

Department of Education
Queen Liliuokalani Building
Committee on Weights X
Meeting 5 Minutes
May 5, 2017

Members: Mitchell Otani (Chair), Chad “Keoni” Farias (Vice Chair), Daniel Hamada, Gail Nakaahiki, Justin Hughey, Osa Tui, Ann Paulino, Elton Kinoshita, Jan Iwase, Wendy Matsuzaki, Glen Miyasato, Cary Miyashiro, Bill Taylor

Absent: Bruce Naguwa (Retired) and Roxane Martinez

Staff: Kimberly Chee, Brian Hallett, Ken Kuraya, Gary Zane, Lizbeth Guadiz-Franco

| Topic | Speaker | Discussion |
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| Opening 9:12 AM | Mitchell Otani (Chair) | Chair reviewed the day’s agenda. Invited members to attend the BOE FIC committee meeting on Tuesday, May 23, 2017, at about 11:30 a.m. Mr. Otani and Mr. Farias will be presenting the Committee on Weights X recommendations to the Board of Education Finance and Infrastructure Committee. |
| Public Testimony | | No Public Testimony |
| Review of Minutes March 31, 2017 Meeting 4 | Mitchell Otani | Approved with amendments. Daniel Hamada motioned, Cary Miyashiro second. Passed unanimously. |
| Legislative Update | Brian Hallett | For BFY 2017-19, the Department received an additional \$15 million more in the first year and \$10 million more in the 2 nd year. There was no increase for Weighted Student Formula. SB 553 – which was to create a categorical program for smaller schools - stalled in Finance committee. A complete listing of everything we got in the biennium budget was provided. We are grateful for everything the Department received. This legislative session seemed to emphasize support for Homeless Programs, Office of Hawaiian Education, some categorical programs, Civil Rights Compliance, and Title IX Compliance. |
| Discussion on Additional Committee Questions | Mitchell Otani | Please review the page titled <i>For your Information: Additional Question and Comments</i> . 1) Is the Superintendent’s Reserve Fund a part of the WSF? Yes it is. 2) If so, should the committee recommend that funds be set aside for schools that consistently ask for additional funds? For example, if the fund is set at \$4 million, should we set aside \$2 million (or some set amount). In the past, we did for K-12 combo schools. Alternatively, create a categorical program for schools like Hana High as the HB 553 tried. Let us open this up to further discussion at this time. |
| | Wendy Matsuzaki | Informed the committee that she was previously the Principal at Waiahole Elem. about four years ago. Her counterpart at Kaaawa did not know about the WSF |

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| | | Reserve Fund. She proposes that smaller schools should receive WSF Reserve Funds without having to go through an application process. It would be a fairer process. She also proposed to have the Complex Area Superintendent's (CAS) send memos to all schools to inform and help them obtain the WSF Reserve Fund. |
| | Mitchell Otani | Stated Honolulu District CASs does send memos to their schools regarding this and inform them of the criteria. Requested CAS Farias provide a CAS's point of view and go over the process with the committee. |
| | Chad Farias | CAS Farias encouraged 3 of his combo schools to apply but informed some of his schools he felt did not need the funds in his District to apply for the Reserve. |
| | Wendy Matsuzaki | Asked if previous COWs have decreased the Reserve fund. Are we still doing that now? |
| | Mitchell Otani | It is still an option. |
| | Jan Iwase | Did we discuss how much we are going to put in the Reserve? |
| | Mitchell Otani | Informed the members that there is currently \$2.25 million set aside for the WSF Reserve Fund. COW IX diverted \$750K to increase base funding for combo schools. It used to be \$3 million. |
| | Brian Hallett | Previous COWs wanted the CAS' to determine which school in their complex area should apply for WSF Reserve Fund because they know the needs of their schools. |
| | Cary Miyashiro | WSF Reserve fund was created for outlier schools. We need to look at the stability of these schools to ensure their base funding is enough to meet their basic needs. |
| | Elton Kinoshita | Schools should determine what they need. We need to let schools decide what to do with their funds. They want to be assured that they will not be penalized for asking for more funds. In addition, it is hard to get staffing with combo schools. It is also important to keep in mind that the Reserve Fund is important for schools with military transients because of unstable enrollments. |
| | Ann Paulino | She was not informed that her school was awarded WSF Reserve Funds. Her school used the Reserve funds for a billing clerk. Also, her secondary school's teachers need additional prep time to prepare for two subject areas. |
| | Kimberly Chee | Thirty-one schools were awarded funds for SY 2017-18. |
| | Mitchell Otani | Initially, this Reserve was only for smaller schools but it opened up to the four criteria. That's the hard part. We need to clarify which schools are going to need the funds. |
| | Elton Kinoshita | Recommends keeping the process the same. Felt that Lahainaluna High does not need this reserve; however, Maunaloa Elem. on Molokai needs this. He trusts the process as is. |
| | Cary Miyashiro | Express concerns that the process still has problems with combo schools. Combo schools have many staffing concerns. |
| | Mitchell Otani | Did we not give basic requirements? Requested Kimberly Chee to provide what was in the base funding for each school. |
| | Cary Miyashiro | Propose adding \$60,000 for each level of base funding to |

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| | | help with staffing. |
| | Kimberly Chee | Clarified with committee that this will be only for combo schools. |
| | Elton Kinoshita | Inquired how many combo schools are there? |
| | Kimberly Chee | There are 14 combo schools. After the \$60,000 addition to combo school base funding, there will be \$1.1 million left for smaller schools. This past cycle, thirty-one schools applied and received a portion of the \$2.25 million WSF Reserve Fund |
| | Chad Farias | Because of special circumstances, such as shipping costs, combo schools like Lanai High & Elem. should receive an additional \$120,000. |
| | Gail Nakaahiki | Feels we should calculate the per school WSF allocation first and see how much funds each schools is to receive and then decide who really needs WSF Reserve funds assistance and let them apply. |
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| | Mitchell Otani | Should we have alternatives? Consider consolidating schools like Wailupe Valley and Lilioukalani Schools - a difficult decision. We need to continue to look at how to manage rural schools. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it possible to share employees? Yes. It is possible to share personnel. • Can two small schools share PE teachers? Yes. It can be done if complex area establishes positions. When sharing employees, it takes a lot of coordination. |
| | Justin Hughey | Express concerns that employees experience too much pressure when they are shared by complex area schools. |
| | Gail Nakaahiki | Kauai High has a Learning Center that all schools on the island share. We ask for \$5,000 from each Kauai school to make up the cost of this Learning Center. All schools on the island use it. |
| | Mitchell Otani | Regarding fundraising and donations, large schools and high schools can fundraise and not depend solely on Weighted Student Formula. |
| | Jan Iwase | Suggest a recommendation to have someone on staff at each school to fundraise for their operating cost budget. Make fundraising a priority. |
| | Gail Nakaahiki | Shared that she is currently involved with the Commercial Engagement Group working to secure donations. |
| | Brian Hallett | Judy Nagasato and Marlene Zeug of the Community Engagement Office are coordinating fundraising. We only got support for one year. We need to fight for making it long term. |
| | Mitchell Otani | It is a priority. Not just for individual schools and principals but the whole group. Need donation funds to assist all. <p>Request a show of hands on who agrees to put in the recommendation that at least one staff member in each school oversees fund raising: Mitchell and Chad agree. Will try to get consensus to see if the majority approves.</p> |

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| | | Anything else? |
| Break 10:11 – 10:30 AM | | |
| Discussion on Committee Recommendations | Mitchell Otani | <p>The Committee Recommends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Base Funding will be adjusted starting School Year 2018-2019 for increases due to collective bargaining agreements. • ELL to have a fixed weight for School Year 2018-2019. • If WSF receives additional funds: Add a Homeless weight of .2 and support for ELL beginning Fiscal Year 2018-2019. <p>Any other recommendations?</p> |
| | Glen Miyasato | The recommendation for a fixed rate for each level of ELL is ambiguous. Is the fixed rate for different grade level or ELL efficiency levels? For example, specify Fully English Proficient, Limited English Proficient, Non-English Proficient. |
| | Mitchell Otani | Agreed hat an outsider reading the recommendation would not know the Committee's intent of establishing a static weight for each ELL proficiency level (FEP, LEP, NEP) vs grade level of ELL students. Will adjust recommendation to be clearer. |
| | Brian Hallett | Informed committee that the first two COW X recommendations can be implemented during SY 2017-18 OEC calculation. However, the last two recommendations will be implemented during SY2018-19. |
| | Mitchell Otani | <p>Any other recommendations? Informed the committee that they will address adequacy after lunch. The recommendation to the Board currently are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Base funding to be adjusted when there is a new collective bargaining agreement starting FY17-18. 2. ELL weights will be static for each level of ELL proficiency. 3. If additional funding is received, priority is to add a weighting factor of .200 for homeless students. 4. If additional funding is received, second priority is to support ELL for FY18-19. <p>Cary Miyashiro motions to accept recommendations, Justin Hughley second, pass unanimously.</p> <p>The Committee also recommends that the Department take coordinated action at the State level to pursue expanded resources to support school and community-based plans for student success. Additional funds and community partnerships are critical to advance equity and excellence for all schools and every student</p> <p>During lunch, please review the draft recommendation to the Board of Education and provide any amendments after lunch.</p> |
| Lunch Break | | |

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| 11:00 -12:06 PM | | |
| Decisions on Recommendations | Mitchell Otani | <p>Committee reviewed the COW X Program Reports Review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not feasible to put the four SBBH Non-WSF positions into the WSF • SBBH vacant position vacancy saving is needed for contractual costs • Formula Overview. Changes that we voted on this morning. <p>Reviewed the Adequacy report and recommendation. Is there anything else that needs to be changed or revised? Any questions or comments? None.</p> <p>Asked the Committee to review the overview of the topics COW X discussed during the past four meeting. Any corrections or comments.</p> |
| Recommendation to the Board of Education | | <p>Motion to accept COW X Recommendation to the Board of Education by Glen Miyasato – Moved, Bill Taylor - Seconded Pass unanimously.</p> |
| Award Presentation | Amy Kunz | <p>Presented each member a certificate of appreciation for serving on the Committee of Weights X.</p> |
| Meeting Adjourned 12:37 | | |