

**HAWAI‘I TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Friday, April 26, 2024**

**Meeting Conducted by Remote Technology via Zoom  
and  
Physical Location at 650 Iwilei Road, Suite 158, Honolulu, HI 96817**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

Kristi Miyamae, *Committee Chairperson*  
Dawn Raymond, *Committee Vice-Chairperson*  
Kahele Dukelow for Warren Haruki  
Dr. Katina Soares  
Branden Kawazoe, *Ex-officio*  
Lokelani Han, *Ex-officio*

**EXCUSED:**

Dale Matsuura

**STAFF:**

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**A. ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Committee Chairperson Kristi Miyamae called the Legislative Committee Meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Committee Chairperson Miyamae shared information regarding procedures for virtual committee meetings, then called roll call and established quorum. *Ex-officio* Committee Member Branden Kawazoe was present. Committee Chairperson Miyamae, Committee Vice-Chairperson Dawn Raymond, Committee Members Kahele Dukelow and Dr. Katina Soares, and *Ex-officio* Committee Member Lokelani Han participated remotely. Committee Member Dale Matsuura was excused.

Committee Chairperson Miyamae shared information regarding non-public site disclosure. None of the committee members participating remotely had anyone present with them. Committee Chairperson Miyamae then shared additional information regarding meeting protocols and procedures.

**B. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**C. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Executive Director Felicia Villalobos stated the announcements would be saved for the General Business Meeting regarding *Ex-officio* Committee Member Kawazoe and the new board members.

**D. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The minutes of the December 1, 2023, meeting was approved as written.

**II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**E. 2024 Ad Hoc Committee Legislative Update**

Committee Chairperson Miyamae stated there are two updates and first deferred to Licensing Specialist Dr. Mitzie Higa.

Licensing Specialist Higa commended the Permitted Interaction Group (“P.I.G.”) as they were very responsive, allowing Executive Director Villalobos and herself to submit testimony on time. She referred to the updated legislative bill tracker and informed of recent updates:

- SB2257, about CTE (Career and Technical Education): Voted in favor out of conference committee. Will go to the floor of both the House and the Senate.
- HB2074, about Kaiapuni educators: Still alive and has a conference committee.
- SB2475, about the ‘harm to students’ registry: Currently has nothing to do with teacher licensure.
- HB2400, about teachers resigning or retiring before their investigations are completed: Went to the Governor for signature.
  - The Department of the Attorney General recommended these teachers ‘forfeit’ their licenses.
  - Hawai‘i Teacher Standards Board (“HTSB”) staff checked the NASDTEC (National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification) Clearinghouse, finding that ‘*other*’ can be selected and ‘*forfeiture*’ can be written in for entries.

Licensing Specialist Higa stated the P.I.G. is waiting on two more bills to hopefully pass, one that is being voted on the floor.

Committee Chairperson Miyamae asked committee members if they had any questions or discussion. There were no questions or discussion from committee members.

Committee Chairperson Miyamae thanked Licensing Specialist Higa and the P.I.G. members for their time and effort, mentioning the quick turnaround for testimony. She then mentioned the P.I.G.'s completion and suggested the next P.I.G. members meet up at least once to go through the master list of legislative bills that match up with HTSB's Mission. She reminded that the next P.I.G. members will need to be accessible by text or email to quickly make decisions regarding testimony. She informed that the next Legislative Committee will be looking at the Board's priorities next year.

Committee Chairperson Miyamae called on Executive Director Villalobos.

Executive Director Villalobos thanked the P.I.G. for being so responsive with testimony. She also thanked Licensing Specialist Higa for testifying at the State Capitol on behalf of the full board ("Board") when she was unavailable. Executive Director Villalobos mentioned many legislative bills this year had to do with teacher licensing, and the legislators wanted HTSB's opinion and information. She iterated that Licensing Specialist Higa and herself will come up with a game plan again for next year to ensure that the Board's voice is heard at the Capitol.

Committee Chairperson Miyamae thanked Executive Director Villalobos for all her hard work, commenting that she has been very instrumental in everything. She also thanked *Ex-officio* Committee Member Kawazoe for his time on the P.I.G., commenting that it was going to be sad to see him leave the Board.

**ACTION: None. There were no questions or discussion from committee members.**

#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

Committee Chairperson Miyamae adjourned the Legislative Committee Meeting at 10:41 a.m.