedback gathered during the last round of strategic planning, and on research about effective learning environments.

(Go over 5 themes and promise statements.) The words and phrases in orange represent key ideas and initiatives associated with each Promise Theme.

The work now needs to solidify around **What will it take for all of us to get there by 2030?**

Slide 7: Where are we now? (2 minutes)

Before we move into the discussion of "What will it take to get us there?," let's take some time to reflect on where the Department is now. This slide gives us:
- A broad snapshot of the Department's performance since 2015 (point to a few examples)
- Selected milestones from recent years (point to a few examples)
- As well as some initiatives the Department has initiated moving forward.

This quick overview is by no means comprehensive, so we'll spend some time considering where the Department is at for each of the Five Promise Themes. Let's start with the theme of Hawaii.

Slide 8: Promise Theme for Hawaii (1 minute)

Hawaiʻi - Students will be educated within a public school system that is grounded in HĀ, powers a multilingual society, and honors Hawaii's local and global contributions.

Recognizing the diversity of the families in Hawaii, the Department strives to improve the authenticity and accessibility of learning experiences for all students. The commitment to honor our keiki and their ʻohana are exemplified through the expansion of the Nā Hopena Aʻo (HĀ) Framework, the adoption and implementation of policies around multilingualism and multiculturalism, and the emphasis on positive school culture and safety. If your interest centers around our HA framework, languages, culture, place-based learning, safety & total well-being, then we invite you to provide input on the Hawaiʻi theme.

Slide 9: Promise Theme for Equity (1 minute)

Equity - Students will experience strong relationships and supports that mitigate disempowering differences to enable them to thrive academically, socially, and civically.

Hawaii public schools continue to focus on equity and excellence for all students. We want all students to succeed regardless of social or personal circumstances. The Department has initiated reviews of Special Education and English Learner programs, delivered greater transparency and accessibility of data through dynamic reporting, and brought greater focus to heat abatement, facilities upgrades, and additional personnel supports such as Equity Specialists and Homeless Concerns Liaisons.

Work still needs to be done in areas such as closing the achievement gaps, improving the graduation rate, and addressing Title IX gender equity in schools.

If your interest centers around access to learning, personalization, community, closing achievement gaps, and quality, then we invite you to provide input on the Equity theme.

Slide 10: Promise Theme for School Design (1 minute)

School Design - Students will be immersed in excellent learning environments that are thoughtfully designed around a community's power to contribute to a thriving, sustainable Hawaii.

Schools are currently working on school design profiles to self-assess and articulate models that reflect their unique strengths and needs. The goal is for schools to provide profiles that reflect how time, curriculum, pedagogy, community, and student voices are integrated into designs that prepare students for post-secondary success.

School design profiles answer the following questions:
1. What are a school's instructional practices that increase student engagement and student success?
2. What are our students' learning experiences?
3. What are our students saying?

The work must optimize a student's post-secondary success, whether in college, a career, or in their community. If your interest centers around core values, curriculum, infrastructure, magnets, college & career readiness, and partnerships, then we invite you to provide input on the School Design theme.

Slide 11: Promise Theme for Empowerment (1 minute)

Empowerment - Students will develop their authentic voice as contributors to equity, excellence and innovation, by providing input on what they learn, how they learn, and where they learn.

Many schools engage students in conversations that impact their learning experiences and those of their peers. However, there is a need to look for more opportunities to seek out all students' perspectives, opinions and creativity. There must be ways to create a culture and build internal processes where students can provide input on their learning experience. Equally important is developing new ways teachers can collaborate within the Department and in the community in response to student voices and choices. If your interest centers around student engagement, civic and policy voice, educational leadership, discovery, and choice, then we invite you to provide input on the Empowerment theme.

Slide 12: Promise Theme for Innovation (1 minute)

Innovation - Students will engage in rigorous, technology-rich, problem-solving learning that enables them to solve authentic community challenges and develop pathways to goals.

Innovation in Hawaii requires a shift in mindset towards new ideas, the replacement of dated practices, and a drive toward better solutions. Steps have been taken to modernize technology and resources in schools, for example, by improving business rules and functions around repair and maintenance projects. Innovation Grants support pilot classroom innovations generated by teachers, and teacher-led conferences empower educators to take on more leadership and collaborative roles. In addition, there is a focus on the development of computer science knowledge and skills through the adoption of Computer Science standards and curriculum. How do we drive toward greater innovation in student learning? If your interest centers around applied learning, design thinking, project-based learning, and creativity, then we invite you to provide input on the Innovation theme.

Slide 13: Instructions, Part 1 (5 minutes)

Now we need to focus forward on our vision for the future. What will we see in our schools in 2030? What will students experience in ten years? What are the changes needed to move our educational system forward?

As Hawaii pushes forward in creating a new way of thinking and practice aligned with the assumptions of innovation, the Department needs your help to have conversations on what we want to see for our students in 2030 and what it will take to get there.

<u>1-2 minutes</u>
At this time, look around the room at the posters for each Promise Theme. (Point out the posters around the room for each theme.)   Take some time to think about the Promise Theme that most resonates with you. When you're ready, move to that theme.

Groups will not be assigned and it is okay to have different numbers of people in each theme. Go to a theme that resonates with you and where you feel that you can contribute.

<u>2-3 minutes</u>
Please take this time to gather your belongings and move to the poster of your chosen theme. (*Group should reassemble around the room under/near posters.*)

Slide 14: Instructions, Part 2 (15-20 minutes)

Now that you've chosen your groups, each group will need to choose a recorder. (*Give groups time to choose their recorder.*) Would the recorder from each group please raise their hand? (*Acknowledge the recorders raising their hands.*) Thank you!

From this point, I will be the timekeeper. I will also give two- and one- minute warnings as the time limits approach.

(*Go over instructions on the slide.*)

<u>3-5 minutes</u>
Each person should individually write their responses on the small post-it notes. Keep in mind the question, "What will students see, feel, and experience in Hawaii's public schools in 2030?"

<u>10-12 minutes</u>
(*Bring the group together for discussion. Optional: Have group members briefly introduce themselves to one another if the group is unfamiliar to each other.*)

We are looking for consensus on two or three Big Ideas, so please work together in identifying a few shared ideas that rise to the top. Have the recorder add the two or three Big Ideas that rise to the top on the poster.

There will be an opportunity for those ideas that weren't part of the group consensus to be recorded later if someone in your group feels they should still be included.

Slide 15: Instructions, Part 3 (15-20 minutes)

(*Refocus the attention from the whole group and go over the instructions on Slide 15*.)

The focus is forward facing. Don't get stuck on "what we're doing wrong" and instead focus on what it will take to change. Focus not only on money and resources, but also on other agents of change such as policy shifts, expanded partnerships with community groups and businesses, infrastructure, and other out of the box solutions.

Again, we are looking for consensus.

Have the recorder from the group capture the Big Ideas and Actions on the larger post-it notes and put them up on the poster.

Slide 16: Instructions, Part 4 (7 minutes)

(*Refocus the attention from the whole group and go over the instructions on Slide 16.*)

At this point, we need to capture the group's work through a survey tool. Please ensure only one representative from each group fills out the survey tool. If you are able to access the survey online, please come up and get a link or QR code from me.

(*For groups that are unable to access the survey online, please give them a hard copy version of the survey with the instructions that they need to return the form to you once they are done.*)

If time permits, please feel free to do a gallery walk of the work each group has done on the Five Promise Themes while we wrap up our sessions.

Slide 17: Closing (2 minutes)

Thank you so much again for your participation today. All of the feedback we collected will be analyzed and will inform the Strategic Plan draft which will be available in September 2019. That's all for today, everyone! Thank you for coming and have a great rest of your day/evening.