Governor’s Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Team
June 11, 2016 / 8:00 AM– 4:00 PM
State Capital – 5th Floor – Governor’s Conference Room

Attendance of team members: Phil Bossert, Catherine Caine, Darrel Galera, Keith Hayashi, Michele Kidani (represented by Susan Kitsu), Brennan Lee, Ann Mahi, Lauren Moriguchi, Steve Nakasato, Takashi Ohno, Alan Oshima, Catherine Payne, Amy Perruso, Stacey Roberts, Carol Shikada, Linda Takayama, Stephen Terstegge

Attendance of support team: Mike Tokioka, Karen Aka, Carm Minami, Louise Wolcott, Charles Kagawa, Penny Tom, Ken Kang

OPENING – ESSA TEAM UPDATES – Darrel Galera

ESSA Team Budget Approved – On June 7, 2016, the Board of Education approved a budget request from Governor Ige for $75,000.00 from the DOE. The amount was requested to cover the following expenses (approximate): Hawaii Education Summit - $50,000, Community Town Hall Meetings - $15,000, and ESSA Team Meetings - $10,000

“Advocates for Public Education” – All 75 individuals who applied to serve on the Governor’s ESSA Team but were not selected were contacted and offered to be part of the Governor’s Advocates for Public Education advisory group. 50 individuals indicated that they would like to be part of the group. The ESSA Team Chair keeps advisory group members informed of the activities of the ESSA Team and other related ESSA updates. Advisory group members will have opportunities to be engaged in the process by responding to questionnaires and surveys to provide feedback.

“Partners in Education” – Governor Ige is also forming an advisory group of leaders from education-related, non-profit, and other community organizations and foundations. The “Partners in Education” advisory group will meet with the Governor on Thursday, June 16, 2016 at 2:30 p.m.

ESSA Team Updates for Board of Education – Board of Education Chairperson has requested for updates on the progress of the Governor’s ESSA Team. ESSA Team Chair Darrel Galera provided a brief update during the BOE meeting on May 17, 2016. Another more detailed update will be provided during the BOE meeting on June 21, 2016.

Meetings with Department of Education – Regular meetings between representatives of the Board of Education, the Department of Education, and the Governor’s ESSA Team have been scheduled. A meeting will be held on June 15, 2016 with BOE Chairperson Lance Mizumoto, Deputy Superintendent Stephen Schatz, Assistant Superintendent Tammi Chun, and ESSA Team Chair Darrel Galera. Another meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2016 with Chair Mizumoto, Superintendent Kathryn Matayoshi, and ESSA Team Chair Galera. A tentative schedule of meetings are set through November.
Hawaii Education Summit – As of June 11, 2016, more than 700 have registered to attend the Hawaii Education Summit on July 9, 2016 at the Hawaii Convention Center. Registration will be limited to 800 attendees. Summit keynote speakers and guest presenters will include the following: Ken Kay – Chief Executive Officer of EdLeader 21; Lee Posey - Federal Affairs Counsel with the Education Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures; Stephen Parker - Legislative Director, Education and Workforce Committee, Office of Federal Relations, National Governors Association; Peter Oppenheim - Education Policy Director and Counsel, Sen. Lamar Alexander; Lyndsay Fryer - Senior Education Policy Advisor at U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Volunteer event coordinator will be Julia Toyama. Volunteer program and graphic specialist will be Melissa Goo.

Senator Kidani will also be providing additional opportunities for the neighbor islands to hear about ESSA by taking Lee Posey to Maui, Kauai and the Big Island after the Summit.

Special Guest Speaker – Dr. Anne Davies, one of the top educational assessment experts in our nation and beyond will present to our ESSA Team during our next team meeting on June 25, 2016.

INFORMATION BRIEFING: SYSTEM OF SUPPORT FOR PRINCIPALS – Randy Perreira and Irene Puuohau from the Hawaii Government Employees Association

Perreira opened HGEA’s remarks by expressing appreciation for the Governor’s efforts and the work of the ESSA Team. He conveyed that HGEA’s representation to be inclusive of all employees classified as units 2, 3, 4, 6, 9 and 13.

- Because HGEA represents bargaining units 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, and 13 that are employed with the DOE, HGEA relies upon the Employer to engage in the consultation process that is meant to allow for the voices of all employees to be heard and considered when changes that impact employee relations are being made.
- Expressed that their position being a constant in that the systems of support must be relevant and sustainable to all employees to insure their success.
- An outline of the systems of support needed to insure the success of Principals and of all employees is outlined within the CESSA manual.

Discussion of key issues facing principals relating to how they are supported:

- Need for collaboration
- Need for voice of principals to be heard
- Due process
- Capacity of system to provide support
- Time
- Resources
- Clear, timely, and consistent communication
- Professional development for principals
- Time to meet with CAS
- Use of test scores for principal evaluation
- Rewards and recognition
INFORMATION BRIEFING: SCHOOL FINANCE – Sheree Speakman

Speakman briefed the ESSA Team on the following key ideas:
- One of ESSA’s priority factors is funding flexibility
- ESSA requires transparent school-by-school financial reporting
- An explicit understanding of current state and school level expenditures will need to be understood before stakeholders can discuss innovative strategies
- ESSA emphasizes high quality educators and access to expanded professional development funding
- Can learn from other states where there is greater transparency of school finance – and how they have benefitted as a result. Example – South Carolina
- Current audits are a good start but might not be sufficient
- Need to analyze 100% of dollars in expenditures in 3 ways – by function, by program, and by school, all public schools including charter schools.
- Shared example of Superintendent Mike Strembitsky in Edmonton, Canada
- ESSA Team should look at the relationship between funding and the process of improving school quality for students and teachers
- Funding should support the desired emphasis on improving learning and outcomes. Doing so will benefit Hawaii citizens and the economy. See important research published by Eric Hanushek of the Hoover Institute studying the estimated gain in GDP if there is an improvement in school quality and student achievement.

INFORMATION BRIEFING: SCHOOL FACILITIES – Glenn Pendleton, Alan Oshima, Ray L’Heuereux

Key talking points:
- Current state of DOE facilities
- R & M cycle – may take up to 150 years to repair all schools using current approach
- Research shows that facilities have a measurable impact on student learning; 19 of 20 studies of 21st Century School Fund
- Example – Colorado BEST Program
- Seven (7) Step Plan explained
- HIPA
- Act 155 of 2013 passed by Legislature for DOE to implement
- Status of implementation

INFORMATION BRIEFING: CHARTER SCHOOLS – Catherine Payne

Key ideas:
- Charter schools should not be treated as an afterthought as we are held to the same measures and outcomes.
- Act 130 created 2 bodies – Charter School Commission and second body for support. But there has been no funding for the support function
• Charter School Network for support – but no funding
• Over 10,000 public school students in charter schools
• Advocacy for increase in funding
• Challenge with facilities
• How we can incorporate charter schools in the state’s strat plan
• Model integrating charter schools with existing DOE goals

INFORMATION BRIEFING: PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT – Hawaii State PTSA (Jessica Wong-Sumida, Calvin Endo, Patti Rabacal) and Parents for Public Schools of Hawaii (Lois Yamauchi and Deborah Bond-Upson)

Key recommendations and priorities:
• ESSA is an opportunity to get things right
• Neighbor island concerns – less testing, teach the whole child, counseling, support for high school
• Listen and respond to voices of families
• Create “family-friendly” schools – schools where families feel welcomed
• Set priorities in having parents of public school students in leadership positions
• Increase authentic opportunities for parent engagement
• Emphasize teaching the whole child
• Reduce high stakes testing; children are tested too much
• Provide universal pre-K public education
• Improve school facilities and cool classrooms
• Value teaching as a profession; increase teacher pay and retention
• Analyze other revenue sources to fund public schools
• Improve grading practices

ESSA Team Work Session: Blueprint for Hawaii Public Education

Team members brainstormed, discussed, and collaborated on how best to approach and develop a new blueprint for public education.

Next meeting scheduled for June 25, 2016

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.