



**STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAI'I TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD
TEACHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

MINUTES

Remote Technology via Zoom

650 Iwilei Road, Suite 158
Honolulu, HI 96817

Friday, January 17, 2025

PRESENT IN-PERSON:

Dr. Jonathan Gillentine, *Committee Vice-Chairperson*
Kristi Miyamae, *Ex-officio*

PRESENT ONLINE:

Dr. Cecily Ornelles for Dr. Nathan Murata, *Committee Chairperson*
Sean Bacon for Keith Hayashi
Kahele Dukelow for Roy Takumi
Dale Matsuura
Dondra Ozaki
Dawn Raymond
Lokelani Han, *Ex-officio*

STAFF:

Felicia Villalobos, Executive Director
Steven Harada, Licensing Specialist
Dr. Mitzie Higa, Licensing Specialist
Tracey Idica, NBCT, Licensing Specialist
Kaulana Molina, NBCT, Licensing Specialist
Kris Murakami, Esq., Licensing Specialist
Dr. Jennifer Padua, Licensing Specialist

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM

Committee Vice-Chairperson Dr. Jonathan Gillentine called the Teacher Education Committee Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine shared information regarding procedures for virtual committee meetings, then called roll call and established quorum. Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine and *Ex-officio* Committee Member Kristi Miyamae were present in-person. Committee Chairperson Cecily Ornelles; Committee Members Sean Bacon, Dale Matsuura, Dondra Ozaki, and Dawn Raymond; and *Ex-officio* Committee Member Lokelani Han were present online. Committee Member Kahele Dukelow was not present at roll call.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine shared information regarding non-public site disclosure. None of the committee members participating online had anyone present with them.

Committee Member Dukelow entered the meeting remotely via Zoom.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine shared additional information regarding meeting protocols and procedures.

B. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS

Licensing Specialist Kris Murakami, Esq., stated timely written testimony was submitted for NBI 24-21 and NBI 24-22. She stated there were individuals signed up for oral testimony.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine requested the committee address the testimony at the time of the specific agenda items.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

D. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the November 15, 2024, meeting was approved as written.

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS

Dr. Judy Daniels of University of Hawai'i at Mānoa ("UH Mānoa") testified online via Zoom in opposition of NBI 24-21: *The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's School Counseling Program Review*. She stated [1] the program review is filled with inaccuracies; [2] there is miscommunication and a lack of understanding between the review committee and the program faculty; [3] there is a conflict of interest as the review committee members are employed or graduated from the only other school counseling program in Hawai'i; [4] the review committee judged this program beyond the scope of review for initial licensure; and [5] the review inaccurately states there is no face-to-face courses. She stated these raise concerns about integrity and public confidence in this program review.

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Dr. Madiha Jamil of UH Mānoa testified online via Zoom in opposition of NBI 24-21: *The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's School Counseling Program Review*. She stated [1] the program's students complete over 700 supervised hours in school settings; [2] the New Business Item's ("NBI's") statement regarding lack of first year school-based activities is inaccurate; [3] the application outlines how the program's professional disposition assessment is specifically designed for school counseling and integrates National American School Counseling Association Standards with culturally responsive practices and Hawaiian values; and [4] the program's graduates will receive comprehensive professional support.

Dr. Lois Yamauchi of UH Mānoa testified online via Zoom in opposition of NBI 24-21: *The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's School Counseling Program Review*. She stated the program faculty requests deleting the inaccurate statement, '*The UHM faculty decided not to revise the program, citing academic freedom, and would like their future faculty to make revisions.*' She stated [1] the program faculty has always been willing to revise their program, but revisions were not requested at their November meeting and academic freedom was not a reason to not revise the program; and [2] the NBI misrepresents that the program does not provide evidence of meeting HAR (Hawaii Administrative Rules) standards.

Dr. Sara Cook of UH Mānoa testified online via Zoom in opposition of NBI 24-22: *The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Teacher Leader Program Review*. She stated this job-embedded program addresses the issue of teacher retention by equipping teachers with advanced professional development and teacher leadership skills, as well as ensures accessibility for teachers statewide. She stated [1] the NBI incorrectly says that the program faculty did not collaborate with Hawai'i Department of Education ("HIDOE") personnel; [2] the review falsely suggests that the program is misaligned and that the program faculty refuses to address HAR requirements; and [3] the review does not provide feedback related to the program's alignment with teacher leader standards.

Dr. Amy Ruhaak of HIDOE's Exceptional Support Branch ("ESB") testified online via Zoom in opposition of NBI 24-22: *The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Teacher Leader Program Review*. She stated [1] the ESB and HIDOE leadership endorse the program's content and objectives; and [2] the program is aligned with CEC (Council for Exceptional Children) advanced standards and ETS (Educational Testing Service) teacher leader standards. She stated the program's practicum requirements are directly aligned with the ESB's priorities and identify needs in the field.

Dr. Rhonda Black of UH Mānoa testified online via Zoom in opposition of NBI 24-22: *The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Teacher Leader Program Review*. She stated [1] the NBI's claim that the program faculty lacks credibility due to limited recent experience in HIDOE undermines the faculty's expertise; [2] the program faculty actively collaborates with HIDOE at school, complex, and state levels; and [3] the NBI suggests that online synchronous formats are inadequate for developing leadership skills, but the program effectively uses online platforms for real-time discussions and enables its students to practice leadership and facilitation skills. She stated these inaccuracies diminish the efforts of the program.

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. NBI 24-18: Adoption of the Professional Standards and Competencies for Early Childhood Educators

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine reviewed NBI 24-18, which includes the Rationale/Background.

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Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine asked committee members if they had any questions or discussion.

Committee Member Bacon asked if any program changes are needed from the educator preparation providers (“EPPs”) should the full board (“Board”) vote to adopt these standards today. He also asked how it would affect these EPPs’ completion rates. He stated he wants to ensure there would be no negative consequences for those currently in the pipeline.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine called on Executive Director Felicia Villalobos to answer that question.

Executive Director Villalobos answered no, that when the Board adopts standards, it goes forward from there and current programming would not be impacted. She explained if an EPP wants to start a new program related to these standards, they would need to use these new standards when submitting their letter of intent. She stated standards always change, so as a program evolves and standards are nationally adopted, the EPP would work with the new standards. She mentioned the Hawai’i Teacher Standards Board (“HTSB”) staff would be informing all the EPPs at the TECC (Teacher Education Coordinating Committee) meeting and in HTSB’s EPP newsletter.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine asked committee members if they had any further questions or discussion. There were no further questions or discussion from committee members.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine called for a roll call vote on whether or not to recommend NBI 24-18, as written, to the Board at the General Business Meeting scheduled at 12:00 p.m. Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine did not vote. All other committee members present voted to recommend.

ACTION — The Teacher Education Committee voted to recommend NBI 24-18, as written, to the Board, with eight of nine members present voting aye.

B. NBI 24-19: Teach Away’s Official Notification of Program Discontinuation in Hawai’i

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine reviewed NBI 24-19, which includes the Rationale/Background.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine asked committee members if they had any questions or discussion.

Executive Director Villalobos announced that Teach Away is unable to attend today’s board meeting and that they would answer any additional questions at a later time. She stated they saw the NBI.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine asked committee members if they had any further questions or discussion. There were no further questions or discussion from committee members.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine called for a roll call vote on whether or not to recommend NBI 24-19, as written, to the Board at the General Business Meeting scheduled

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at 12:00 p.m. Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine did not vote. All other committee members present voted to recommend.

ACTION — The Teacher Education Committee voted to recommend NBI 24-19, as written, to the Board, with eight of nine members present voting aye.

C. NBI 24-20: The University of Hawai'i at Hilo's Bachelor of Arts in Education Science Elementary Education Program Review

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine reviewed NBI 24-20, which includes the Rationale/Background.

Executive Director Villalobos announced that University of Hawai'i at Hilo ("UH Hilo") program faculty was present and willing to speak on the program.

Committee Member Raymond expressed her appreciation for the program faculty taking into consideration the review committee's comments and recommendations and submitting supporting documents and data. She stated she felt positively about agreeing with the review committee's recommendation. She also recognized how extensive the job is for the review committee and now understands the cost as written in the NBI. She iterated the Board wants to produce quality and prepared educators.

Committee Member Bacon asked the program faculty if they have anything they would like to discuss that was not yet been mentioned.

Dr. Tobias Irish of UH Hilo thanked the Board for including them on today's meeting agenda and for taking the time to review their program and provide feedback.

Committee Member Bacon stated HIDOE is looking at equity, and having a program on the neighbor islands is very important as HIDOE is seeing more emergency hires and vacancies in the elementary education area. He expressed his appreciation for the program faculty and the review committee for all their work on this.

Ex-officio Committee Member Miyamae thanked the program faculty for the amount of evidence they provided, which made the review committee's job easier. She stated it was nice to see both sides collaborating and commended the program faculty for making the changes as requested by the review committee so that the Board can recommend and stand by the program. She stated she felt relieved knowing that the program faculty are making sure their teacher candidates are prepared upon completion.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine asked committee members if they had any further questions or discussion. There were no further questions or discussion from committee members.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine called for a roll call vote on whether or not to recommend NBI 24-20, as written, to the Board at the General Business Meeting scheduled at 12:00 p.m. Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine did not vote. All other committee members present voted to recommend.

ACTION — The Teacher Education Committee voted to recommend NBI 24-20, as written, to the Board, with eight of nine members present voting aye.

D. NBI 24-21: The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's School Counseling Program Review

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine briefly introduced NBI 24-21, which includes the Rationale/Background. He requested the committee take ten minutes to review testimony.

Ex-officio Committee Member Han thanked the review committee and commended them for all their time and effort. She also expressed her appreciation for those who testified. She stated the Board takes the review committee's recommendations very seriously, mentioning they seem like easy fixes and should be addressed. She shared she does not appreciate and is offended by the characterization of the review committee as being biased because they come from Chaminade University. She stated HTSB and the EPPs are responsible for the teachers that are put into Hawai'i's schools to educate the keiki. She acknowledged the program's online opportunities but emphasized the importance of face-to-face interactions. She reiterated that, at the end of the day, this is for the keiki.

Ex-officio Committee Member Miyamae requested for a point of order. She asked if Committee Chairperson Ornelles would still take part in this discussion, or if she would recuse herself as this program is directly related to UH Mānoa.

Committee Chairperson Ornelles stated she was asked to recuse herself from discussions about UH Mānoa programs and that she was not to participate.

Ex-officio Committee Member Miyamae stated when she recused herself in the past, she needed to leave the meeting and get invited back in. She asked for confirmation on protocol.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine confirmed that is correct protocol and asked for Committee Chairperson Ornelles to be moved into a waiting room.

Committee Chairperson Ornelles was moved into the Zoom waiting room.

Committee Member Raymond stated she is concerned by the lack of supporting evidence for the program and the lack of face-to-face courses, providing an analogy of a doctor with only online training. She mentioned she wants the program faculty to include the review committee's requests and provide supporting evidence.

Committee Member Dukelow stated she wants to see a better response from the program faculty to the review committee's raised issues. She mentioned the UH Community Colleges are striving to offer more distanced options for their programs, but she understands the need for field experience and thinks the 700 hours of supervised field experience addresses it in the program application. She stated she thinks the program is doing exactly what the administration, community, and HIDOE is asking in ensuring statewide accessibility. She stated she feels the issues can be figured out and that this program is needed.

Committee Member Bacon expressed his appreciation for the review committee's work and for the public testimony. He suggested deferring this NBI so the program faculty can work with HTSB to address the review committee's issues. He mentioned this program is needed and he does not want to take any action today that would negatively impact students.

Committee Member Raymond clarified that she is not against distanced learning, that she is from a neighbor island and has also done courses online; however, she suggested perhaps the program faculty could fly to the neighbor islands rather than requiring the teacher

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candidates fly to O'ahu. She stated she thinks the candidates need to be prepared to work with students face-to-face during course activities, not just during field experience.

Committee Member Matsuura stated she would like to see qualified counselors obtaining their license, who can also connect to Hawai'i's students. She echoed Committee Member Bacon's sentiments, sharing that her school has six counselors, but they hire an emergency hire or a retired counselor on a PTT (part-time temporary teacher) basis to fill any gaps.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine stated it is his understanding that if the committee defers this NBI, HTSB would still be able to continue working with the program faculty to address the issues. He asked the Teacher Education Committee if there was a motion to defer, stating he wants to give the program faculty an opportunity to speak on the program.

Ex-officio Committee Member Han wanted clarification on deferring the NBI. She asked if it would come back to the Teacher Education Committee should they defer taking action on it.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine called on Executive Director Vilalobos to answer that question.

Executive Director Villalobos stated the Teacher Education Committee can defer the NBI until the program addresses all of the review committee's issues, mentioning there is a statement at the bottom of the NBI indicating that the review committee is open to continue working with the program faculty. She explained that Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine would then report at the General Business Meeting that the NBI has been deferred.

Committee Member Bacon moved to defer NBI 24-21. He requested the program faculty and the review committee work through their differences so that a new recommendation can be brought to the Board at a later date.

Ex-officio Committee Member Han seconded the motion.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine asked committee members if they had any questions or discussion.

Ex-officio Committee Member Han reiterated Committee Member Bacon's request. As a neighbor island educator, she agreed with Committee Member Raymond and Committee Member Dukelow about distanced education and that this program is needed.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine invited the program faculty to speak on the program.

Dr. Daniels stated they are open to working with the review committee and are always willing to make any necessary revisions. She expressed her appreciation for the deferral, stating perhaps some aspects of the program need to be made clearer.

Dr. Yamauchi thanked the Board and the review committee for their work and thought on the program. She stated she thinks it is a matter of communication and being able to convey that it is a good program. She also expressed her appreciation for the deferral.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine called for a roll call vote on whether or not to defer NBI 24-21, as written. Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine did not vote. All other committee members present voted to defer.

ACTION — The Teacher Education Committee voted to defer NBI 24-21, as written, with seven of eight members present voting aye.

E. NBI 24-22: The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Teacher Leader Program Review

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine reviewed NBI 24-22, which includes the Rationale/Background.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine asked committee members if they had any questions or discussion.

Committee Member Bacon moved to defer NBI 24-22. He stated he thinks there are similarities between this NBI and the previous one, and that he wants the program faculty to work with the review committee. He mentioned as special education is a shortage area, it is very important to get more certified special education teachers into the classroom.

Ex-officio Committee Member Han seconded the motion.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine invited the program faculty to speak on the program.

Dr. Black stated she has concerns about inaccuracies in the NBI if it is deferred, asking if it will become a new NBI without those inaccuracies. She mentioned they are willing to work on the program, but she does not want those inaccuracies on public record. She asked for clarification on what happens when the NBI is deferred.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine called on Executive Director Vilallobos to clarify.

Executive Director Villallobos clarified that when an NBI is deferred, it may come back at a future board meeting as a revised NBI with any new documentation and evidence provided. She explained that the information provided on the NBI is coming from the review committee and is their opinion on how the program review process went. She shared that there seems to be a disconnect between EPPs and what is happening in the field, clarifying that it is not inaccuracy where the review committee is making things up, but it is what they have found going through the program review process.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine invited comments from the program faculty.

Dr. Cook agreed with Dr. Black, stating she is more than happy to work with the review committee to clarify aspects of the program. She emphasized that the program application was only for an add-a-field of teacher leader and that the MEd program is already accredited through AAQEP (Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation). She stated the program review feedback is not about the teacher leader standards, but about the MEd program, mentioning that the review committee does not feel it is detailed enough at the special education level. She stated another challenge is understanding the intention of the HAR requirements for add-a-field. She stated she believes the program needs to be aligned with HAR, but graduate programs cannot duplicate initial licensure.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine called on Executive Director Vilallobos to clarify.

Executive Director Villallobos clarified that HAR states an add-a-field program goes under provisional review requirements and still needs to follow HAR. She mentioned HAR was

adopted in 2019, so a special education teacher who graduated from an EPP prior to HAR or went through an out-of-state program probably would not have been prepared with the HAR requirements. She mentioned clinical experience is exempt for add-a-field programs, but there are programs that include it. She stated this depends on what the program wants to do to ensure their students are prepared, and HAR goes back to whether or not the HAR requirements were incorporated into the students' program. She mentioned someone can be teaching for a while without having been prepared with the HAR requirements, so these requirements are important for a teacher leader to understand as they are mentoring.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine asked Dr. Cook if she has any questions.

Dr. Cook asked if add-a-field programs need to duplicate what is provided at initial licensure. She stated, due to this group of students who may not have gone through a Hawai'i EPP, she is unsure where the responsibility lies for every add-a-field program needing to duplicate. She stated an advanced program should build on an initial licensure program, and the students will not get where they need to be as teacher leaders if there is duplication.

Committee Member Dukelow stated this conversation is critical because there are currently two very different perceptions of an add-a-field program, so it is crucial to come to an understanding. She mentioned if this NBI is going to be deferred, perhaps this conversation can happen at a subsequent meeting.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine called on Executive Director Vilalobos to respond to the issue of duplication.

Executive Director Villalobos stated HAR requirements need to be braided in, and it can be further explained to add-a-field programs. She mentioned if a program does not want to comply with HAR, the same issues will be run into with the review committee. She stated the conversation can be continued with the program faculty and the review committee.

Committee Member Dukelow stated she is having issues with this process as the Board and the program faculty are interpreting HAR differently. She stated there should be a common understanding of the HAR requirements, that it is not only about incorporating them.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine stated he thinks sufficient discussion has been heard, and any further discussion can happen if the motion to defer NBI 24-22 passes.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine called for a roll call vote on whether or not to defer NBI 24-22, as written. Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine did not vote. All other committee members present voted to defer.

ACTION — The Teacher Education Committee voted to defer NBI 24-22, as written, with seven of eight members present voting aye.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chairperson Ornelles was admitted back into the Zoom meeting room.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine adjourned the Teacher Education Committee Meeting at 10:36 a.m.

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List of people who submitted written testimony before the committee meeting

ON-TIME TESTIMONY		
NAME	ORGANIZATION	AGENDA ITEM
Rhonda S. Black	University of Hawai'i at Mānoa – Professor and Chair, Department of Special Education	III.E. NBI 24-22: The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Teacher Leader Program Review
Sara Cothren Cook	University of Hawai'i at Mānoa – Associate Professor, Department of Special Education	III.E. NBI 24-22: The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Teacher Leader Program Review
Lois A. Yamauchi, PhD	University of Hawai'i at Mānoa – Professor and Chair, Educational Psychology	III.D. NBI 24-21: The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's School Counseling Program Review
Madiha Jamil, PhD	University of Hawai'i at Mānoa – Assistant Professor, Coordinator of the School Counseling Program	
Judy Daniels, EdD	University of Hawai'i at Mānoa – Professor and Director of the Rehabilitation Counseling Program	