



KANU O KA 'ĀINA LEARNING 'ŌHANA

Serving and perpetuating sustainable Hawaiian communities through Education with Aloha

COMMISSION TESTIMONY

June 12, 2014 Continuation Meeting Scheduled for June 18, 2014

Agenda Item X: Future Commission Meetings and Agenda Items

Date: June 17, 2014

To: Catherine Payne, Chairperson - Charter School Commission
Peter Tomozawa – Vice Chairperson Commission
Members of the Commission

From: Taffi Wise, Kanu o ka Āina

Cc: Ka'iulani Pahio, Nā Lei Na'auao
Lynn Finnegan, HCSN
Tom Hutton, Executive Director

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Commissioner's for their intervention in the bilateral contract negotiations! Through the final days of the negotiation process the group and representative Commissioners agreed on a “parking lot” of issues for further action that may impact the current and future bilateral. The parking lot issues include:

1. Seek support from the BOE to address the DOE exclusion of Charter School students from the receiving lunch service prohibiting access to federal free and reduced subsidies for students of poverty.
2. Seek legal opinion through appropriate channels to clarify the issues of Hawaiian language civil rights and responsibilities and their implications on Governing Boards, families and students to include testing, common core standards. Further seek clarity regarding the implication on the State of Hawaii waiver to the extent the Commission has authority and control and the potential amended language for the bilateral contract.
3. Legislative language changes that need to be addressed for the next session
4. Request of the Governor, permission for the GB's to seek outside legal counsel as the charter school AG's responsibility is to support the State and they will not provide opinion regarding the “content” of the contract and its legal implications on GBs.
5. Formal Guidance regarding Charter Schools connection to the DOE specifically regarding SPED, Title III and Withdrawal and Transfer of students between DOE and Charter Schools.
6. Overarching Commission policy approval for Hawaiian Homestead and geographical or linguistic admission preference policies.
7. Seek clarity from the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board and their role regarding “Hawaiian Language and Culture Experts”.