



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

**MINUTES**

Remote Technology via Zoom

650 Iwilei Road, Suite 158  
Honolulu, HI 96817

Friday, August 30, 2024

**PRESENT IN-PERSON:**

Kim Sanders, *Committee Chairperson*  
Kristi Miyamae, *Ex-officio*

**PRESENT ONLINE:**

Dr. Jonathan Gillentine, *Committee Vice-Chairperson*  
Dr. Katina Soares  
Dale Matsuura  
Dondra Ozaki  
Lokelani Han, *Ex-officio*

**EXCUSED:**

Justin Mew

**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

## **UNAPPROVED**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

#### **A. ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Committee Chairperson Kim Sanders called the Teacher Standards Committee Meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Committee Chairperson Sanders shared information regarding procedures for virtual committee meetings, then called roll call and established quorum. Committee Chairperson Sanders and *Ex-officio* Committee Member Kristi Miyamae were present in-person. Committee Vice-Chairperson Dr. Jonathan Gillentine; Committee Members Dr. Katina Soares, Dale Matsuura, Dondra Ozaki; and *Ex-officio* Committee Member Lokelani Han were present online. Committee Member Justin Mew was excused.

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

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

None

#### **C. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

#### **D. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The minutes of the April 26, 2024, meeting was approved as written.

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

None

### **III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **E. NBI 24-01: License Affirmation (April 2024-July 2024)**

Committee Chairperson Sanders reviewed NBI 24-01, affirming the licenses and permits for the respective months.

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

Committee Chairperson Sanders called for a roll call vote on whether or not to recommend NBI 24-01, as written, to the full board ("Board") at the General Business Meeting scheduled later at 12:30 p.m. Committee Chairperson Sanders did not vote. All other committee members present voted to recommend.

**ACTION — The Teacher Standards Committee voted to recommend NBI 24-01, as written, to the Board, with six of seven members present voting aye.**

**F. NBI 24-04: The Expansion of School Counseling Licensure to Include New Grade Levels**

Committee Chairperson Sanders reviewed NBI 24-04, which includes the Rationale/Background. She then asked Executive Director Villalobos to speak on this New Business Item (“NBI”).

Executive Director Villalobos explained due to the expansion of preschool programs in Hawai'i Department of Education (“HIDOE”) schools and public charter schools, the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board (“HTSB”) wants to ensure that school counselors can service preschool students and be considered Highly Qualified Teachers (“HQTs”) by HIDOE. She stated currently there are no preschool counseling licensure fields, so the PK-6 level would add an entirely new column to HTSB's licensure grade band. She mentioned since this grade band would only apply to school counseling at an HTSB-approved educator preparation program (“EPP”), a teacher would not be able to add, for example, ‘*Art PK-6*’ to their license. She explained PK-6 is only for school counseling, and a regular teacher with no background content in preschool would need to go the regular route to add preschool to their license if they are a content area specialist.

Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine asked why the new PK-6 grade band is not ‘*P-6*.’

Executive Director Villalobos answered it was to be consistent with what HTSB currently has on its *License Fields* page. She stated it was okay for the Board to amend it because it would mean the same thing.

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

*Ex-officio* Committee Member Han moved to amend ‘*PK-6*’ to ‘*P-6*.’ Committee Vice-Chairperson Gillentine seconded the motion.

Committee Chairperson Sanders asked committee members if they had any questions or discussion about the amendment. There were no questions or discussion from committee members.

Committee Chairperson Sanders called for a roll call vote on the amendment. Committee Chairperson Sanders did not vote. All other committee members present voted to amend.

Committee Chairperson Sanders asked committee members if they had any questions or discussion about NBI 24-04, as amended.

Committee Member Matsuura asked if current school counselors are licensed in the K-3 and K-12 grade bands.

Committee Chairperson Sanders asked Executive Director Villalobos to respond.

Executive Director Villalobos answered if those school counselors graduated from Chaminade University, then they would have a K-12 license. She explained if they came from out-of-state and used reciprocity with their school counseling license, HTSB would offer K-6, 6-12, K-12, or 6-8 depending on their out-of-state license. She stated Chaminade University is the only HTSB-approved EPP with a school counseling program, which is for K-

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12. She mentioned the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa ("UH Mānoa") will be proposing their school counseling program and licensure fields at the next board meeting.

Committee Member Matsuura asked how current school counselors may be impacted because they would not be able to obtain the 'P' licensure since they went through a program that was only approved from 'K'.

Executive Director Villalobos noted that adding a grade band for school counseling is different compared to adding a grade band for a general content area. She explained HTSB is currently working with Chaminade University on how they could add that 'P' for someone who already has a K-12 license. She stated she thinks this is when the Board would look to experts in the school counseling field and bring their suggestions to the Board for a vote.

Committee Chairperson Sanders asked committee members if they had any further questions or discussion.

Committee Member Ozaki commented she is very happy about this. She mentioned she works with preschool students and is noticing behaviors that need to be addressed but they do not have a counselor that is licensed in preschool.

Executive Director Villalobos wanted to share that HTSB staff has an upcoming meeting with ETS (Educational Testing Service) to see how other states have added preschool or other grade bands to a school counseling license.

Committee Chairperson Sanders asked committee members if they had any further questions or discussion.

Committee Member Matsuura asked if the current school counseling licenses be replaced with P-K, P-3, P-6, and P-12, or if both the 'K' and 'P' licenses will be offered. She also asked if a current teacher candidate that is in a program for K-3 would be prevented from obtaining a school counseling license when the 'P' is added.

Committee Chairperson Sanders asked Executive Director Villalobos to respond.

Executive Director Villalobos answered it is not replacing any of the current grade bands. She explained this NBI is to expand and address the school counseling grade level bands for preschool that currently do not exist. She stated there will still be K-6, 6-8, 6-12, and K-12. She mentioned in order for someone to add that preschool portion to their license, it will depend on their clinical experience (e.g., placed at a school that has or does not have a preschool setting) and how well they are prepared to work with preschool students.

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

Committee Chairperson Sanders called for a roll call vote on whether or not to recommend NBI 24-04, as amended, to the Board at the General Business Meeting scheduled later at 12:30 p.m. Committee Chairperson Sanders did not vote. She announced that Committee Member Mew had joined the meeting. All other committee members present voted to recommend.

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**ACTION — The Teacher Standards Committee voted to recommend NBI 24-04, as amended, to the Board, with seven of eight members present voting aye.**

### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

Committee Chairperson Sanders adjourned the Teacher Standards Committee Meeting at 10:51 a.m.