Public input sought on ESSA plan, Strive HI 3.0

The Hawaii DOE is soliciting input on the Hawaii Consolidated State Plan to address federal funding under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

The Board of Education approved the process for the state’s ESSA plan at its meeting on April 18, 2017. A public comment period was initiated with that approval, which will close on May 18.

In conjunction with the public comment period on the ESSA draft plan, feedback will be gathered on updates to the accountability system, Strive HI 3.0, also through May 18.

Access the ESSA draft plan, executive summary and links to feedback surveys online: bit.ly/HIESAdraft.

Industry-led C2C coalition launches

The Hawaii DOE announced its Connect to Careers (C2C) coalition alongside partners at the Hawaii Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund facility in Kapolei. The initiative is designed to collaboratively prepare students for success in high-skill, in-demand career pathways.

“Preparing students to be ready for life after high school is an evolving target, and it is important that professionals from various industries and trades are involved to ensure we are providing the right skill sets and aptitudes in our schools,” said Supt. Kathryn Matayoshi.

The effort has three pillars:

Business-led: Industry identifies needed entry-level skill sets and aptitudes, and collaborates on degrees and certifications that prepare students for these opportunities.

Aligned curriculum and opportunities: The K-16 educational systems coordinate relevant and rigorous learning pathways that answer these needs.

Tracking effectiveness: Data and industry feedback are used to determine which pathways are leading to successful careers and incomes that build and sustain thriving communities in Hawai‘i.

“C2C is transformative work that we believe will put students on a path towards success and result in an innovative workforce,” said Sherry Menor-McNamara, president and CEO, Chamber Commerce of Hawaii.

The Castle Foundation approved up to $200,000 to be spent within C2C to improve and expand career academies — Waipahu High ($30,000), Farrington High ($29,600), Kapa‘a High ($29,100), Kapolei High ($20,550), Waimea High ($28,513), and Pearl City High ($30,000) — and to support the coalition work.

GenCyber Hawaii Teacher Camps are for teachers who are passionate about providing students with the tools they need to be safe and responsible online. Walk away from camp with a comprehensive set of teaching materials mapped to appropriate standards, including lesson plans, a robotic starter kit, and project ideas for your classrooms. FREE, with locations on four islands on dates through June and July. www.gen-cyber.com/camp/info/hawaiiteacher2017

OCISS is hosting a workshop on Delivering Puberty and Sexual Health Education: Core Skills for grades K-5 (June 27) and 6-12 (June 28) at the OCISS Annex in Honolulu. Sexual health education is one vital component of a planned, ongoing, and systematic health education program; training will provide participants with strategies and resources to increase their skill and comfort level in delivering developmentally appropriate education. pde3.k12.hi.us
**National Distinguished Principal Nelson Shigeta**

The Hawaii Elementary and Middle Schools Administrators Association named Principal Nelson Shigeta from Makaha Elementary as the 2017 National Distinguished Principal. Shigeta will join the National Association of Elementary School Principals awardees from the other 49 states in Washington D.C. in October.

“Those school leaders possess strong collaborative values, working with their teachers and staff to create effective school communities to support students,” said Deputy Supt. Keith Hayashi. “Congratulations to all of the nominees, Principal Nelson Shigeta and the Outstanding Vice Principal of the Year Greg Nakasone.”

Shigeta is a veteran educator who has spent many years on the Leeward Coast. He increased the 1:1 device program for students in order to enhance access to leveled texts in each classroom. As a result, students have spent more than 5,000 hours reading a total of 19,000 books, and reading proficiency has improved.

“I’m humbled to be recognized, especially after hearing the stories of the other nominees,” shared Shigeta. “Leadership is a team effort and nominees,” shared Shigeta.

**$25,000 Tokioka Award: Darlene Javar**

The Island Insurance Foundation presented Darlene Javar, principal of Na‘alehu Elementary, with its 13th annual Masayuki Tokioka Excellence in School Leadership Award at the annual Public Schools of Hawaii Foundation banquet.

The $25,000 award, named in honor of the founder of the company, is presented annually to a public school principal who is visionary, community-minded and has an entrepreneurial spirit.

“Principal Javar exemplifies the type of leadership that can transform our public schools into model learning institutions,” said Tyler Tokioka, president of the Island Insurance Foundation.

Javar received $15,000 for a school project of her choice and an additional $10,000 cash award. The foundation also presented a $2,000 cash award to the top two semi-finalists, Linell Dilwith of Stevenson Middle and Elynne Chung of Mililani Middle.

Fourteen candidates were nominated for the award. They each received $1,000 and a plaque, which were presented to them at a ceremony on April 1. The other 11 nominees:

- Brendan Burns, Aina Haina El
- Mark Elliott, King Kekaulike High
- Daniel Hamada, Kapa‘a High
- Debra Hatada, Kaimiloa El
- Lisa Higa, Nanakuli El
- Marcy Kagami, Nimitz El
- Keley Koga, Waiakea High
- Gay Kong, Keolu El
- Derek Minakami, Kaneohe El
- Shawn Suzuki, Konawaena High
- Troy Takazono, Waiau El

**Rewards & Recognition Program Recipients**

Schools and state-level programs require skilled and talented educational officers who ensure smooth operations and delivery of services. The Rewards and Recognition Program was established to acknowledge the contribution of these exceptional administrators in their varying capacities across the school system. Congratulations to:

- Christine Alexander, Vice Principal, Mililani High
- Esmeralda Carini, District Educational Specialist, Kailua-Kalaeo Complex Area
- Linell Dilwith, Principal, Stevenson Middle
- Traci Fujita, Accounting Operations Specialist, OFS-Accounting Services Branch
- Sherry Gonsalves, Principal, Kilauea El
- April Iwalani Harris, Vice Principal, Kea‘au El
- Albert Hetrick, Vice Principal, Radford High
- Jeff Hooper, Administrator, OHR-Educator Effectiveness Section (EES)
- Kelli Kihara, District Educational Specialist, OHR-EES
- Keley Koga, Principal, Waiakea High
- Laureen Ladao, Personnel Specialist, OHR-Negotiations
- Marlene Leary, Vice Principal, Kapa‘a El
- Rachel Matsumura, Principal, Honoka‘a High & Int.
- Brent Mizutani, School Renewal Specialist, Kauai Complex Area
- Joseph Passantino, Vice Principal, Kaewai El
- Beth Schimmelfennig, Director, OOS-Civil Rights Compliance Office
- Ryan Shimabuku, Budget Specialist, Budget Branch
- Diane Spencer, Vice Principal, Konawaena High
- James Sunday, Principal, Radford High
- Fern Yoshida, Standards Specialist, OCISS-School Literacy Innovation & Improvement Section.
Ewa Elementary dedicated a new building before hundreds of students, teachers, parents and community members. The new one-story building provides three kindergarten classrooms, three first grade classrooms and one special education classroom, along with a tech lab, a faculty center and a conference room.

“Kindergarten and first grade learning are critical for our students to become engaged, lifelong learners,” said Supt Kathryn Matayoshi. “The new classrooms and technology help our students to become complex thinkers and effective communicators, giving them an edge in their future learning.”

Learn more: c-sail.org/maps/standards-policies-features

Ewa Elementary building adds grades K, 1 classrooms

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Each new classroom includes wall-mounted projectors and sliding whiteboards, along with three smaller instructional rooms shared between them. A mixed-mode split air conditioning system will allow teachers to manually activate or deactivate cooling in their classrooms as an energy saving measure.

“The first years of learning really mold students’ thinking processes, creativity and attitudes toward school and we want to keep that creativity strong past the first years of learning,” said Complex Area Superintendant Heidi Armstrong. “The technology, comfort and 21st century learning is placed in a building that reflects the traditional Ewa community style.”

Construction of the new 13,000 square-foot building began in March 2015 at an approximate cost of $6 million. Also included: walkways, a fire access road, utilities, drainage, irrigation, landscaping and a trash enclosure.

Maui Waena, Chiefess Kamakahelei dominate at STN Convention

Hawai’i’s middle schools made a statement at the 14th annual Student Television Network (STN) national convention in Anaheim, Calif. Of the 30 awards earned by Hawai’i’s public schools, 14 were awarded to Maui Waena Intermediate and Chiefess Kamakahelei Middle at seven each, including 1st place finishes.

Among Hawai’i’s public high schools, Moanalua High’s MeneMAC team garnered four awards including a 1st place finish.

Thousands of students gathered at the Hilton Anaheim for four days of competition and workshops. Students were given strict time deadlines to conceptualize, write, shoot and edit their entries on site. In the “Crazy 8s” competitions, for example, students completed four-minute newscasts or films in eight hours. Teachers were not allowed to help. Watch the top finishers: bit.ly/HISTN17.
Supt.'s Corner

Four years ago, educational leaders from Hawai‘i’s K-12, early ed and post-secondary institutions pledged in a “Promise to Children” to accept the retributions pledged in a “Promise (caring for Island Earth) by early ed and post-secondary leaders from Hawai‘i’s K-12, Supt.’s Corner powering student agency to answer the pressing needs of a planet that is in crisis.

We believe that by inspiring children to explore, discover and learn about Island Earth, they will navigate the future of humanity toward vitality, renewal, and compassion.

“Hawai‘i is with us,” said master navigator Nainoa Thompson at the signing of the Promise. And Hawai‘i is ready to be a voice for what comes next.

The Hōkūle‘a is nearing the end of its global journey to connect communities and help them rethink and engage with one another. Using the skills and knowledge of Polynesians from a millennium ago, who navigated with stars, sun, wind and current, the crews of the wa‘a showed us that solutions to many challenges are rooted in our understanding of the past, in the cultural practices that champion resource management and sustainability, in the kuleana that invigorates leaders and learners to step up and be responsible.

From Lunalilo Elementary to Kaimukī High, students and educators have answered the call by transforming their classrooms, campuses and community assets into living labs and canvases for deeper understanding of their kuleana, and connected with communities worldwide to share and learn from each other.

As this newsletter is going to press, I’m wrapping up a series of meetings in Raiatea while the Hōkūle‘a and Hikianalia are there to ensure our schools continue to collaborate with our Pacific Island ‘ohana, and to see that reflected in our educational outcomes.

We remember that this collaboration is not only about mālama for the ocean, air and land, but mālama for people. We remember the promise to navigate the future of humanity toward vitality, renewal, and compassion.

It is ingrained in the Hawai‘i DOE’s ends policy, Nā Hopena A‘o, to strengthen the sense of belonging, responsibility, excellence, aloha, total well-being, and Hawai‘i among all those who touch our K-12 system.

As we welcome home our beloved Hōkūle‘a, we write the next chapter in this essential story.

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<tr>
<th>MAY 8-12</th>
<th>TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK</th>
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<td>We love teachers all year long, but this is the time to really let loose! Help the National Parent Teacher Association celebrate the hard work and dedication of teachers and their power to deliver inspiration, knowledge and motivation. Share your stories, photos and video to social media with #ThankATeacher. Fun resources to celebrate with are available on the PTA website: <a href="http://www.pta.org/TeacherToolkit">www.pta.org/TeacherToolkit</a>. Let’s show Hawai‘i’s teacher superstars the aloha!</td>
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<tr>
<th>MAY 14-20</th>
<th>HAWAI‘I’S BRIGHTEST COMPETE</th>
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<td>Sending good luck vibes to our students competing at national competitions — MATHCOUNTS in Orlando, FL May 14-15 (with three Washington Middle students and one Iao Intermediate student), the International Science and Engineering Fair in Los Angeles May 14-19 (about a dozen public school students are going), and to Highlands Intermediate’s science team at the National Science Olympiad at Wright State University May 19-20. Imua, kids!</td>
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<th>MAY 26</th>
<th>SCHOOL’S OUT FOR STUDENTS!</th>
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<td>Where did the school year go? Sending a hearty congratulations to all of our graduates who will be walking in ceremonies throughout May — view list of ceremonies: bit.ly/HIDOEgrad17. Summer school is available at a number of our schools as well as our online e-School (bit.ly/summer808). School year 2017-18 begins August 7 for students; teachers begin August 1. Have a wonderful summer break!</td>
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<th>JUN 17-20</th>
<th>HŌKULE‘A HOMECOMING</th>
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<td>The party of the year (June 17 at Magic Island in Honolulu) will greet the return of Hawai‘i’s great wa‘a, Hōkūle‘a and Hikianalia, from their global journey, to be followed by three days of sharing stories of hope inspired by the Worldwide Voyage at the Mālama Honua Fair &amp; Summit at the Hawai‘i Convention Center, Hōkūle‘a Canoe Tours, Polynesian Voyaging Society benefit dinner and more. Visit <a href="http://www.hokulea.com/home">www.hokulea.com/home</a> for details.</td>
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Don’t Miss This! EVENTS, DEADLINES & FUN STUFF

HawaiiPublicSchools.org | 808-586-3230 | Email: doe_info@hawaiidoe.org | Social: [Links]