

**HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD  
TEACHER STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Friday, March 24, 2023**

**Meeting Conducted by Remote Technology via Zoom  
and  
Physical Location at 650 Iwilei Road, Suite 268, Honolulu, HI 96817**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

Lokelani Han	Kim Sanders
Branden Kawazoe	Dr. Katina Soares
Dawn Raymond	

**EXCUSED:**

Elena Farden for Keahi Makaimoku	Justin Mew
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**STAFF:**

Felicia Villalobos, Executive Director	Jennifer Padua, Licensing Specialist
Tracey Idica, Licensing Specialist	Raymond Rodriguez, Licensing Specialist
Kris Murakami, Licensing Specialist	Elaine Hutchinson, Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairperson Sanders called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**OPENING REMARKS:**

Chairperson Sanders shared information regarding procedures for virtual committee meetings:

- The following committee members, in addition to the Chairperson, are participating in today's virtual committee meeting and have established audio and video connection.
- Committee members shall be visible and audible to other members and the public during meetings.
- This committee meeting will be recorded.

**ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM:**

Chairperson Sanders called the roll and established quorum.  
Five (5) committee members were present and two (2) were excused.

**DISCLOSURE FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT PRIVATE LOCATIONS:**

Chairperson Sanders shared information regarding private location disclosure:

- Committee members shall be considered present at the meeting for the purpose of determining compliance with the quorum and voting requirements of the board.
- Committee members who are participating remotely from their homes or other private locations must announce who is at the private location with them. Minors do not need to be identified unless they have a personal business, property, or financial interest in an issue.

Chairperson Sanders asked committee members if they have anyone present with them at their non-public site that they need to disclose.

- No disclosures were made.

**ADDITIONAL PROCEDURAL INFORMATION:**

Chairperson Sanders shared additional information regarding meeting protocols and procedures:

- As a reminder, all committee members wishing to speak should raise their hand and the Chairperson will be notified to call on the person. The speaker must state their name prior to making their remarks.
- Votes will be conducted by roll call so that it is clear how each committee member voted.
- Members of the public who have signed up to testify or would like to testify online must be logged into Zoom using the same name they used to sign up for testimony. Please use the Chat Box to provide your name and the agenda item(s) you are testifying on. Testifiers today will have two (2) minutes to testify. Anyone who missed the opportunity to testify before the relevant agenda item will be allowed to testify at the end of the meeting.
- Testifying online can be challenging due to technical issues. The Chat Box is being monitored by Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board staff, and the Committee Chairperson will be notified that you would like to testify. You will be called on to give your testimony at the appropriate time in the agenda.
- Written testimony received more than forty-nine (49) hours in advance of the meeting has been uploaded to the online meeting agenda for members to review.
- A meeting held by interactive conference technology shall be recessed for up to thirty (30) minutes when audio communication cannot be maintained with a quorum of members, provided that the meeting may reconvene when only audio communication is reestablished.

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the February 10, 2023, meeting were approved as written.

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**DISCUSSION/Action:**

**NBI 10-56 Revised:** Acceptance of Verification of Experience and Options for Meeting Standards for License Renewals

- Chairperson Sanders reviewed NBI 10-56 Revised which included the Rationale/Background.
- The committee voted to recommend approval of NBI 10-56 Revised as written, to the full board.

**DISCUSSION/Action:**

**NBI 22-55 Revised:** Adoption of the 2022-2023 Hawaiian Focus Workgroup Recommendation (Part 2)

- Chairperson Sanders reviewed NBI 22-55 Revised which included the Rationale/Background.
- Committee Member Han asked if they are asking for an option to have it in all Hawaiian or English or do they want everybody with Hawaiian licenses to have their certificate in Hawaiian?
- Executive Director Villalobos responded that they want to do something similar to a UH-Manoa diploma. Each one has one option where the diploma is completely in Hawaiian and then an English version.
  - It would take some research on our part for staff to look at our Licensing Management System to see if we can do this.
  - Currently, teachers can download their license by clicking a button. An additional button is needed to click for the Hawaiian version so there would be two different license options for the two different licenses.
  - Research and additional staff are needed for accurate translations and placement on the diplomas.
- Committee Member Han asked if they are considering doing all licenses in Hawaiian and not just for the Hawaiian language licenses.
- Executive Director Villalobos responded that the first amendment that went in was just for the Hawaiian fields. Now they're looking at all license fields and all licenses and all permits that the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board gives out so yes, all license fields would be translated.
- The committee voted to recommend approval of NBI 22-55 Revised as written, to the full board.

**DISCUSSION/Action:**

**NBI 22-78:** Formation of the Early Childhood Education Teacher Licensing Workgroup

- Chairperson Sanders reviewed NBI 22-78.
- The committee voted to recommend approval of NBI 22-78 as written, to the full board.

**DISCUSSION/Action:**

**NBI 22-79:** The Expediting of Applications for Military and Military Spouses or Registered Domestic Partners of Active-Duty Military Personnel

- Chairperson Sanders reviewed NBI 22-79 which included the Rationale/Background.
- Chairperson Sanders shared that she was in this position when she came to Hawaii as a spouse. It took quite a while for her to actually get licensed even though she had four (4) licenses from other States. She thinks that the biggest thing is that a lot of times, we lose some of these teachers because it takes so long to get them through the process.
- Committee Member Han asked what the current timeframe for military is and what does “expediting” mean. She also asked, “How long is expediting versus what is currently in place?”
- Executive Director Villalobos stated that there is actually an option on their profile to identify themselves as a military spouse. What we will be doing is moving them to the top of the list, so they will be above the educator preparation programs’ in-state completers. They move straight to the top.
  - For the timeline, it depends on the licensing season and time of year. In December, it’s slow with not many applicants applying. In June and July, it is hundreds and hundreds of notifications and applications.
  - Currently, we have a timeline of less than six (6) weeks. Since she began as Interim Executive Director in May 2021, she has not seen it take longer unless they had some kind of issue with professional fitness.
  - This NBI would allow them to move straight to the top of the list. She wants to say it would take less than a week or two. The reason for a delay sometimes is because they’re waiting for their documents in a different state.
  - If they don't have confirmation from a different state that is readily available, we want to make sure that they're employable, because they have probably already accepted a job or trying to look for a job with the department or a Charter school.
- Committee Member Soares stated that she definitely supports this.
  - She wanted clarification as to if this was created to address the Compact that we’re not necessarily signing on to right now, or if that is a completely separate issue.
- Executive Director Villalobos stated that the Compact was deferred, but this would actually address that issue as well.

- The Compact was started for the military by the military, and so this would address that until the Board and other stakeholders get their questions answered about the Compact.
- This doesn't mean that the Compact can't come up legislatively again the following year so we want to address those issues. But in the meantime, this ensures that the military folks who are coming to Hawaii to teach have that opportunity to expedite their applications and be employable as quickly as possible.
- Committee Member Han asked if this NBI is also a Compact for those in the military or for military spouses.
- Executive Director Villalobos stated that the way the Compact is currently outlined, we are to just accept their license "As Is." We don't accept any other documents of how they achieve that license, and as we know, other states are lowering barriers and allowing licensing to occur that may not align with our Hawaii Administrative Rules.
  - This NBI would allow us to still continue to look at their documents to ensure that they meet Hawaii Administrative Rules, requirements, or licensing requirements while getting them to the top of the list to be employable.
  - So it's not truly a Compact in the sense where we just accept their license "As Is", and just give them a provisional license or a standard license. We still want the documents to verify.
  - It's easier to take the action upfront to say they're missing documents rather than issue a license to find that it was the wrong license and then need to take it away. So, it's easier that way to ensure that documents are there upfront.
  - This is kind of a Compact but it's almost a remedy to what the Compact was asking with just accepting it at face value, with no documents.
- Chairperson Sanders shared that we've come a long way. When she came in 2006, she had to have an Emergency license for two (2) years before they actually gave her a highly-qualified check mark. It was a lot.
  - A lot of the military spouses will stop even trying because they just say, "Well, it's not worth it." So we lose some of our teachers here, especially on Oahu that could fill some of those positions.
- The committee voted to recommend approval of NBI 22-79 as written, to the full board.

**DISCUSSION/Action:**

**NBI 22-80: License Affirmation (2023 January, February, and Renewals)**

- Chairperson Sanders reviewed NBI 22-80. This is the affirmation for January and February 2023 and the renewals for July 1, 2023. Our teachers do their renewals ahead of time.
- The committee voted to recommend approval of NBI 22-80 as written, to the full board.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairperson Sanders adjourned the meeting at 9:24 a.m.

Recorder: *Elaine Hutchinson*      Date: March 24, 2023  
Elaine Hutchinson