

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
COMMITTEE ON WEIGHTS IX MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, June 9, 2015  
Board Conference Room**

Members: Present: Suzanne Mulcahy (Chair), Audra Chang, Paul Daugherty, Brandon Gallagher, Jan Iwase, Elton Kinoshita, Glen Miyasato, Cary Miyashiro, Sharlene Morimoto, Fred Murphy, Bruce Naguwa, Gail Nakaahiki, Chad Okamoto, Mitch Otani, and Bill Taylor

Excused: Roxane Martinez

Staff: Kimberly Chee, Brian Hallett, Ken Kuraya, Eric Nouchi and Wendy Sekiya

Topic	Who	Discussion
Opening – 8:58 a.m.	Suzanne Mulcahy	Welcomed Committee members. Switched the order of the program group committee reports for Athletics and Food Service. Members quickly introduced themselves again for the sake of new members present.
Review and approval of March 6, 2015 meeting minutes	Committee	Members reviewed minutes. Cary Miyashiro moved to approve minutes. Paul Daugherty second. Approved unanimously
Public Testimony	Suzanne Mulcahy	Asked members to review the 6 written testimonies submitted.
	Cary Miyashiro	Summarized testimony from Mahina Anguay, Principal of Waimea High School that Athletics, Utilities and Student Transportation should not be put into the weights.
	Suzanne Mulcahy	Summarized that Shelley Ferrara, Principal of Mauka Lani Elem, wants Athletics funds to go into the weights so that elementary schools can get a share for PE supplies and equipment and intramurals.
	Cary Miyashiro	Clarified that Athletics only goes to high schools and no funds goes to elementary.
	Bruce Naguwa	Ms. Ferrara would like 75% of the funds provided to the school level including funds for Student Council and JPO.
	Cary Miyashiro	Summarized testimony from Jason Kuloloia, Principal of Kapaa Elem. He expressed that he would like to keep Utilities and Student Transportation in a centralized budget and not included in WSF.
	Suzanne Mulcahy	Summarized that Russ Hasegawa, Principal from Koloa Elementary is opposed to adding Utilities and Athletics to WSF. Neighbor island schools already have a challenge in funding athletics.
	Bill Taylor	Summarized testimony from Marlene Leary, Vice Principal of Kapaa Elem is also against adding Athletics, Food Service, Student Transportation and Utilities into WSF.
	Fred Murphy	Summarized testimony submitted from the Secondary Principals Forum. Do not want Athletics, School Food Service, Transportation, and Utilities included in WSF.

Topic	Who	Discussion
	Suzanne Mulcahy	Recognized that principal entrepreneurship is an idea that needs to be further discussed beyond COW IX.
		No in-person testimony submitted.
Fiscal Biennium 2015-2017 Update	Brian Hallett	Introduced audience members Nandana Kalupahana and Albert Vargas, staff of the House Finance Committee. Presented details on the Department's biannual budget request to the Governor and how they relate to the Department's Strategic Plan, Basic operations vs. strategic investment, School or All Levels, and EDN.
	Eric Nouchi	Update on Department's budget as approved by the Legislature for FY2015-2016.
	Bruce Naguwa	Inquired if the requests for Workers Comp and Skilled Nursing Services are for additional funding?
	Eric Nouchi	Yes, it is and we didn't get it. The Department will need to address the projected shortfall.
	Suzanne Mulcahy	Request committee members after learning the truth about the budget, please assist in correcting the myths out there. We are 51 <sup>st</sup> in nation on spending on administration, which is only 3% of the general fund budget.
	Glen Miyasato	Inquired if the zero amount given for Student Transportation and Utilities in the budget for FY17, does that indicate that the Legislature does not agree on how well those programs are being administered?
	Brian Hallett	Suggested the Legislatures may want to have the opportunity to take a look at the program during the next session, so leaving a zero funding in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> year ensures the dialog to continue between the Department and the Legislature.
	Eric Nouchi	The Department will ask in the supplemental budget for additional funds for these programs.
	Mitch Otani	Principals need to be more proactive in supporting efforts to try to get more funds.
Principal Engagement Report	Suzanne Mulcahy	Request committee members to review each section of the principal engagement report. What are some of their thoughts on how the engagements went?
	Chad Okamoto	Felt it was time well spent. Provided principals, gives a better idea of what the principals want.
	Cary Miyashiro	Realized that a lot of principals don't know how the funds are allocated.
	Suzanne Mulcahy	Recommends Principals need more training on budget.
	Glen Miyasato	Express surprise that Gifted and Talented factor is larger than English Language Learners.
	Fred Murphy	Gifted and Talented should not be considered a weight because all schools receive the same percentage.

Topic	Who	Discussion
	Jan Iwase	Basically we don't have adequate funding. We need to figure out how to get more funds.
Impact of WSF Budget Increase to WSF Per Pupil Funding	Kimberly Chee	Presented information that for every \$200,000 added into the WSF pot, it'll equate to \$1/student, with the current tentative enrollment and weighting factors we have at the schools now. But they will also now be tasked with providing that service.
Program Study Group Meetings		
Program Study Group Report – Athletics	Mitch Otani	<p>Group recommended that Athletics remain categorical and not be added to WSF. Possibly look at tiered funding and making AD's categorical again.</p> <p>Identified that small schools would be hurt by adding it to WSF, may not be able to keep existing programs, and may not be able to provide funding for adequate number of athletic trainers.</p>
Program Study Group Report – Food Service	Brandon Gallagher	<p>\$15 Million in Food Service. Group recommended that a new working group be created to review the program with the end goal of being a report to identify possible changes for the overall program.</p> <p>Create a pilot food service program to implement an entrepreneurial foods service management plan that focused on the whole food service program rather than just one funding component (general funds).</p> <p>Overall Food Service should not be added to WSF.</p> <p>Identified that distributing funds equitably would be difficult, enrollment vs. lunch count could vary greatly depending on the school. Schools and School Food Service Managers are not equipped to meet Federal guidelines. Cost savings would be lost if schools are required to negotiate individually with suppliers.</p>
Program Study Group Report – Student Transportation	Cary Miyashiro	<p>Can funds be distributed equitably? No, Honolulu uses the city bus system. Neighbor islands have higher costs but have lower enrollment. They don't have public bus transportation as an alternative.</p> <p>Is it equitable now? Neighbor Island buses are provided. Honolulu district would receive funds and not need it.</p> <p>Student Transportation should be left out of the WSF.</p>

Topic	Who	Discussion
		Alternatively, looking at DOE owning their own Buses. Also looked a tiered pricing, right now it's either free or fee, but could implement reduced rate.
	Bruce Nugawa	Can counties put funds into the pot to offset the deficits?
	James Kauhi	Hana High and EI will be piloting a new Student Transportation program, with the Department owning the buses and staffing drivers with DOE employees performing dual duties to equal a full time position.
Program Study Group Report – Utilities	Chad Okamoto	<p>\$50 Million budget for gas, sewer, electricity, and water.</p> <p>Recommendation is to not include it in WSF. But possibly change Act 51 language to include “spent on behalf of” principals.</p> <p>Does not account of fluctuations in prices, does not account for new facilities or equipment, does not account for budget shortfalls from the legislature, and schools should be focused on improving student achievement rather than paying utility bills.</p>
	Suzanne Mulcahy	If other people were here listening to the discussion, would they be satisfied with what we are saying? What else would we need to provide for our Superintendent, Board of Education, and the Legislature?
	Sharlene Morimoto	Transportation looked at changing Board of Education policy
	Paul Daugherty	How does the State pay utilities?
	Gilbert Chun	<p>All sewer, water, electricity and gas bills come to our office and we pay for it. If a school was given a budget and a bill comes in that's double for no reason the school would need to pay for it.</p> <p>No schools with PV are at net zero. Schools are capped by HECO to 100 kw generating capacity. Most schools exceed this amount of electricity. And during the summer months, the Department still has to pay for electricity generated even though it's not being used.</p>
	Brandon Gallagher	Department should purchase our own PV rather than sign a Power Purchase Agreement.
	Gilbert Chun	The Department is not eligible for state and federal solar tax credit. Also, we do not have the personnel to install and maintain the PV systems.
Next Steps	Suzanne Mulcahy	What should we discuss at the next meeting?
	Brian Hallett	One thing is to bring the program people in to talk to the full committee.

Topic	Who	Discussion
		A new issue is substitutes. Requesting Committee to make a recommendation on whether or not to include it in WSF.
	Paul Daugherty	ELL
	Brian Hallett	Title I
	Suzanne Mulcahy	GT
	Jan Iwase	SBBH
	Paul Daugherty	School Health Aids
Adjourned at 2:33 p.m.		