

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE  
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII  
**STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION**  
**(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)**  
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### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

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DATE: September 11, 2014  
TO: Catherine Payne, Chairperson  
FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director  
AGENDA ITEM: Executive Director’s Written Report:

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The following written notices and updates are to apprise the Commission of certain developments, create a public record of these developments, and resolve items that were still pending in previous Commission minutes.

#### NOTICES OF DEFICIENCY AND/OR NOTICES OF CONCERN RESOLVED

A Notice of Deficiency (“NOD”) was issued to Kihei Public Charter School (“Kihei”) on August 4, 2014, as the school failed to submit a schoolwide plan, including a Comprehensive Needs Assessment, which was due on March 1, 2014. The school was designated by the Department of Education (“DOE”) as a Focus school under the Strive HI Performance System. Though Kihei had disputed the label and communicated its concerns to the DOE, the school is subject to certain state requirements, including submittal of a schoolwide plan and Comprehensive Needs Assessment.

On August 6, 2014, the chair of Kihei’s governing board responded to the NOD with a corrective action plan indicating that the school’s education director will be working with staff on completing the schoolwide plan and compiling all supporting data by September 5, 2014. The corrective action plan states the school will work with Commission staff and submit its Comprehensive Needs Assessment by September 30, 2014. Staff has accepted the corrective action plan, which resolves the NOD.

## **NOTICES OF DEFICIENCY AND/OR NOTICES OF CONCERN PENDING**

No additional Notices of Deficiency or Concern have been issued since the Commission's last General Business Meeting. Two previous Notices of Deficiency still are pending as staff continues to work with the schools to resolve the issues raised.

On January 31, 2014, West Hawai'i Explorations Academy ("WHEA") was issued a NOD for not submitting a Schoolwide Plan and Comprehensive Needs Assessment by its December 30, 2013 deadline. The WHEA had been involved in numerous discussions regarding its Focus status under the Strive HI performance system with the DOE and staff since the issuance of the NOD. The staff's understanding is that at this point WHEA's Focus status will not be changed. Staff is still in discussion with WHEA about the need to complete its required Comprehensive Needs Assessment and intervention plan.

Hālau Lōkahi Charter School ("Halalu Lokahi") was issued an NOD on May 30, 2014 when the school did not meet its immediate and near-term payroll obligations. On July 30, 2014, the Commission approved a financial viability plan which addressed Halau Lokahi's outstanding financial obligations and would allow it to complete the 2014-15 school year. Staff is awaiting the first monitoring report from the school to confirm that all outstanding payroll obligations have made. That report is due on September 15, 2014.

## **COMPLAINTS**

This section provides brief descriptions of the staff's processing of formal complaints that have been filed with the Commission about charter schools.

For the months of July and August, no formal complaints were filed with the Commission.