

Gregg Lee
Stevenson Middle School, Principal
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
Relating to Education

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

Dear Senators,

On behalf of the Stevenson Middle School community, we strongly urge you to support the passage of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to construct multipurpose educational facilities and the planning and design of a multipurpose recreational facility.

Stevenson Middle School community believes that we can redesign our school as a place of life, inspiration, engagement, and meaningful work for an age group ready to take on some of the challenges of adulthood with the spirit, passion and energy unique to adolescents.

This can be accomplished through collaborative leadership where the administration, teachers, and the school community become actively engaged in reforming our school into an improved academically rigorous, personalized learning environment.

While there is no one-size fits all model for schools, Stevenson Middle School's redesign approach will focus on becoming a Science Signature School with the common goal of preparing all students for a successful transition to high school and eventually, careers or post-secondary education.

We believe that the multipurpose facilities improvements will provide a setting that will help to increase student critical thinking/problem solving skills by ensuring that teachers and students emerge from their separate classrooms and work in teams to begin making connections among the knowledge and skills required in mathematics, language arts, social studies, and science.

We are particularly pleased that the bill will provide for multipurpose facilities and a recreational center that supports the development of a whole child and will enhance the school programs aimed at increasing the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical opportunities for students. Specifically, the new facilities we support are:

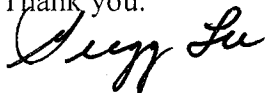
Testimony from Gregg Lee
Senate Bill 2580
February 8, 2008
Page 2

- Learning Center with state of the art technology equipment and electrical upgrades
- New administration office
- New multipurpose gymnasium/recreational center, a band room, and classrooms
- Additional parking for the Roosevelt Complex schools, sports and performance programs
- Landscaping for the Stevenson campus

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Senate Bill 2580, an appropriate for Stevenson Middle School.

We urge you to forward the bill to the committee on Ways and Means for further consideration and vote for its passage.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gregg Lee".

Sharon Kim
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 6, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 016, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580

RELATING TO EDUCATION

(Oral and Written Testimony)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer this testimony in strong support of the Senate Bill 2580 for the request of \$9,500,000 for the improvement of Stevenson Middle School facilities.

I am Sharon Kim and I am Stevenson's student body government president. I have attended all the Stevenson master plan meetings and know a lot about this bill. I may not be attending Stevenson when these improvements are complete, but I was always taught by my teachers to look towards and prepare for the future. Being that Stevenson is the first school to construct and renovate existing school facilities to improve student achievement in the state, I am honored to be a part of this future planning process.

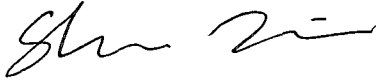
One of the proposed buildings in this bill is a new administration and educational facility. Having a new office would be great for our school, so that when visitors enter our school, they have a good feeling about seeing our school and the great educational opportunities Stevenson offers.

Another proposed building is a new multipurpose music facility. I am one of the band students at Stevenson and also am the president of the band student body. Having a new multipurpose room would mean a better education for our future band students. Also, having a new band facility would also mean an education that would enable teachers to provide us with more musical skills that would help us in the future. Improving our skills to become the best performing middle school band is our goal. To me band is everything, so if I would be able to see future students as passionate as I am about band, I think they deserve better facilities to learn music in.

Another proposed building is a multipurpose gym. I also enjoy playing team sports, like basketball and soccer. If we could have a new gym, then that would mean getting to play sports during rainy days and have more variety of team sports. Not only would the gym be a great advancement for Stevenson, but it would also meant that Roosevelt High School could use the gym too for games at night and on weekends. Our two school would be more connected.

This bill would not only help make our school better, but it would also support the larger community. It would bring the community together as a place to utilize for various events and also help the education of future Stevenson students. Please help make Hawaii schools better and become more successful by paving a new path for future students. Thank you for listening to my testimony and I hope that you will approve funding for Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharon Kim', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sharon Kim, Student Body President

Branngan-Ashley Mukaisu

1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 6, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 016, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
RELATING TO EDUCATION
(Oral and Written Testimony)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer this testimony in strong support of the Senate Bill 2580 for the request of \$9,500,000 for the improvement of Stevenson Middle School facilities.

My name is Branngan Mukaisu and I am a student at Stevenson Middle School. I am also the student body government 8th grade president. I strongly support this Senate Bill because I would like the future generations after us to be able to learn in greater facilities. This bill proposes a new administration and educational facility that is two story addition to building A or a 20,000 square foot stand alone building. This building will provide more space for classrooms. We need more space for classrooms because every year it seems that the student population at Stevenson gets bigger each year. We need more room for classrooms because our school is going to become very active in Science and the classrooms we have now are not equipped with the science equipment we will need in the future.

The second request is for a new multi purpose recreational facility that is designated to include new classrooms, a new gymnasium, locker rooms, and meeting spaces. I believe that these new facilities will help the community get more involved with each other and have a place to participate in healthy team sports and athletic events. Students from Roosevelt High School, Lincoln Elementary, McKinley High School and the larger community will be able to share in this new multipurpose facility.

I think that our school really deserves these facilities because we have a great diverse student population here at Stevenson Middle School. I am excited and thankful for being a part of this great legislative process. I can't wait for the future when I pass by Stevenson Middle School and remember how many people came together to help plan for these new facilities and to look at how intelligent those Stevenson students are learning in the great facilities. Thank you for listening to my thoughts about how I support SB 2580.

Respectfully submitted,

Brannagan-Ashley Mukaisu

Brannagan-Ashley Mukaisu, Student Body 8th Grade President

Elizabeth Ki
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 6, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 016, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
RELATING TO EDUCATION
(Oral and Written Testimony)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer this testimony in strong support of the Senate Bill 2580 for the request of \$9,500,000 for the improvement of Stevenson Middle School facilities.

My name is Elizabeth Ki and I am in the 8th grade. I am also the student body government secretary at Stevenson Middle School. All schools should have facilities and bigger work spaces to learn, not only private schools, but public school as well.

Improving the learning center is a great idea. It would help students gain a better education and would make a difference because if there is a bigger learning center, then there would be enough space for all students to problem solve and work on their projects. Bigger spaces would allow for bigger work tables for team work too. For example, if you have a big group project to work on, they could use the bigger work spaces to study more efficiently. I always have said to my brother that I don't have enough space to work on my homework and projects at home. I always have to move around in my house to find that perfect spot for me to work. A bigger learning center can also mean a bigger collection of fiction and non fiction books. There are many students who would appreciate more books to conduct research and just to read.

A bigger office would also be great because it would provide more space for the office staff who supports our teachers. The office is an important place at the school. We use it to welcome visitors, new students and community members. The office is also used for offices for the administration, counselors, registrar and a big bulletin board to showcase our school's awards and achievements.

A new gym would also benefit the students. Having a gym is great because you can have many team sports there, like basketball and volleyball. A gym is not only good for athletic events, but the band can perform their concerts there as well. The art students can also hold an exhibition for parents and friends and we could even have general school meetings too, like

Open House. The gym could also be used by the community for athletic events, meetings and tournaments.

In conclusion, I support SB 2580 for the future of Stevenson Middle School students. These changes will make a significant difference for the school and community.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Ki". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E" and a stylized "Ki" at the end.

Elizabeth Ki, Student Body Secretary

Christina Alfred
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 8, 2008, 1:15 pm
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
RELATING TO EDUCATION
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build and maintain a multi-purpose building and a learning center.

I have worked both as a teacher and as vice principal at Stevenson Middle School for over 12 years. Our student population is widely varied with students coming to us from areas such as Papakolea Homestead, Makiki, and Manoa Valley. The dynamics of working with such a diverse group of students, at this stage in their lives, presents many challenges and opportunities. This year, after much discussion, Stevenson Middle School has made the bold decision of having a Science focus. Because of this new direction, we, as an educational community, recognize the need to create a learning environment that will foster each student's learning. By having a learning center on campus, teachers can work closely together in providing learning through thematic, inter-disciplinary lessons; problem-based learning/case studies, and other critical thinking skills necessary in today's world. The multi-purpose building will allow our school the flexibility to address both in school and after school needs, something that is greatly needed in meeting the unique needs of our middle school students in this urban Honolulu area.

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted by,



Christina Alfred

Malcolm M. Cogbill

1202 Prospect Street

Honolulu, HI 96822

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP

RELATING TO EDUCATION

(Written and Verbal Testimony)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. Our school's focus is science driven. Our faculty has agreed to become a science signature school. Thus, this bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build a new administration building, renovate the existing office space to become a science-focused learning laboratory, maintain and update the laboratory, and construct a multi-purpose double covered gymnasium.

As you are no doubt aware, in order for the State of Hawaii to provide an appropriate education in science for its students, laboratory facilities are not only highly desirable, but absolutely necessary. As a science teacher at Stevenson Middle School, I look forward to being able to provide my future students with the ability to explore science in the best possible manner—use of the inquiry through scientific method. Enlarged laboratory facilities with additional and updated electrical systems would greatly assist me in this endeavor. Larger storage or closet space is needed to house our science equipment. This can be accommodated in a learning laboratory.

State of the art equipment, as well as upgraded electrical and technological systems would allow our students to conduct research, design and test investigations, and present their work utilizing various presentation tools. A large multi-purpose room with sliding walls, movable tables and chairs, and the latest research and presentation media would allow our school to host our own science fair. In addition, this room can be used for community and school related meetings, or to display and showcase projects created in all content areas or interdisciplinary units (a middle school concept). We would like to house a Roosevelt complex area science showcase.

Our school is in collaboration with Queens Medical Center in a Howard Hughes Medical Institute grant to promote health and wellness, science skills, and interest in the medical technical occupations. Our science teachers have been trained by the University of Hawaii Medical School in Problem Based Learning (PBL). Case studies are written with a science focus, with other content areas supporting the case through instruction. We are currently implementing PBL case studies in our classrooms and realize that a large multipurpose room would allow for team teaching, and additional hands-on activities. We also held our first science wellness family night in February 2008. With a multipurpose facility, we will be able to facilitate large collaborative events with our many business and community partners.

As you are also aware, the State of Hawaii is attempting to attract more industries in high technology fields such as chemistry, physics, and biotechnology. Currently

graduates of Hawaii's colleges must move to the mainland to be employed in technological fields, causing Hawaii to lose its "best and brightest" to mainland states, such as California. I believe that enhancing the quality of scientific education for our students may be a factor in attracting these types of companies to do business in Hawaii. Your support will set the foundation to provide jobs for Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) graduates. We would like to build a strong, educational background and interest in STEM areas through our curriculum and after school activities.

Stevenson Middle School is actively involved in the STEM initiatives that the House and Senate have supported last session. Our Botball Team placed Third Overall in the Documentation/Presentation category at the Regional Competition. And they eagerly await the 2008 competition. It is this type of inquiry-based learning that makes science, technology, engineering, and math come alive for our students. Improved laboratory facilities and equipment would allow additional learning opportunities such as this. For a second year, our school is hosting University of Hawaii College of Engineering professors and graduate students in an after school engineering program, Invention Factory. Our students learn about circuits, lights, motors, and sounds from these mentors and the end products are donated to children with disabilities to use. This type of community service is highly encouraged in middle school. As you move forward with STEM initiatives, please consider how it would provide training support for our robotics team and budding engineers.

Our sixth and eighth graders also train and participate in Challenger Center Hawaii. Our curriculum supports higher level critical thinking skills to complete a simulated NASA mission. A larger learning laboratory would provide the space, tools, equipment, and technology necessary to prepare our students for this rigorous curriculum.

Stevenson Middle School's current structure was designed for a junior high philosophy. Particular middle school concepts need to be addressed. Part of the Middle School concept is to offer a selection of elective classes. Currently, our eighth graders participate in a science-based composting unit. The goal is to address Department of Education standards of Scientific Inquiry, Nature of Science, and Organisms and the Environment. We have built and our students maintain a garden area where hands-on learning will take place. Our school has a large percentage of Native Hawaiian students; in order to sustain their culture we would like to incorporate indigenous plants and their cultural and medicinal uses. Eventually, the results of this composting would allow the students and community to see the positive effects of recycling.

Grade level pods is another middle school concept needing attention. This year, our school has moved grade level teachers closer together to allow sixth, seventh, and eighth teams to be centrally located. As elementary schools continue to move their sixth graders to Stevenson Middle School, we will need additional classrooms and storage space. Adding another floor or wing to our existing A-building structure or to a new administration building would alleviate crowded classrooms. In order to provide a healthy, conducive learning environment air conditioning will be essential. In addition, building another floor on top of the existing office would allow for other educational uses such as a new wing to the library, learning center, study area, or a central, covered gathering place for student activities.

The science focus also encompasses the health and wellness of our students. A double covered gym with classrooms and updated locker rooms would allow new

opportunities for learning. Covered areas are necessary. On rainy days, our students need an area where they can congregate during non-instructional time. There are currently, very few areas for them on rainy days. Likewise, the entire student population can be gathered together to hold assemblies. Currently, our school needs to run two assemblies with half of the school at a time. In addition, Roosevelt High School can use the gym to hold practices and athletic events, as now boys and girls games must run concurrently.

Continuing with the health and wellness focus, the whole child is also important. Our art and music program cannot be ignored. Performances and showcases of student work can be displayed in the multipurpose room. The current band and art rooms are inadequate for optimum learning. Please consider additional funding for these content areas. Our talented students have won numerous awards. We must support them.

Having an atrium or conservatory covering the grassy areas in or adjacent to A-building would help tremendously. Tables and seating would encourage peer interaction and socialization, another middle school concept. I urge you to consider these ideas, as students need alternative downtime areas, especially during the rainy fall and winter months.

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Respectfully submitted,



Malcolm M. Cogbill

Julia Y. Segawa
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP

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I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Segawa

TO: Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair, and Members
Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Iris Ha  Tel. 236-1036
45-666 Luluku Road
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

DATE: February 6, 2008

RE: Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP
To Be Heard: Friday, February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m., Conference Room 225

I offer this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580.

Senate Bill 2580 is focused on student learning. Having participated in the many community meetings and discussions on learning environments and student achievement, I believe we arrived at a well thought out, meaningful plan for Stevenson Middle School, one that is truly student centered.

As the School Administrative Services Assistant at Stevenson Middle School, I witness each day the hard work and dedication of our teachers and administrators. They and our students deserve the best possible learning environment, one that reflects the Middle School Concept. The plan to expand and redesign the existing A-Building will allow for interdisciplinary teaming, more flexible instructional time, exploratory and co-curricular programs, all of which are at the heart of the Middle Level Education policy. With our school's focus on Science and the goal of becoming a science signature school, the newly designed facilities will provide our students with state of the art classrooms, laboratories, shared learning and exhibit spaces. Classrooms will be upgraded so that technology will be integrated into all subject areas, another component of the middle school concept.

In addition, the new design will include student areas for socialization, organized activities, teaming; yet another component of the middle school. In our meetings, students have expressed the need for such areas. The plan to design a new multipurpose/recreational building will provide our students with much needed physical education facilities. The idea that this facility can be shared with our neighbor schools and community again supports the middle school concept that relates to partnerships with our parents and community.

In our numerous meetings and discussion, so many ideas were shared with regard to physical spaces and how the school would "look". All were wonderful, thoughtful ideas and it was beneficial to those who participated to hear the points of view of the various role groups. However, the single element that guided us was answering the all important question, "Will our decisions create a better learning environment for our students?"

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to offer this testimony. I am hopeful that you will agree and support this bill.

TO: Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair of the Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Barbara Watanabe *B. Watanabe*
3120 Alani Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

DATE: February 4, 2008

RE: Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP

TO BE HEARD: Friday, February 8, 2008, 1:15 pm, Room 225

I offer this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580.

As an alumni, and parent of two students currently attending Robert Louis Stevenson Middle school, I would like you to support the above Senate bill.

It would have been easy for me NOT to have written this letter – I could have easily said that since my boys will be finishing up at Stevenson in a few months that this money could be spent elsewhere to “benefit me personally”. But in reality, as a citizen of Hawaii, a strong public school system does benefit me personally.

Currently the facilities at Stevenson are outdated and need replacing. While the general appearance of the school campus shows care and pride, once you get inside the buildings it is easy to see how time has taken a toll. In fact it looks almost exactly as it does when I went to Stevenson some 35 years ago!! If Stevenson Middle is to become the premiere science school it is positioned to be, money will be needed to equip the school to accommodate updated buildings and science technology.

As an academic advisor at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, I see the direct result of students coming through the public school system. Many of these students formulate the desire and mind-set to attend college during their middle school years, when any and all possibilities seem attainable. Currently, at the university, grants are being created for programs that would help introduce and prepare students from under-represented ethnic groups (many of which are representative of the Stevenson population), for graduate research fields in science. Research that will create new options in biotechnology, create alternative energy sources and cures for diseases. One of the biggest obstacles the university faces is the “tunnel vision” that many of the entering students have regarding the opportunities in science – they have been conditioned to believe that science leads solely to being a doctor or a nurse. To begin promoting science and all its’ possibilities early on, *before* misperceptions can be formulated, students must be exposed to science laboratories that are equipped with updated technology as well as having personnel trained to teach and explore future science options and technology fields.

In addition, having a multipurpose recreational facility, a gymnasium, locker rooms, and meeting spaces would update the school to meet the needs of all students expected to be both physically fit and educationally proficient in the skills needed not only for their futures, but for Hawaii's future as well.

Barbara Watanabe

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. Watanabe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "B".

Kathleen Mitsuda
Stevenson Middle School
Feb. 8, 2008, 1:00 pm
TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580
RELATING TO EDUCATION
(Oral and Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

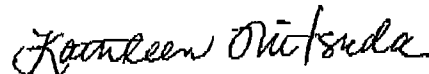
I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build and maintain facilities at Middle and High Schools.

My name is Kathleen Mitsuda, art teacher at Stevenson Middle School, and I have the privilege of being selected by our faculty to offer testimony to support Senate Bill 2580. I have been a teacher for 30 years and an art teacher at Stevenson Middle School for past 12 years. Stevenson Middle School is a very caring Ohana that has made a concerted effort to find innovative ways to create an environment that reaches diverse learners. The faculty has an abundance of expertise in their subject areas and has elevated their strategies to make collaboration with fellow teachers a high priority. Senate Bill 2580 would greatly increase their ability to incorporate this collaboration into meaningful lessons through the creation of the multi-purpose recreational/learning centers.

Stevenson Middle School has always offered a well balanced curriculum with emphasis on the whole child. The progress of a child cannot only be measured by tests. Giving students the opportunity to participate in relevant learning experiences will undoubtedly provide a foundation for them to build a solid future. The creativity and imagination in a child needs to be nurtured in a stimulating environment. Senate Bill 2580 can provide this venue with the direction from our dynamic faculty and staff. We need to cultivate the soul of a nation for mankind to survive.

I speak for the entire school in urging the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely yours,



Kathleen Mitsuda (Mrs.)
Art Teacher
Stevenson Middle School



THE QUEEN'S MEDICAL CENTER

1301 Punchbowl Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 • Phone (808) 538-9011 • FAX: (808) 547-4646 • www.queens.org

TO: Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair of the Senate Committee on Education

DATE: February 7, 2008

RE: Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP

TO BE HEARD: Friday, February 8, 2008 at 3:00 pm in Conference Room 225

I offer this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580.

In 2007, The Queen's Medical Center was awarded a generous grant for Precollege Science Education from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Our decision to partner with R. L. Stevenson Middle School was based upon numerous factors including the tremendous potential of the school to fulfill the goals of the grant, its multi-ethnic student body, and capable faculty and staff. Furthermore, Stevenson is located in close proximity to Queen's and is situated in Hawaiian Home Lands, has a high number of Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander (NHPI), and students of mixed ethnicities. The Queen's Medical Center is especially interested in supporting the science and health educational achievement of these populations due to the high incidence of chronic diseases amongst these communities.

The long term goal of Howard Hughes Medical Institute grant and our partnership with Stevenson is to reduce health disparities by improving health literacy and by increasing the number of NHPI students enrolling programs to become medical, biomedical, and allied health professionals. Educators identify the middle school years as the crucial window of time when youth either gain or lose interest in the sciences. Projects aimed at boosting knowledge and interest in science in middle school students, especially girls and boys from underrepresented cultures, hold promise in propelling students on a pathway to biomedical careers. The grant aims to supplement the students' science education, improve the health literacy of the students and their families, and to raise interest in the pursuit of biomedical professions. The Queen's Medical Center is committed to the success of this program at Stevenson and supports any effort to improve facilities that will enhance the science education of its students.

Senate Bill 2580 provides for the construction of a multipurpose education learning center and the planning and design for a multi-purpose recreational facility. A recent faculty decision to work towards the establishment of Stevenson as a Science Signature School is commendable and strongly supported by Queen's. The construction of the learning center would provide an excellent space in which students could explore interdisciplinary units on science and health and more importantly would encourage enthusiasm, exploration and creativity in the study of the sciences.



Gerard K. Akaka, MD
Vice President, Medical Affairs
And Chief Medical Officer



Hawaii High School Athletic Association

• P.O. BOX 62029 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96839 •
PHONE: (808) 587-4495 • FAX: (808) 587-4496
• www.sportsHigh.com •

February 7, 2008

Via E-Mail (testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Norman Sakamoto
Chair, Senate Committee on Education
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: SB 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP, Friday,
February 8, 2008, 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 225

Dear Senate Committee on Education Members:

I offer this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP.

The Hawaii High School Athletic Association ("HHSAA") is the governing body of high school sports in Hawaii. The HHSAA is comprised of 94 member schools and over 33,000 high school student-athletes statewide. Each year, the HHSAA conducts 42 state championships in 18 different sports across the State.

For the past 12 years, the Hawaii High School Athletic Association has been fortunate to have its office located on Stevenson Middle School's campus.

The proposed improvements on Stevenson's campus would not only greatly benefit Stevenson's students, but Roosevelt High's and Lincoln Elementary's students, the surrounding community, and the HHSAA as well. More specifically, the proposed improvements would provide the HHSAA with more office space that is sorely needed, allow more and larger meetings involving high school principals, athletic directors, coaches, student-athletes, and/or parents from across the State, and provide increased and improved athletic facilities for our high school student-athletes and others.

Based upon the above, the HHSAA respectfully urges your Committee to pass Senate Bill 2580.

Sincerely,

Keith Y. Amemiya
Executive Director

MANOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 7

c/o Neighborhood Commission Office, City & County of Honolulu
530 South King Street, Room 406 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUNDING TO IMPLEMENT THE ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON MIDDLE SCHOOL MASTER PLAN.

WHEREAS, in May 2007 began a community-based master plan initiative for the Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School campus located in the heart of the Roosevelt Complex at 1202 Prospect Street in Makiki -- adjacent to Punchbowl Crater, the President Abraham Lincoln Elementary School and President Theodore Roosevelt High School --in the State of Hawaii Department of Education's Honolulu District; and

WHEREAS, the participation by the faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni, neighbors (including representatives of Roosevelt High School and Lincoln Elementary School) and elected officials has been very productive. A list of priority improvements to benefit Stevenson Middle School and the community at large has been created from the work done in the community meetings. Master plan ideas include: **(1)** expansion of Building A for multi-purpose classroom/technology laboratory space; **(2)** multi-purpose school and park gymnasium and classroom building; **(3)** renovation/expansion of the library; **(4)** new band/music room; **(5)** gateway design and landscaping improvements; and **(6)** additional parking for school and community use; and

WHEREAS, from the consensus developed in the Stevenson Middle School master plan community meetings held during May to December 2007, the following **two proposed projects** are listed in Senate Bill 2580 and House Bill 2603 seeking funding in the State Budget:

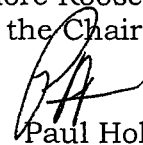
(1) New Administration/Educational Facility. Planning, design, and construction of a 17,000 square foot 2-story addition to Building A or a 20,000 square foot stand alone building to provide space for multipurpose educational facilities and relocation of the administrative and support offices and renovation of the existing administrative services space for classroom use. Amount Requested: \$7,500,000. The requested appropriation includes an upgrade to meet current educational specifications for classrooms, electrical and communications upgrades, and the installation of new air conditioning split systems in selected classrooms.

(2) New Multipurpose Recreational Facility. Planning and design for a multipurpose recreational facility including classrooms, a gymnasium, locker rooms, and meeting space. Amount Requested: \$2,000,000; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Manoa Neighborhood Board No. 7, in recognition that the students from our district's Manoa Elementary School and Noelani Elementary School enter Grade 6 at Stevenson Middle School, that it strongly supports the proposed capital improvement program funding for the above-identified projects to implement the Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School Master Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Senate Committee on Education, Senate Committee on Ways and Means, House Committee on Education, and House Committee on Finance, the Governor, the Superintendent of the Department of Education, the McKinley/Roosevelt Complex Area Superintendent, the Principal of Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School, the Principal of President Theodore Roosevelt High School, the Principal of President Abraham Lincoln Elementary School, the Chair of the Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus Neighborhood Board No. 10.

ADOPTED on February 6, 2008 by a unanimous vote of 12-0-0.



Paul Holtrop, Chair

Ross H. Nakamura

1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587.4533

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capital

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP

RELATING TO EDUCATION

(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the Committee

I am writing this testimony to ask that this Senate Bill 2580 be amended to include the replacement or renovation of the Music Department facilities.

My name is Ross Nakamura and I am very proud to say I am an alumnus and teacher at R.L. Stevenson Middle School. I was very lucky to start my musical career in the very same room that I've been teaching in for the last 17 years. Unfortunately, the same problem of inadequate space still exists today for me as the teacher as it did for me 38 years ago as a beginning band student.

The sign right above the entrance to our band room reads:

the max capacity
of this room is
65 persons
sec. 3302 (c.)Bld. code, City & County of Honolulu

My daily rehearsals jam 75 – 80 students into this small space. Although I have many concerns, two of my most pressing concerns are: 1) the lack of floor space for adequate student seating. & 2) harmful hearing levels because of lack of ceiling height and cubic volume.

- Because of inadequate space in our room our daily rehearsals are filled with students seated uncomfortably too close together. Playing an instrument is a physical activity that requires a formulated amount of physical space.
- Because of the cramped conditions care of instruments are greatly affected. Students are forced to sit too close together resulting in constant bumping of instruments resulting in damage and increased ageing of instruments.
- Lack of proper ceiling height (headroom) results in our rehearsals being too loud. I'm sure during our rehearsals our decibel levels reach the "un safe" levels for hearing.
- The teaching of critical listening skills such as tone and blend is not possible because we lack the necessary headroom (ceiling height) for sound reflection to occur.

Our current **band room is 1,200 feet** of rehearsal space with an **11 foot ceiling**. Wenger Corporation's "Planning Guide for Music Facilities" – resource for Music Educators, Facility Planners, Administrators and Architects says the following:

- Today's recommended room for a band size of 65 students **requires 2,552 square feet** of rehearsal space with a **ceiling height of 18 – 22 feet**.
- Too small a room is a health and fire hazard. It forces students physically to be uncomfortable and mentally "crowded" which makes teaching the subtleties of music difficult.
- Wenger writes, "When room size is too small, the first sound reflections return to the musicians' ears so quickly that they do not hear their sound in the room. When adequate cubic volume is achieved....musicians can hear better, creating an environment in which real learning can be achieved by listening."
- Wenger also writes, "Rooms that are too small also result in dangerously high sound-pressure levels. there simply isn't enough space to dissipate and absorb the loudness generated by musical ensembles. Rehearsing in an excessively loud room is extremely stressful for both students and teacher and can **cause permanent hearing loss** over a period of time."

I thank you for the opportunity for my testimony. I am proud to be an alumnus and teacher at Stevenson. I feel that our students deserve a band room that will promote their musical growth and help them reach their potential.

I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Submitted by,



Ross H. Nakamura

Malcolm Yasuda
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 225
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
RELATING TO EDUCATION
(Written Testimony Only)

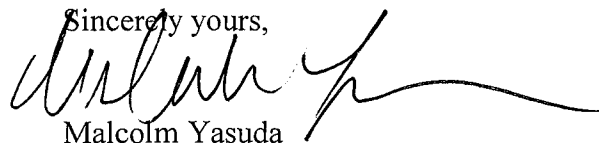
Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer my testimony in strong support of House Bill 1234, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build and maintain gymnasium/multi-purpose room at Middle and High Schools.

I have been a teacher at Stevenson Middle School for the past 16 years. Throughout these 16 years, we have lacked the facilities to comfortably and appropriately house the entire school for educational, social and cultural activities. Currently, the only facility on campus large enough to house the entire student body is the cafeteria. The size and the many limited sight areas in our cafeteria do not provide students the educational benefits of the many speakers, performances and gatherings we host for our students. Because of our facility limitations, we must often ask guests to repeat their performances' two or three times to accommodate everyone, and this burdens our guests and often times steers them away from our school. I consider these missed opportunities a tragedy in any child's education, not to mention our inability to have our students gather and be together as one unified school. A large facility that allows our entire school to gather and assemble comfortably can only benefit the future generation and all generations that follow.

I also hope some day my school can have a gymnasium that we can share with our community. My community has a large percentage of native Hawaiians with no gymnasium available for their use. I envision the day we develop a community sports league, second to none, that echoes the pride we share in our community. A program that can help develop discipline, sportsmanship and teamwork to coincide with the values we teach at Stevenson. At the very least, a gymnasium would provide children a safe environment to gather and play, while allowing all residents a central location to build a community sense and identity that is vital to this area.

I urge you and your committee to pass this measure without amendments to provide my school and community the facilities they deserve.

Sincerely yours,

Malcolm Yasuda

TO: Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair, Senator Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair,
and Members of the Senate Education Committee

FROM: Becky Azama, parent of a Stevenson Middle School student
Telephone: (808) 284-8364
45-541 Koolau View Drive, Kaneohe, HI 96744

DATE: February 3, 2008

RE: Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP

HEARING

DATE: Friday, February 8, 2008, 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room 225

I strongly support Senate Bill 2580.

Funding of new administration/educational and multipurpose recreational facilities at Stevenson Middle School will allow this public school to improve learning and achievement by students to higher standards by allowing the teachers to spend more time in developing ways to assist students in achieving higher scores rather than having teachers spend time on improving classroom facilities to make up for what is not available or "making do". I have witnessed Stevenson's teachers at their school and they are enthusiastic, energetic, and offer their time and talents to their students. With better facilities, an increased number of highly qualified teachers will be attracted to join the school community. Students will be better motivated to achieve with greater school pride, and the use of facilities will encourage them to excel will extend beyond their middle school years. Many of the students who attend Stevenson come from surrounding neighborhoods that are not financially wealthy and could greatly benefit from attending a school that has facilities to offer a high quality academic foundation early on.

I believe that Stevenson currently has strong programs that promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) learning. New administration and educational facilities would allow Stevenson to expand the existing programs to become a high quality STEM academy at the middle school level. Incoming 6th graders will be able to begin imagining careers in the various STEM paths. Exposing the students to career options early and giving the students opportunities to explore and direct their interests, curiosity, and talents when they enter middle school will give the students a leg-up when moving on to high school and into college. In high school, the students would be better focused on career choices and goals rather than be floundering in uncertainty, wondering what they want to be when they grow up. We must begin to channel our youth into the career paths that will fill the needs of Hawaii's future, such as health care professionals, teachers, engineers, and agricultural scientists.

With the State embarking on Hawaii's Clean Energy Initiative, it is fitting that our middle school students have the facilities that support the learning opportunities which will raise them up to be the generation who will be innovators in transforming Hawaii into a state making the latest advancements in renewable energy.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of appropriating funds for Stevenson Middle School Capitol Improvement Projects.

Craig K. Segawa

1202 Prospect Street • Honolulu, HI 96822 • (808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 6, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capitol

Testimony Relating to Senate Bill 2580. Stevenson Middle School CIP

(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build and maintain laboratory facilities at Stevenson Middle School.

Stevenson Middle School has recently agreed to become a "Magnet School" with a particular emphasis on **SCIENCE**. As such, **we are requesting funds to upgrade our current buildings and infrastructure to more accurately reflect this new focus.**

In order to accommodate our renewed focus on the sciences, Stevenson would like to **relocate our current Administration building** to a new structure, to be located at the front of our current Building A layout. Doing so will allow our school to change the current Administration area to create a **centrally located area** for students to congregate for interdisciplinary units (another middle school concept) along with a more technology-based classrooms. Furthermore, this new area will feature state-of-the-art classrooms with many varied presentation tools (i.e. 'smart boards', 'Elmo or projector' units). A **large multi-purpose room** featuring sliding walls, movable tables and chairs, along with the latest research and presentation media would allow our school to host our own activities (i.e. Science Fair). This area might be used for community and school related meetings, or to **display and showcase projects** created in all content areas or interdisciplinary units.

As you are aware, **STEM** (Science Technology Engineering and Math) is a major focus of the State of Hawaii. The stated purpose of STEM is to make a move away from a service-oriented economy (i.e. tourism) to a more technological-oriented economy (high-technology industries like chemistry, physics, and biotechnology). My wife's cousin has a Masters' degree in Chemistry. He had to move to the mainland to get a job – this has been popularly referred to as "**Hawaii's Brain Drain**". Despite being a

February 6, 2008

Page 2

Math teacher, I believe that **improving the quality of Science education is a major factor in attracting and retaining these businesses. We would like to build a strong, educational background and interest in STEM areas through our curriculum and after school activities.**

Stevenson Middle School is actively involved in STEM initiatives supported by the House and Senate last session. As a **Botball Advisor**, I was extremely proud of our students placing **Third Overall in the Documentation/Presentation category at the Regional Competition**. The URL for Botball is found at <http://botball.org/>, and the direct link to our award is at <http://tinyurl.com/36nvwc>. This was in our rookie season, and we have many returnees to this year's Botball Season who are anxious to begin again. Inquiry-based learning activities like Botball make STEM come alive for our students – after last season we had many students express more interest in Computer Sciences (i.e. programming languages or Computer-Assisted-Design). Senator **Carol Fukunaga** was an integral supporter of our Botball team last year, and we hope to continue this relationship in the upcoming season.

Improved laboratory facilities and equipment would allow further learning opportunities like Botball. My wife is the host for University of Hawaii College of Engineering professors' and graduate students' after school engineering program, **Invention Factory**. The URL can be found at <http://www.ifhawaii.com/>. Through Invention Factory, our students learn about basic electrical engineering concepts such as circuits, lights, motors, and wiring speakers. The end products from this extracurricular activity are donated to children with disabilities to use. This type of **community service** is highly encouraged in middle school.

Stevenson Middle School's current structure was designed for a junior high philosophy. Particular middle school concepts need to be addressed. Part of the Middle School concept is to offer a **selection of elective classes**. Currently, our eighth graders participate in a **science-based composting unit**. The goal is to address Department of Education standards of Scientific Inquiry, Nature of Science, and Organisms and the Environment. We would like to **build and maintain a garden area** where hands-on learning will take place. Eventually, the results of this composting could allow the students and community to see the positive effects of recycling – encouraging **sustainability** and **lowering our "Carbon footprint"**.

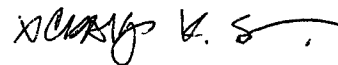
Furthermore, as Stevenson has recently been awarded a Queen's Medical Center Grant. The direct URL to this is found at <http://tinyurl.com/2q5gag>. A major part of this grant is to improve the general health of Stevenson's core demographic – native Hawaiians (among others). Part of improving the general health of our students would be to have

February 6, 2008
Page 3

improved Physical Education facilities such as a multi-court gymnasium containing classrooms, offices, multipurpose room, weight room, locker rooms, and shower facilities. Doing so from our current situation would allow both **Boys' and Girls' sporting events to be held concurrently** as opposed to at separate locations and times – quite a strain on parents' already stretched schedules. Furthermore, having an actual gymnasium instead of our current open blacktop would allow our students to exercise their bodies even during the wet winter months.

I thank you very much for your time, and I strongly urge the Committee to pass this measure without further amendments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig K. Segawa", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Craig K. Segawa

Charles Souza

1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580. Stevenson Middle School CIP
RELATING TO EDUCATION
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

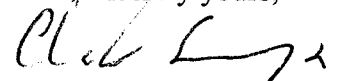
We, the undersigned members of the 7th grade Team 3, offer our testimony in strong support of House Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build and maintain recreational facilities at Middle and High Schools.

Team 3 consists of members from all content areas, servicing students from 12-14 years of age. Our students come from a wide variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. We have multiple curriculum areas that need support. As you are no doubt aware, in order for the State of Hawaii to provide an appropriate education in all subject areas, the following are our needs:

- A Health and Wellness Center that includes:
 - A computer lab, a SMART room (includes an interactive white board, projectors with Elmos, DVD players, interactive response system, etc.), primary and secondary resources, updated and more titles and resources, high capacity Xerox machines, printers, etc.
 - Upgraded electrical system to support upgraded technology throughout the school (A/C in all classes, appropriate number of computers in all rooms to run instructional programs, projectors with Elmo in all classes, etc.)
- A Multipurpose Center that includes:
 - Meeting spaces; Buc TV broadcast/media room; health and wellness center – track, covered area for various sports (basketball, volleyball, football, soccer, fitness games), gym with updated locker rooms and individual showers, weight room, rock wall, indoor tennis/racquetball courts, health classrooms, various floor surfaces for dance, wrestling, aerobics, gymnastics, etc.; storage areas for fine arts portfolios; media area for science to work on science fair (Act 213 funds science fairs); laboratory area to prepare students for scientific fields, which also includes large storage for equipment and presentation tools
 - Auditorium for fine arts and drama, which will also accommodate community usage, exhibition areas for artwork, science projects, etc.
 - Vocational classrooms for community based instruction and emotional impairments students, which includes a shower, kitchen area, laundry room, etc. to teach basic needs
 - Classrooms for students with emotional impairments, which include multisensory rooms, padded rooms, etc.

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely yours,



Charles Souza
Mathematics Teacher

Marc Nishimitsu
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580

Stevenson Middle School CIP
RELATING TO EDUCATION
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to construct a gymnasium/multi-purpose room to service the community at Stevenson Middle School. It will also upgrade badly needed improvements that relate to changing curriculum and teaching methods that are found to be effective.

Stevenson Middle School is committed to improving student achievement by using Science as a focal point to implement effective "problem based learning" strategies throughout our school. To achieve this we need to improve our facilities to include resource rooms that would accommodate large groups of students and faculty, which will aide in higher level collaboration between teachers and students.

A gymnasium/multi-purpose room will allow us to hold assemblies, indoor sports activities, art and music events, which we currently cannot sufficiently accommodate. This facility is also needed to address our intramural and extramural athletic activities here at Stevenson. The gymnasium will be very beneficial not only to the students here at Stevenson, but the community at large. Our community needs a facility to enhance one aspect of our school's focus in Science, which is to promote a healthy lifestyle.

I believe that the plans that are presented in this bill are needed to improve instruction and achievement at Stevenson Middle School, but more importantly our community at-large. I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely yours,



Marc Nishimitsu

Jared Yamamoto
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
RELATING TO EDUCATION
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee

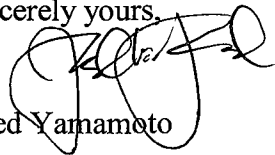
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A gymnasium/multi-purpose room will allow us to hold assemblies, indoor sports activities, art, and music events. This facility is much needed to address our athletic activities here at Stevenson. We currently do not have suitable facilities for school wide assemblies, art & music events and other large group community activities. The gymnasium will be very beneficial not only to the students here at Stevenson, but the community at large. Our community needs a facility that will provide a place that enhances our focus towards a healthy life-style.

I believe that the plans that are presented in this bill are needed to improve instruction and achievement at Stevenson Middle School, but more importantly our community at-large. I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely yours,


Jared Yamamoto

Tara Otomo
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

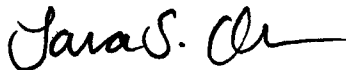
I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580 Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to provide current classroom improvements as well as the provision of space for a multi-purpose room.

My team is the only 6th grade team at our school, as well as the largest team. We have had the greatest increase in grade population over the past five years. Another feeder school has been added into our system, bringing more students to our school.

The multi-purpose room would allow our team and school to collaborate on interdisciplinary units (IDU). The National Middle School Association recommends the use of IDUs to enhance the social, emotional, and cognitive growth of young adolescents. This appropriation would assist us in reaching our school goal of becoming a science signature school as our learning would have a science focus supported by the other disciplines.

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted by,



Tara Otomo

Victoria Sweet
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

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My team is the only 6th grade team at our school, as well as the largest team. We have had the greatest increase in grade population over the past five years. Another feeder school has been added into our system, bringing more students to our school. .

The multi-purpose room would allow our team and school to collaborate on interdisciplinary units (IDU). The National Middle School Association recommends the use of IDUs to enhance the social, emotional, and cognitive growth of young adolescents. This appropriation would assist us in reaching our school goal of becoming a science signature school as our learning would have a science focus supported by the other disciplines.

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Victoria Sweet". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "V".

Victoria Sweet

Farrah Evagues
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

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The multi-purpose room would allow our team and school to collaborate on interdisciplinary units (IDU). The National Middle School Association recommends the use of IDUs to enhance the social, emotional, and cognitive growth of young adolescents. This appropriation would assist us in reaching our school goal of becoming a science signature school as our learning would have a science focus supported by the other disciplines.

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted by,


Farrah Evagues

To: Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education
From: Michelle Ray
Stevenson Middle School
1202 Prospect Street, Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520
Date: February 6, 2008
RE: Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP
TO BE HEARD: February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room 225
(Written Testimony only)

I offer this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to plan, design, and construct an addition to our Building A and to provide space for a multipurpose educational facility and new Administrative and support services office. It also appropriates funds to renovate existing structures to use for classroom purposes, and building and maintaining a gymnasium and/or multi-purpose room at the middle and high schools.

Stevenson Middle School has agreed to move towards a Science/Health and Wellness focused curriculum. Our team will support this focus through all content areas. Stevenson Middle School utilizes the teaming concept as supported by the Middle School concept. Our Team consists of teachers from various content areas who service students from a variety of backgrounds and learning abilities. In order to meet the needs of this Science/Health and Wellness focus for our diverse population, we would like to request the following:

- a multi-purpose room which can be used for:
 - school-wide assemblies, exhibitions, performances, various clubs activities, and additional academic activities such as, Botball and the school Spelling Bee
 - the Counseling department, Hale Kipa, and YMCA activities
 - teams to conduct project based learning and interdisciplinary units
 - students to have a place to socialize with one another
- a renovated learning center (Library) which includes:
 - designated areas for a computer lab, a research area, small group work, whole class instruction, comfortable reading area, and listening labs
 - natural light and an aesthetically pleasing environment conducive to learning
- a Physical Education complex containing:
 - a gym with different rooms with various surfaces
 - a track and field used for football, baseball, soccer, etc.
 - a swimming pool
 - updated locker rooms with individualized shower rooms
- classrooms with
 - Smart board, Elmo/projector, and accessories
 - at least 5 computers with LCD screens
 - Upgraded A/V equipment
 - Upgraded lab facilities in the Science classrooms
- School wide
 - air conditioning for all rooms
 - Wireless Network
 - Upgraded electrical system

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Ray

Lara Kolb

1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580. Stevenson Middle School CIP
RELATING TO EDUCATION
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

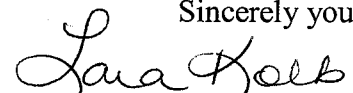
We, the undersigned members of the 7th grade Team 3, offer our testimony in strong support of House Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build and maintain recreational facilities at Middle and High Schools.

Team 3 consists of members from all content areas, servicing students from 12-14 years of age. Our students come from a wide variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. We have multiple curriculum areas that need support. As you are no doubt aware, in order for the State of Hawaii to provide an appropriate education in all subject areas, the following are our needs:

- A Health and Wellness Center that includes:
 - A computer lab, a SMART room (includes an interactive white board, projectors with Elmos, DVD players, interactive response system, etc.), primary and secondary resources, updated and more titles and resources, high capacity Xerox machines, printers, etc.
 - Upgraded electrical system to support upgraded technology throughout the school (A/C in all classes, appropriate number of computers in all rooms to run instructional programs, projectors with Elmo in all classes, etc.)
- A Multipurpose Center that includes:
 - Meeting spaces; Buc TV broadcast/media room; health and wellness center – track, covered area for various sports (basketball, volleyball, football, soccer, fitness games), gym with updated locker rooms and individual showers, weight room, rock wall, indoor tennis/racquetball courts, health classrooms, various floor surfaces for dance, wrestling, aerobics, gymnastics, etc.; storage areas for fine arts portfolios; media area for science to work on science fair (Act 213 funds science fairs); laboratory area to prepare students for scientific fields, which also includes large storage for equipment and presentation tools
 - Auditorium for fine arts and drama, which will also accommodate community usage, exhibition areas for artwork, science projects, etc.
 - Vocational classrooms for community based instruction and emotional impairments students, which includes a shower, kitchen area, laundry room, etc. to teach basic needs
 - Classrooms for students with emotional impairments, which include multisensory rooms, padded rooms, etc.

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely yours,



Lara Kolb
Language Arts Teacher

Brandy Shimomaye

1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580. Stevenson Middle School CIP
RELATING TO EDUCATION
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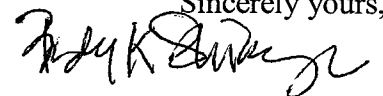
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 - Classrooms for students with emotional impairments, which include multisensory rooms, padded rooms, etc.

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely yours,



Brandy Shimomaye
Social Studies Teacher

TO: SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

FROM: Byron S. Woodside, Educator
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822

Tel (808) 587-4520
Byron A. Woodside
(Written and Oral Testimony to be Provided)

RE: Testimony in Strong Support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education

TO BE HEARD: Friday February 8, 2008 1:15 PM Conference Room 225
(Oral and Written Testimony)

Chair Norman Sakamoto and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to give testimony in **strong support of Senate Bill 2580 to benefit Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School.**

I am Byron Woodside. I have taught Science at the middle school level since 1984. I am a proud graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, and trained to be a teacher at Brigham Young University at Laie.

During my years as a professional educator, I have been involved in many positive initiatives and educational improvements. With your support, we at Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School will be able to (1) join the national vanguard of researchers, teachers, and administrators working to strengthen the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) initiative, and (2) help pioneer the Signature School concept in the Honolulu School District.

An exemplary public/private partnership has developed at Stevenson Middle School. This innovative alliance is between Stevenson, The Queen's Medical Center, and the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine. In 2007, an award of \$750,000 was made to this team from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. The purpose of this multi-year award is to enable students, educators, and community members to explore and pursue opportunities and develop skills related to Science career opportunities in general and Medical Technology careers in specific.

The new facilities we seek are major: new multipurpose gymnasium/recreational community center and classrooms; new administration and science center; additional parking which will also support the newly renovated football stadium field at President Theodore Roosevelt High School; and landscaping improvements for the Stevenson campus perimeter.

These components together will catalyze far-reaching benefits for decades to come!

Please pass Senate Bill 2580 and move it forward to the Committee on Ways and Means for further consideration. Thank you!

Miranda Fountain
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580 Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to provide current classroom improvements as well as the provision of space for a multi-purpose room.

My team is the only 6th grade team at our school, as well as the largest team. We have had the greatest increase in grade population over the past five years. Another feeder school has been added into our system, bringing more students to our school. .

The multi-purpose room would allow our team and school to collaborate on interdisciplinary units (IDU). The National Middle School Association recommends the use of IDUs to enhance the social, emotional, and cognitive growth of young adolescents. This appropriation would assist us in reaching our school goal of becoming a science signature school as our learning would have a science focus supported by the other disciplines.

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted by,



Miranda Fountain

Geoff Garvin

1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580. Stevenson Middle School CIP
RELATING TO EDUCATION
(Written Testimony Only)

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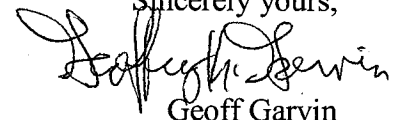
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 - Classrooms for students with emotional impairments, which include multisensory rooms, padded rooms, etc.

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely yours,



Geoff Garvin
Physical Education Teacher

Paige Yerxa

1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822

(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP

RELATING TO EDUCATION

(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

We, the undersigned members of the 8th grade Team 1, offer testimony in strong support of House Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build and maintain a gymnasium and/or multi-purpose room at Middle and High Schools. Our school's focus is Science driven. Our faculty has agreed to become a Science signature school.

Team 1 consists of members from all content areas, servicing students from 12-14 years of age. Our students come from a wide variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. Their challenges vary from academic, to social, to emotional and physical needs. To better foster the development of the young adolescents in these areas, we are hereby requesting the following additions to our existing facilities and programs.

Our Band Director Ross Nakamura would like to request the following:

- A new music facility to be constructed with particular regard to current building codes for band, choir, orchestra, and general music education, while taking into account modern music instruction and practices (room acoustics, current floor plans, storage, and equipment).
- To share with you what our current conditions are for our band room. Our current band room is 1,200 square feet of rehearsal space with an 11 foot ceiling. Today's recommended room for a band size of 65 students requires 2,552 square feet of rehearsal space with a ceiling height range of 18-22 feet. Stevenson's Band has been averaging 80 students per rehearsal. These figures come from "Planning Guide for Secondary School Music Facilities" pub. Wenger Corporation (Owatonna, MN).

Our Special Education Teacher Dennis Itoga has a Fully Self-Contained (FSC) classroom that services students with Emotional Disorders. We also house Community-Based Instruction (CBI)

which focuses on children with severe autism and mental retardation. As such, Mr. Itoga is requesting the following:

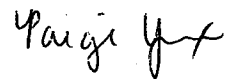
- A new construction within his classroom consisting of a separate area that is able to be completely shut off from the rest of the classroom and/or campus. This area would serve as an Independent Learning Center (ILC) during crises. This area would be anywhere from 10 feet by 10 feet to an ideal size of 20 feet by 20 feet.
- A vocational services room which includes a clothes washer and dryer; a complete kitchen (stove, sink, refrigerator, and microwave). This would serve as a *learning environment focused upon helping students with severe mental impairments to develop adaptive living skills and coping strategies for independence.*
- Separate restrooms for males and females.
- A multi-sensory classroom containing white noise, waterfalls, natural plants, aquariums, and dimmable natural incandescent lighting. The controlled learning environment will address environmental needs pertaining to students with severe autism and other pervasive developmental disorders, specifically by addressing hyper and hypo-sensitivity and occupationally therapeutic related concerns.

Our Physical Education Teacher Carlton Lou would like to request the following:

- A multi-purpose room that would help us to broaden our physical education curriculum. It would allow us to offer classes, such as dance, hula, aerobics, gymnastics, and wrestling, which we are unable to offer at this time due to the lack of space.
- A multi-court gymnasium which would allow us to broaden our curriculum and provide us an area which would allow the students to participate in physical activities especially on rainy days.
- A multi-court tennis facility to play tennis and paddle tennis games

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580

Submitted by,



Paige Yerxa

Carlton Lou

1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822

(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP

RELATING TO EDUCATION

(Written Testimony Only)

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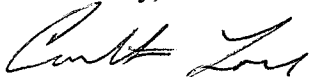
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- A multi-court tennis facility to play tennis and paddle tennis games

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580

Submitted by,



Carlton Lou

To: Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education
From: Matthew Mitsuyuki
Stevenson Middle School
1202 Prospect Street, Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520
Date: February 6, 2008
RE: Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP
TO BE HEARD: February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room 225
(Written Testimony only)

I offer this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to plan, design, and construct an addition to our Building A and to provide space for a multipurpose educational facility and new Administrative and support services office. It also appropriates funds to renovate existing structures to use for classroom purposes, and building and maintaining a gymnasium and/or multi-purpose room at the middle and high schools.

Stevenson Middle School has agreed to move towards a Science/Health and Wellness focused curriculum. Our team will support this focus through all content areas. Stevenson Middle School utilizes the teaming concept as supported by the Middle School concept. Our Team consists of teachers from various content areas who service students from a variety of backgrounds and learning abilities. In order to meet the needs of this Science/Health and Wellness focus for our diverse population, we would like to request the following:

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 - natural light and an aesthetically pleasing environment conducive to learning
- a Physical Education complex containing:
 - a gym with different rooms with various surfaces
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 - a swimming pool
 - updated locker rooms with individualized shower rooms
- classrooms with
 - Smart board, Elmo/projector, and accessories
 - at least 5 computers with LCD screens
 - Upgraded A/V equipment
 - Upgraded lab facilities in the Science classrooms
- School wide
 - air conditioning for all rooms
 - Wireless Network
 - Upgraded electrical system

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Respectfully submitted,



James Tanimura
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
RELATING TO EDUCATION
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to construct a gymnasium/multi-purpose room to service the community at Stevenson Middle School. It will also upgrade badly needed improvements that relate to changing curriculum and teaching methods that are found to be effective.

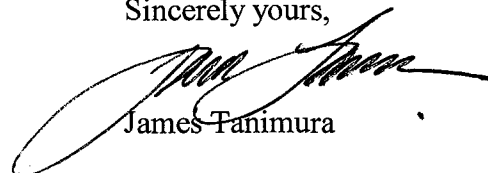
Stevenson Middle School is committed to improving our student's achievement by using Science as a focal point to implement effective "problem based learning" strategies throughout our school. To achieve this we need to improve our facilities to include spaces that would accommodate large groups of students and faculty, which will aide in higher level collaboration between teachers and students.

Gymnasium/multi-purpose room will allow us to hold assemblies, indoor sports activities, and art & music events. This facility is much needed to address our athletic activities here at Stevenson. We currently do not have appropriate facilities for assemblies, art & music events and other large-group school-wide and/or community-wide activities.

A gymnasium would be very beneficial not only to the students here at Stevenson, but to our community at large. Our community needs a facility that will be a gathering place to enhance a healthy life-style. Currently, there are no facilities in the community that can service children, teens and adults in positive activity.

I believe that the plans that are presented in this bill are needed to improve instruction and achievement at Stevenson Middle School, but more importantly our community at-large. I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely yours,



James Tanimura

Stevenson Middle School: Wendy Kau – Reading Department

1202 Prospect Street

Honolulu, HI 96822

(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580, R.L. Stevenson Middle School CIP

(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

We, the undersigned members of the Reading Workshop Department, offer testimony in strong support of House Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to construct a building to house administrative and support offices and multipurpose educational facilities, and plan and design a multipurpose recreational facility (such as a gymnasium) at R.L. Stevenson Middle School.

The Reading Department consists of members from multiple content areas, language arts, social studies, and various disciplines of special education, servicing students from 11-14 years of age. Our students come from a wide variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds; their challenges vary academically, socially, emotionally, and physically. To better foster the development of young adolescents, we hereby request the following additions to our existing facilities and programs:

- A Health and Wellness Center which includes:
 - A computer lab with updated equipment and programs
 - SMART rooms which includes an interactive white board, projectors with ELMOs, DVD players, interactive response systems, etc.
 - A library with updated primary and secondary teaching and learning resources, expanded book collections of both fiction and non-fiction publications, and updated equipment such as Xerox machines, computers, printers, etc.
 - Upgraded electrical systems to support technology throughout the school such as air conditioning in the classrooms, support for computers in the classrooms and other various equipment.

- A Multipurpose Center/Gymnasium that includes:
 - Media center that can be used for running Buccaneer TV broadcast and/or similar activities.
 - A large covered area which could be used for various activities such as track, basketball, volleyball, dance, aerobics, gymnastics, etc.
 - A gymnasium area which would include locker rooms, weight rooms, rock wall, classroom space, and spaces that have various floor surfaces specific for activities such as dance, wrestling, etc.
 - Storage areas for fine arts portfolios

- Space for students to work on extracurricular activities such as botball, robotics, science fair, etc. (Act 213 funds science fairs)
- Auditorium for whole school assemblies, fine arts exhibitions, drama productions, band performances, and parent involvement nights.
- Vocational classrooms for community based instruction and emotional impairments students, which include a shower, kitchen area, laundry room, etc. to teach basic needs
- Classrooms for students with emotional impairments, which include multi-sensory rooms, padded rooms, etc.
- Large storage for equipment and tools

Reading is an integral part of every person's life. We feel by supporting this bill, we will have an overall positive effect on the lives of the students attending R.L. Stevenson Middle School. By enriching their lives through academics and overall physical well-being, the reading teachers will be able to further enrich them with our own curriculum.

We urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely,



Wendy Kau
Reading Teacher

Stevenson Middle School: Rose Yonamine – Reading Department

1202 Prospect Street

Honolulu, HI 96822

(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580, R.L. Stevenson Middle School CIP

(Written Testimony Only)

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- Classrooms for students with emotional impairments, which include multi-sensory rooms, padded rooms, etc.
- Large storage for equipment and tools

Reading is an integral part of every person's life. We feel by supporting this bill, we will have an overall positive effect on the lives of the students attending R.L. Stevenson Middle School. By enriching their lives through academics and overall physical well-being, the reading teachers will be able to further enrich them with our own curriculum.

We urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely,



Rose Yonamine
Reading Teacher

Dennis Itoga

1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822

(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP

RELATING TO EDUCATION

(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

We, the undersigned members of the 8th grade Team 1, offer testimony in strong support of House Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build and maintain a gymnasium and/or multi-purpose room at Middle and High Schools. Our school's focus is Science driven. Our faculty has agreed to become a Science signature school.

Team 1 consists of members from all content areas, servicing students from 12-14 years of age. Our students come from a wide variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. Their challenges vary from academic, to social, to emotional and physical needs. To better foster the development of the young adolescents in these areas, we are hereby requesting the following additions to our existing facilities and programs.

Our Band Director Ross Nakamura would like to request the following:

- A new music facility to be constructed with particular regard to current building codes for band, choir, orchestra, and general music education, while taking into account modern music instruction and practices (room acoustics, current floor plans, storage, and equipment).
- To share with you what our current conditions are for our band room. Our current band room is 1,200 square feet of rehearsal space with an 11 foot ceiling. Today's recommended room for a band size of 65 students requires 2,552 square feet of rehearsal space with a ceiling height range of 18-22 feet. Stevenson's Band has been averaging 80 students per rehearsal. These figures come from "Planning Guide for Secondary School Music Facilities" pub. Wenger Corporation (Owatonna, MN).

Our Special Education Teacher Dennis Itoga has a Fully Self-Contained (FSC) classroom that services students with Emotional Disorders. We also house Community-Based Instruction (CBI)

which focuses on children with severe autism and mental retardation. As such, Mr. Itoga is requesting the following:

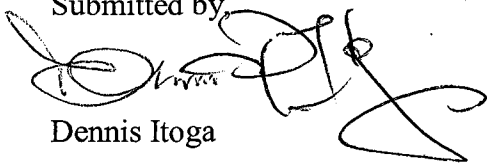
- A new construction within his classroom consisting of a separate area that is able to be completely shut off from the rest of the classroom and/or campus. This area would serve as an Independent Learning Center (ILC) during crises. This area would be anywhere from 10 feet by 10 feet to an ideal size of 20 feet by 20 feet.
- A vocational services room which includes a clothes washer and dryer; a complete kitchen (stove, sink, refrigerator, and microwave). This would serve as a *learning environment focused upon helping students with severe mental impairments to develop adaptive living skills and coping strategies for independence.*
- Separate restrooms for males and females.
- A multi-sensory classroom containing white noise, waterfalls, natural plants, aquariums, and dimmable natural incandescent lighting. The controlled learning environment will address environmental needs pertaining to students with severe autism and other pervasive developmental disorders, specifically by addressing hyper and hypo-sensitivity and occupationally therapeutic related concerns.

Our Physical Education Teacher Carlton Lou would like to request the following:

- A multi-purpose room that would help us to broaden our physical education curriculum. It would allow us to offer classes, such as dance, hula, aerobics, gymnastics, and wrestling, which we are unable to offer at this time due to the lack of space.
- A multi-court gymnasium which would allow us to broaden our curriculum and provide us an area which would allow the students to participate in physical activities especially on rainy days.
- A multi-court tennis facility to play tennis and paddle tennis games

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dennis Itoga', written over a horizontal line.

Dennis Itoga

Christine Asuncion
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580 Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to provide current classroom improvements as well as the provision of space for a multi-purpose room.

My team is the only 6th grade team at our school, as well as the largest team. We have had the greatest increase in grade population over the past five years. Another feeder school has been added into our system, bringing more students to our school. .

The multi-purpose room would allow our team and school to collaborate on interdisciplinary units (IDU). The National Middle School Association recommends the use of IDUs to enhance the social, emotional, and cognitive growth of young adolescents. This appropriation would assist us in reaching our school goal of becoming a science signature school as our learning would have a science focus supported by the other disciplines.

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted by,



Christine Asuncion

To: Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education
From: Shally Giang
Stevenson Middle School
1202 Prospect Street, Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520
Date: February 6, 2008
RE: Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP
TO BE HEARD: February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room 225
(Written Testimony only)

I offer this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to plan, design, and construct an addition to our Building A and to provide space for a multipurpose educational facility and new Administrative and support services office. It also appropriates funds to renovate existing structures to use for classroom purposes, and building and maintaining a gymnasium and/or multi-purpose room at the middle and high schools.

Stevenson Middle School has agreed to move towards a Science/Health and Wellness focused curriculum. Our team will support this focus through all content areas. Stevenson Middle School utilizes the teaming concept as supported by the Middle School concept. Our Team consists of teachers from various content areas who service students from a variety of backgrounds and learning abilities. In order to meet the needs of this Science/Health and Wellness focus for our diverse population, we would like to request the following:

- a multi-purpose room which can be used for:
 - school-wide assemblies, exhibitions, performances, various clubs activities, and additional academic activities such as, Botball and the school Spelling Bee
 - the Counseling department, Hale Kipa, and YMCA activities
 - teams to conduct project based learning and interdisciplinary units
 - students to have a place to socialize with one another
- a renovated learning center (Library) which includes:
 - designated areas for a computer lab, a research area, small group work, whole class instruction, comfortable reading area, and listening labs
 - natural light and an aesthetically pleasing environment conducive to learning
- a Physical Education complex containing:
 - a gym with different rooms with various surfaces
 - a track and field used for football, baseball, soccer, etc.
 - a swimming pool
 - updated locker rooms with individualized shower rooms
- classrooms with
 - Smart board, Elmo/projector, and accessories
 - at least 5 computers with LCD screens
 - Upgraded A/V equipment
 - Upgraded lab facilities in the Science classrooms
- School wide
 - air conditioning for all rooms
 - Wireless Network
 - Upgraded electrical system

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Respectfully submitted,



To: Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education
From: Sharri Peterson
Stevenson Middle School
1202 Prospect Street, Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520
Date: February 6, 2008
RE: Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP
TO BE HEARD: February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room 225
(Written Testimony only)

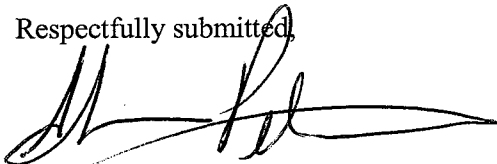
I offer this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to plan, design, and construct an addition to our Building A and to provide space for a multipurpose educational facility and new Administrative and support services office. It also appropriates funds to renovate existing structures to use for classroom purposes, and building and maintaining a gymnasium and/or multi-purpose room at the middle and high schools.

Stevenson Middle School has agreed to move towards a Science/Health and Wellness focused curriculum. Our team will support this focus through all content areas. Stevenson Middle School utilizes the teaming concept as supported by the Middle School concept. Our Team consists of teachers from various content areas who service students from a variety of backgrounds and learning abilities. In order to meet the needs of this Science/Health and Wellness focus for our diverse population, we would like to request the following:

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 - school-wide assemblies, exhibitions, performances, various clubs activities, and additional academic activities such as, Botball and the school Spelling Bee
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 - teams to conduct project based learning and interdisciplinary units
 - students to have a place to socialize with one another
- a renovated learning center (Library) which includes:
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 - a gym with different rooms with various surfaces
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 - a swimming pool
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- classrooms with
 - Smart board, Elmo/projector, and accessories
 - at least 5 computers with LCD screens
 - Upgraded A/V equipment
 - Upgraded lab facilities in the Science classrooms
- School wide
 - air conditioning for all rooms
 - Wireless Network
 - Upgraded electrical system

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Respectfully submitted,



Shandra Hew

1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580. Stevenson Middle School CIP

RELATING TO EDUCATION

(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

We, the undersigned members of the 7th grade Team 3, offer our testimony in strong support of House Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build and maintain recreational facilities at Middle and High Schools.

Team 3 consists of members from all content areas, servicing students from 12-14 years of age. Our students come from a wide variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. We have multiple curriculum areas that need support. As you are no doubt aware, in order for the State of Hawaii to provide an appropriate education in all subject areas, the following are our needs:

- A Health and Wellness Center that includes:
 - A computer lab, a SMART room (includes an interactive white board, projectors with Elmos, DVD players, interactive response system, etc.), primary and secondary resources, updated and more titles and resources, high capacity Xerox machines, printers, etc.
 - Upgraded electrical system to support upgraded technology throughout the school (A/C in all classes, appropriate number of computers in all rooms to run instructional programs, projectors with Elmo in all classes, etc.)
- A Multipurpose Center that includes:
 - Meeting spaces; Buc TV broadcast/media room; health and wellness center – track, covered area for various sports (basketball, volleyball, football, soccer, fitness games), gym with updated locker rooms and individual showers, weight room, rock wall, indoor tennis/racquetball courts, health classrooms, various floor surfaces for dance, wrestling, aerobics, gymnastics, etc.; storage areas for fine arts portfolios; media area for science to work on science fair (Act 213 funds science fairs); laboratory area to prepare students for scientific fields, which also includes large storage for equipment and presentation tools
 - Auditorium for fine arts and drama, which will also accommodate community usage, exhibition areas for artwork, science projects, etc.
 - Vocational classrooms for community based instruction and emotional impairments students, which includes a shower, kitchen area, laundry room, etc. to teach basic needs
 - Classrooms for students with emotional impairments, which include multisensory rooms, padded rooms, etc.

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely yours,



Shandra Hew

Special Education, CBI Teacher

Delrene Tschida
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580 Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to provide current classroom improvements as well as the provision of space for a multi-purpose room.

My team is the only 6th grade team at our school, as well as the largest team. We have had the greatest increase in grade population over the past five years. Another feeder school has been added into our system, bringing more students to our school. .

The multi-purpose room would allow our team and school to collaborate on interdisciplinary units (IDU). The National Middle School Association recommends the use of IDUs to enhance the social, emotional, and cognitive growth of young adolescents. This appropriation would assist us in reaching our school goal of becoming a science signature school as our learning would have a science focus supported by the other disciplines.

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted by,



Delrene Tschida

Naomi O'Sullivan
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580

Stevenson Middle School CIP
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580 Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to provide current classroom improvements as well as the provision of space for a multi-purpose room.

My team is the only 6th grade team at our school, as well as the largest team. We have had the greatest increase in grade population over the past five years. Another feeder school has been added into our system, bringing more students to our school.

The multi-purpose room would allow our team and school to collaborate on interdisciplinary units (IDU). The National Middle School Association recommends the use of IDUs to enhance the social, emotional, and cognitive growth of young adolescents. This appropriation would assist us in reaching our school goal of becoming a science signature school as our learning would have a science focus supported by the other disciplines.

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted by,



Naomi O'Sullivan

Johanna Bishop
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

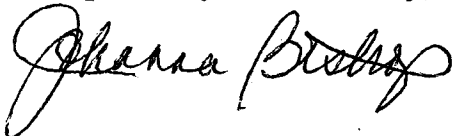
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In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted by,



Johanna Bishop

Wendy Okamoto
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 6, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 016, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580

RELATING TO EDUCATION

(Written Testimony only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer this testimony in strong support of the Senate Bill 2580 for the request of \$9,500,000 for the improvement of Stevenson Middle School facilities.

I am Wendy Okamoto, Teacher and Student Activities Coordinator (SAC) at Stevenson Middle School. As the SAC, I have seen how valuable the voices of students be heard to enable them to effect change and promote positive educational experiences. These students are Hawaii's future and we have the responsibility to give them the best education possible.

The proposed renovations and new construction of multipurpose buildings will provide Stevenson students the opportunities to collaborate to problem solve and think critically. These skills are the foundation for becoming successful as adults. New facilities will also encourage team sports and athletic events year round as we promote healthy lifestyles and choices for our students.

The larger school community and surrounding neighborhoods will also be beneficiaries of the proposed facilities, as it can become a meeting place for many events and activities.

I am honored to be a part of this legislative process and to support the future of Stevenson Middle School's academic achievements.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Okamoto, Teacher

Joan Stone
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580 Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to provide current classroom improvements as well as the provision of space for a multi-purpose room.

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The multi-purpose room would allow our team and school to collaborate on interdisciplinary units (IDU). The National Middle School Association recommends the use of IDUs to enhance the social, emotional, and cognitive growth of young adolescents. This appropriation would assist us in reaching our school goal of becoming a science signature school as our learning would have a science focus supported by the other disciplines.

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted by,



Joan Stone

Kenneth Agcaoili

1202 Prospect Street

Honolulu, HI 96822

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP

RELATING TO EDUCATION

(Written and Verbal Testimony)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. Our school's focus is science driven. Our faculty has agreed to become a science signature school. Thus, this bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build a new administration building, renovate the existing office space to become a science-focused learning laboratory, maintain and update the laboratory, and construct a multi-purpose double covered gymnasium.

As you are no doubt aware, in order for the State of Hawaii to provide an appropriate education in science for its students, laboratory facilities are not only highly desirable, but absolutely necessary. As a science teacher at Stevenson Middle School, I look forward to being able to provide my future students with the ability to explore science in the best possible manner—use of the inquiry through scientific method. Enlarged laboratory facilities with additional and updated electrical systems would greatly assist me in this endeavor. Larger storage or closet space is needed to house our science equipment. This can be accommodated in a learning laboratory.

State of the art equipment, as well as upgraded electrical and technological systems would allow our students to conduct research, design and test investigations, and present their work utilizing various presentation tools. A large multi-purpose room with sliding walls, movable tables and chairs, and the latest research and presentation media would allow our school to host our own science fair. In addition, this room can be used for community and school related meetings, or to display and showcase projects created in all content areas or interdisciplinary units (a middle school concept). We would like to house a Roosevelt complex area science showcase.

Our school is in collaboration with Queens Medical Center in a Howard Hughes Medical Institute grant to promote health and wellness, science skills, and interest in the medical technical occupations. Our science teachers have been trained by the University of Hawaii Medical School in Problem Based Learning (PBL). Case studies are written with a science focus, with other content areas supporting the case through instruction. We are currently implementing PBL case studies in our classrooms and realize that a large multipurpose room would allow for team teaching, and additional hands-on activities. We also held our first science wellness family night in February 2008. With a multipurpose facility, we will be able to facilitate large collaborative events with our many business and community partners.

As you are also aware, the State of Hawaii is attempting to attract more industries in high technology fields such as chemistry, physics, and biotechnology. Currently

graduates of Hawaii's colleges must move to the mainland to be employed in technological fields, causing Hawaii to lose its "best and brightest" to mainland states, such as California. I believe that enhancing the quality of scientific education for our students may be a factor in attracting these types of companies to do business in Hawaii. Your support will set the foundation to provide jobs for Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) graduates. We would like to build a strong, educational background and interest in STEM areas through our curriculum and after school activities.

Stevenson Middle School is actively involved in the STEM initiatives that the House and Senate have supported last session. Our Botball Team placed Third Overall in the Documentation/Presentation category at the Regional Competition. And they eagerly await the 2008 competition. It is this type of inquiry-based learning that makes science, technology, engineering, and math come alive for our students. Improved laboratory facilities and equipment would allow additional learning opportunities such as this. For a second year, our school is hosting University of Hawaii College of Engineering professors and graduate students in an after school engineering program, Invention Factory. Our students learn about circuits, lights, motors, and sounds from these mentors and the end products are donated to children with disabilities to use. This type of community service is highly encouraged in middle school. As you move forward with STEM initiatives, please consider how it would provide training support for our robotics team and budding engineers.

Our sixth and eighth graders also train and participate in Challenger Center Hawaii. Our curriculum supports higher level critical thinking skills to complete a simulated NASA mission. A larger learning laboratory would provide the space, tools, equipment, and technology necessary to prepare our students for this rigorous curriculum.

Stevenson Middle School's current structure was designed for a junior high philosophy. Particular middle school concepts need to be addressed. Part of the Middle School concept is to offer a selection of elective classes. Currently, our eighth graders participate in a science-based composting unit. The goal is to address Department of Education standards of Scientific Inquiry, Nature of Science, and Organisms and the Environment. We have built and our students maintain a garden area where hands-on learning will take place. Our school has a large percentage of Native Hawaiian students; in order to sustain their culture we would like to incorporate indigenous plants and their cultural and medicinal uses. Eventually, the results of this composting would allow the students and community to see the positive effects of recycling.

Grade level pods is another middle school concept needing attention. This year, our school has moved grade level teachers closer together to allow sixth, seventh, and eighth teams to be centrally located. As elementary schools continue to move their sixth graders to Stevenson Middle School, we will need additional classrooms and storage space. Adding another floor or wing to our existing A-building structure or to a new administration building would alleviate crowded classrooms. In order to provide a healthy, conducive learning environment air conditioning will be essential. In addition, building another floor on top of the existing office would allow for other educational uses such as a new wing to the library, learning center, study area, or a central, covered gathering place for student activities.

The science focus also encompasses the health and wellness of our students. A double covered gym with classrooms and updated locker rooms would allow new

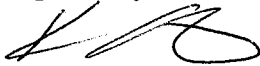
opportunities for learning. Covered areas are necessary. On rainy days, our students need an area where they can congregate during non-instructional time. There are currently, very few areas for them on rainy days. Likewise, the entire student population can be gathered together to hold assemblies. Currently, our school needs to run two assemblies with half of the school at a time. In addition, Roosevelt High School can use the gym to hold practices and athletic events, as now boys and girls games must run concurrently.

Continuing with the health and wellness focus, the whole child is also important. Our art and music program cannot be ignored. Performances and showcases of student work can be displayed in the multipurpose room. The current band and art rooms are inadequate for optimum learning. Please consider additional funding for these content areas. Our talented students have won numerous awards. We must support them.

Having an atrium or conservatory covering the grassy areas in or adjacent to A-building would help tremendously. Tables and seating would encourage peer interaction and socialization, another middle school concept. I urge you to consider these ideas, as students need alternative downtime areas, especially during the rainy fall and winter months.

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Agcaoili', written in a cursive style.

Kenneth Agcaoili

William Miller

1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822

(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP

RELATING TO EDUCATION

(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

We, the undersigned members of the 8th grade Team 1, offer testimony in strong support of House Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build and maintain a gymnasium and/or multi-purpose room at Middle and High Schools. Our school's focus is Science driven. Our faculty has agreed to become a Science signature school.

Team 1 consists of members from all content areas, servicing students from 12-14 years of age. Our students come from a wide variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. Their challenges vary from academic, to social, to emotional and physical needs. To better foster the development of the young adolescents in these areas, we are hereby requesting the following additions to our existing facilities and programs.

Our Band Director Ross Nakamura would like to request the following:

- A new music facility to be constructed with particular regard to current building codes for band, choir, orchestra, and general music education, while taking into account modern music instruction and practices (room acoustics, current floor plans, storage, and equipment).
- To share with you what our current conditions are for our band room. Our current band room is 1,200 square feet of rehearsal space with an 11 foot ceiling. Today's recommended room for a band size of 65 students requires 2,552 square feet of rehearsal space with a ceiling height range of 18-22 feet. Stevenson's Band has been averaging 80 students per rehearsal. These figures come from "Planning Guide for Secondary School Music Facilities" pub. Wenger Corporation (Owatonna, MN).

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which focuses on children with severe autism and mental retardation. As such, Mr. Itoga is requesting the following:

- A new construction within his classroom consisting of a separate area that is able to be completely shut off from the rest of the classroom and/or campus. This area would serve as an Independent Learning Center (ILC) during crises. This area would be anywhere from 10 feet by 10 feet to an ideal size of 20 feet by 20 feet.
- A vocational services room which includes a clothes washer and dryer; a complete kitchen (stove, sink, refrigerator, and microwave). This would serve as a *learning environment focused upon helping students with severe mental impairments to develop adaptive living skills and coping strategies for independence.*
- Separate restrooms for males and females.
- A multi-sensory classroom containing white noise, waterfalls, natural plants, aquariums, and dimmable natural incandescent lighting. The controlled learning environment will address environmental needs pertaining to students with severe autism and other pervasive developmental disorders, specifically by addressing hyper and hypo-sensitivity and occupationally therapeutic related concerns.

Our Physical Education Teacher Carlton Lou would like to request the following:

- A multi-purpose room that would help us to broaden our physical education curriculum. It would allow us to offer classes, such as dance, hula, aerobics, gymnastics, and wrestling, which we are unable to offer at this time due to the lack of space.
- A multi-court gymnasium which would allow us to broaden our curriculum and provide us an area which would allow the students to participate in physical activities especially on rainy days.
- A multi-court tennis facility to play tennis and paddle tennis games

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580

Submitted by,

William Miller

Irene Ueda

1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822

(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP

RELATING TO EDUCATION

(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

We, the undersigned members of the 8th grade Team 1, offer testimony in strong support of House Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build and maintain a gymnasium and/or multi-purpose room at Middle and High Schools. Our school's focus is Science driven. Our faculty has agreed to become a Science signature school.

Team 1 consists of members from all content areas, servicing students from 12-14 years of age. Our students come from a wide variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. Their challenges vary from academic, to social, to emotional and physical needs. To better foster the development of the young adolescents in these areas, we are hereby requesting the following additions to our existing facilities and programs.

Our Band Director Ross Nakamura would like to request the following:

- A new music facility to be constructed with particular regard to current building codes for band, choir, orchestra, and general music education, while taking into account modern music instruction and practices (room acoustics, current floor plans, storage, and equipment).
- To share with you what our current conditions are for our band room. Our current band room is 1,200 square feet of rehearsal space with an 11 foot ceiling. Today's recommended room for a band size of 65 students requires 2,552 square feet of rehearsal space with a ceiling height range of 18-22 feet. Stevenson's Band has been averaging 80 students per rehearsal. These figures come from "Planning Guide for Secondary School Music Facilities" pub. Wenger Corporation (Owatonna, MN).

Our Special Education Teacher Dennis Itoga has a Fully Self-Contained (FSC) classroom that services students with Emotional Disorders. We also house Community-Based Instruction (CBI)

which focuses on children with severe autism and mental retardation. As such, Mr. Itoga is requesting the following:

- A new construction within his classroom consisting of a separate area that is able to be completely shut off from the rest of the classroom and/or campus. This area would serve as an Independent Learning Center (ILC) during crises. This area would be anywhere from 10 feet by 10 feet to an ideal size of 20 feet by 20 feet.
- A vocational services room which includes a clothes washer and dryer; a complete kitchen (stove, sink, refrigerator, and microwave). This would serve as a *learning environment focused upon helping students with severe mental impairments to develop adaptive living skills and coping strategies for independence.*
- Separate restrooms for males and females.
- A multi-sensory classroom containing white noise, waterfalls, natural plants, aquariums, and dimmable natural incandescent lighting. The controlled learning environment will address environmental needs pertaining to students with severe autism and other pervasive developmental disorders, specifically by addressing hyper and hypo-sensitivity and occupationally therapeutic related concerns.

Our Physical Education Teacher Carlton Lou would like to request the following:

- A multi-purpose room that would help us to broaden our physical education curriculum. It would allow us to offer classes, such as dance, hula, aerobics, gymnastics, and wrestling, which we are unable to offer at this time due to the lack of space.
- A multi-court gymnasium which would allow us to broaden our curriculum and provide us an area which would allow the students to participate in physical activities especially on rainy days.
- A multi-court tennis facility to play tennis and paddle tennis games

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580

Submitted by,

Irene Ueda

Kimberlee Gaylord
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580 Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to provide current classroom improvements as well as the provision of space for a multi-purpose room.

My team is the only 6th grade team at our school, as well as the largest team. We have had the greatest increase in grade population over the past five years. Another feeder school has been added into our system, bringing more students to our school. .

The multi-purpose room would allow our team and school to collaborate on interdisciplinary units (IDU). The National Middle School Association recommends the use of IDUs to enhance the social, emotional, and cognitive growth of young adolescents. This appropriation would assist us in reaching our school goal of becoming a science signature school as our learning would have a science focus supported by the other disciplines.

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted by,


Kimberlee Gaylord

Lynette Takehara
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

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My team is the only 6th grade team at our school, as well as the largest team. We have had the greatest increase in grade population over the past five years. Another feeder school has been added into our system, bringing more students to our school.

The multi-purpose room would allow our team and school to collaborate on interdisciplinary units (IDU). The National Middle School Association recommends the use of IDUs to enhance the social, emotional, and cognitive growth of young adolescents. This appropriation would assist us in reaching our school goal of becoming a science signature school as our learning would have a science focus supported by the other disciplines.

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted by,



Lynette Takehara

Nicholas Blair
1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.
Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580
Stevenson Middle School CIP
(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580 Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to provide current classroom improvements as well as the provision of space for a multi-purpose room.

My team is the only 6th grade team at our school, as well as the largest team. We have had the greatest increase in grade population over the past five years. Another feeder school has been added into our system, bringing more students to our school.

The multi-purpose room would allow our team and school to collaborate on interdisciplinary units (IDU). The National Middle School Association recommends the use of IDUs to enhance the social, emotional, and cognitive growth of young adolescents. This appropriation would assist us in reaching our school goal of becoming a science signature school as our learning would have a science focus supported by the other disciplines.

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580.

Respectfully submitted by,



Nicholas Blair

Stevenson Middle School: Jo Ann Nishiki – Reading Department

1202 Prospect Street

Honolulu, HI 96822

(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 2580, R.L. Stevenson Middle School CIP

(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

We, the undersigned members of the Reading Workshop Department, offer testimony in strong support of House Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to construct a building to house administrative and support offices and multipurpose educational facilities, and plan and design a multipurpose recreational facility (such as a gymnasium) at R.L. Stevenson Middle School.

The Reading Department consists of members from multiple content areas, language arts, social studies, and various disciplines of special education, servicing students from 11-14 years of age. Our students come from a wide variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds; their challenges vary academically, socially, emotionally, and physically. To better foster the development of young adolescents, we hereby request the following additions to our existing facilities and programs:

- A Health and Wellness Center which includes:
 - A computer lab with updated equipment and programs
 - SMART rooms which includes an interactive white board, projectors with ELMOs, DVD players, interactive response systems, etc.
 - A library with updated primary and secondary teaching and learning resources, expanded book collections of both fiction and non-fiction publications, and updated equipment such as Xerox machines, computers, printers, etc.
 - Upgraded electrical systems to support technology throughout the school such as air conditioning in the classrooms, support for computers in the classrooms and other various equipment.

- A Multipurpose Center/Gymnasium that includes:
 - Media center that can be used for running Buccaneer TV broadcast and/or similar activities.
 - A large covered area which could be used for various activities such as track, basketball, volleyball, dance, aerobics, gymnastics, etc.
 - A gymnasium area which would include locker rooms, weight rooms, rock wall, classroom space, and spaces that have various floor surfaces specific for activities such as dance, wrestling, etc.
 - Storage areas for fine arts portfolios

- Space for students to work on extracurricular activities such as botball, robotics, science fair, etc. (Act 213 funds science fairs)
- Auditorium for whole school assemblies, fine arts exhibitions, drama productions, band performances, and parent involvement nights.
- Vocational classrooms for community based instruction and emotional impairments students, which include a shower, kitchen area, laundry room, etc. to teach basic needs
- Classrooms for students with emotional impairments, which include multi-sensory rooms, padded rooms, etc.
- Large storage for equipment and tools

Reading is an integral part of every person's life. We feel by supporting this bill, we will have an overall positive effect on the lives of the students attending R.L. Stevenson Middle School. By enriching their lives through academics and overall physical well-being, the reading teachers will be able to further enrich them with our own curriculum.

We urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely,



Jo Ann Nishiki
Reading Teacher

Robin Mizuta

1202 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822

(808) 587-4520

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

February 08, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY RELATING TO Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP

RELATING TO EDUCATION

(Written Testimony Only)

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

We, the undersigned members of the 8th grade Team 1, offer testimony in strong support of House Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to build and maintain a gymnasium and/or multi-purpose room at Middle and High Schools. Our school's focus is Science driven. Our faculty has agreed to become a Science signature school.

Team 1 consists of members from all content areas, servicing students from 12-14 years of age. Our students come from a wide variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. Their challenges vary from academic, to social, to emotional and physical needs. To better foster the development of the young adolescents in these areas, we are hereby requesting the following additions to our existing facilities and programs.

Our Band Director Ross Nakamura would like to request the following:

- A new music facility to be constructed with particular regard to current building codes for band, choir, orchestra, and general music education, while taking into account modern music instruction and practices (room acoustics, current floor plans, storage, and equipment).
- To share with you what our current conditions are for our band room. Our current band room is 1,200 square feet of rehearsal space with an 11 foot ceiling. Today's recommended room for a band size of 65 students requires 2,552 square feet of rehearsal space with a ceiling height range of 18-22 feet. Stevenson's Band has been averaging 80 students per rehearsal. These figures come from "Planning Guide for Secondary School Music Facilities" pub. Wenger Corporation (Owatonna, MN).

Our Special Education Teacher Dennis Itoga has a Fully Self-Contained (FSC) classroom that services students with Emotional Disorders. We also house Community-Based Instruction (CBI)

which focuses on children with severe autism and mental retardation. As such, Mr. Itoga is requesting the following:

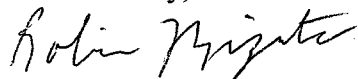
- A new construction within his classroom consisting of a separate area that is able to be completely shut off from the rest of the classroom and/or campus. This area would serve as an Independent Learning Center (ILC) during crises. This area would be anywhere from 10 feet by 10 feet to an ideal size of 20 feet by 20 feet.
- A vocational services room which includes a clothes washer and dryer; a complete kitchen (stove, sink, refrigerator, and microwave). This would serve as a *learning environment focused upon helping students with severe mental impairments to develop adaptive living skills and coping strategies for independence.*
- Separate restrooms for males and females.
- A multi-sensory classroom containing white noise, waterfalls, natural plants, aquariums, and dimmable natural incandescent lighting. The controlled learning environment will address environmental needs pertaining to students with severe autism and other pervasive developmental disorders, specifically by addressing hyper and hypo-sensitivity and occupationally therapeutic related concerns.

Our Physical Education Teacher Carlton Lou would like to request the following:

- A multi-purpose room that would help us to broaden our physical education curriculum. It would allow us to offer classes, such as dance, hula, aerobics, gymnastics, and wrestling, which we are unable to offer at this time due to the lack of space.
- A multi-court gymnasium which would allow us to broaden our curriculum and provide us an area which would allow the students to participate in physical activities especially on rainy days.
- A multi-court tennis facility to play tennis and paddle tennis games

In the best interest of our middle school students, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 2580

Submitted by,



Robin Mizuta


To: Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education
From: Stacie Tsukiyama
Stevenson Middle School
1202 Propsect Street, Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520
Date: February 6, 2008
Re: Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP
To be heard: February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m., Conference Room 225
(Written Testimony Only)

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to plan, design, and construct an addition to our Building A and to provide space for a multipurpose education facility and new Administrative and support services office. It also appropriates funds to renovate existing structures to use for classroom purposes, and building and maintaining a gymnasium and/or multi-purpose room.

Stevenson Middle School has agreed to move towards a Science, Health & Wellness focused curriculum. The library plays a critical role in supporting the school's curriculum with instruction, resources and other materials. Providing the necessary support for students and staff help to ensure that we provide an appropriate education in all subject areas. In order to meet the needs of our students and staff, our school would like to request the following:

- A Health and Wellness Center that includes:
 - A computer lab, SMART boards, Elmo projectors, information resources and materials, printers, copy machines, and upgraded electrical systems to support growing technology needs
- A Multipurpose room that includes:
 - Large meeting spaces for activities such as assemblies, exhibitions and performances
 - Small meeting spaces for team planning, student and/or teacher collaboration, parent meetings
 - Media room
 - Space for support services such as the counseling department, Hale Kipa and YMCA

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely yours,

Stacie Tsukiyama
Librarian
Stevenson Middle School

To: Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education
From: Wendy Okamoto
Stevenson Middle School
1202 Prospect Street, Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520
Date: February 6, 2008
RE: Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP
TO BE HEARD: February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room 225
(Written Testimony only)

I offer this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to plan, design, and construct an addition to our Building A and to provide space for a multipurpose educational facility and new Administrative and support services office. It also appropriates funds to renovate existing structures to use for classroom purposes, and building and maintaining a gymnasium and/or multi-purpose room at the middle and high schools.

Stevenson Middle School has agreed to move towards a Science/Health and Wellness focused curriculum. Our team will support this focus through all content areas. Stevenson Middle School utilizes the teaming concept as supported by the Middle School concept. Our Team consists of teachers from various content areas who service students from a variety of backgrounds and learning abilities. In order to meet the needs of this Science/Health and Wellness focus for our diverse population, we would like to request the following:

- a multi-purpose room which can be used for:
 - school-wide assemblies, exhibitions, performances, various clubs activities, and additional academic activities such as, Botball and the school Spelling Bee
 - the Counseling department, Hale Kipa, and YMCA activities
 - teams to conduct project based learning and interdisciplinary units
 - students to have a place to socialize with one another
- a renovated learning center (Library) which includes:
 - designated areas for a computer lab, a research area, small group work, whole class instruction, comfortable reading area, and listening labs
 - natural light and an aesthetically pleasing environment conducive to learning
- a Physical Education complex containing:
 - a gym with different rooms with various surfaces
 - a track and field used for football, baseball, soccer, etc.
 - a swimming pool
 - updated locker rooms with individualized shower rooms
- classrooms with
 - Smart board, Elmo/projector, and accessories
 - at least 5 computers with LCD screens
 - Upgraded A/V equipment
 - Upgraded lab facilities in the Science classrooms
- School wide
 - air conditioning for all rooms
 - Wireless Network
 - Upgraded electrical system

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

To: Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education
From: Keith Arakaki
Stevenson Middle School
1202 Prospect Street, Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520
Date: February 6, 2008
RE: Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP
TO BE HEARD: February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room 225
(Written Testimony only)

I offer this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to plan, design, and construct an addition to our Building A and to provide space for a multipurpose educational facility and new Administrative and support services office. It also appropriates funds to renovate existing structures to use for classroom purposes, and building and maintaining a gymnasium and/or multi-purpose room at the middle and high schools.

Stevenson Middle School has agreed to move towards a Science/Health and Wellness focused curriculum. Our team will support this focus through all content areas. Stevenson Middle School utilizes the teaming concept as supported by the Middle School concept. Our Team consists of teachers from various content areas who service students from a variety of backgrounds and learning abilities. In order to meet the needs of this Science/Health and Wellness focus for our diverse population, we would like to request the following:

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 - at least 5 computers with LCD screens
 - Upgraded A/V equipment
 - Upgraded lab facilities in the Science classrooms
- School wide
 - air conditioning for all rooms
 - Wireless Network
 - Upgraded electrical system

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

To: Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education
From: Jo Ann Nishiki
Stevenson Middle School
1202 Prospect Street, Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 587-4520
Date: February 6, 2008
RE: Senate Bill 2580, Stevenson Middle School CIP
TO BE HEARD: February 8, 2008, 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room 225
(Written Testimony only)

I offer this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580, Relating to Education. This bill appropriates funds to be used by the Department of Education to plan, design, and construct an addition to our Building A and to provide space for a multipurpose educational facility and new Administrative and support services office. It also appropriates funds to renovate existing structures to use for classroom purposes, and building and maintaining a gymnasium and/or multi-purpose room at the middle and high schools.

Stevenson Middle School has agreed to move towards a Science/Health and Wellness focused curriculum. Our team will support this focus through all content areas. Stevenson Middle School utilizes the learning concept as supported by the Middle School concept. Our Team consists of teachers from various content areas who service students from a variety of backgrounds and learning abilities. In order to meet the needs of this Science/Health and Wellness focus for our diverse population, we would like to request the following:

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 - Smart board, Elmo/projector, and accessories
 - at least 5 computers with LCD screens
 - Upgraded A/V equipment
 - Upgraded lab facilities in the Science classrooms
- School wide
 - air conditioning for all rooms
 - Wireless Network
 - Upgraded electrical system

I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlette S. Harada
1001 Bishop Street, Suite 780
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

February 6, 2008

The Honorable Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair
Committee on Education

RE: Senate Bill 2580, Hearing Relating to Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds and Making an Appropriation for Stevenson Middle School on Friday, February 8, 2008 at 1:15 p.m. in Conference Room 225

Dear Chairperson Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda and Committee members:

My name is Arlette Harada and I ask that you vote in favor of SB2580. I attended Stevenson Middle School when it was Stevenson Intermediate School in the early 1970s. I also continue to live in the Stevenson School District and plan to send my children who are currently fourth and fifth graders at Manoa School to Stevenson in a few years. Therefore, as a concerned parent, alumna and neighbor of the school, I have a particular interest in seeing Stevenson meet the needs of the students, teachers and community.

I am involved with the Manoa School School Community Council. As part of our research regarding the SCC's position on moving the sixth graders to Stevenson last year, we were taken on a tour of Stevenson. There have not been any major improvements to the school since I was a student there over twenty-five years ago. Except for portable classrooms, there have not been any new buildings built and the only improvements of note are the modification of a second story area for the library and the building of the stage in the existing cafeteria.

About a half year ago, Senator Taniguchi pulled together various school and community members to discuss a master plan for Stevenson. The group had several meetings over the next half year to brain storm and discuss the current learning environment and the shortcomings of the current facilities. We heard about the wonderful learning going on at the school. In particular, the school's collaboration with Queen's Hospital through a Howard Hughes

Medical Institute grant to expose the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students to the sciences and medical field is exciting.

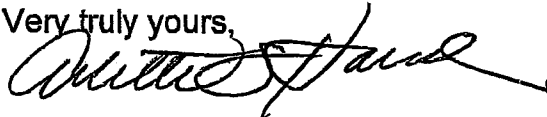
We discussed the way the students are learning and how the facilities, while appropriate when built, are not meeting the current needs for flexible multipurpose spaces that could be used for combined teaching of students, such as by grade levels, as well as having the option of using the same areas for individual classes and sharing of student work. The main building at Stevenson is a large rectangle with classrooms around the rectangle, an administration building in the middle of the rectangle dividing the space to create two, largely unused, courtyard areas. We talked about making better use of the space through modification of the current building, perhaps, adding a second floor over the existing administration building and converting the existing and new space to expansion of the library and for additional classroom space and adding a multipurpose space in one or both of the courtyard areas. We also considered creating a welcoming entrance to the school through a new administration building fronting the school and upgrading the wiring and electrical capacity of the school for computer usage.

We also discussed other needs such as a school and community need for a covered recreation area. Currently, the basketball and tennis courts in the area adjoining the school are open air. Other than the aging Roosevelt gym, the area has no covered courts.

The funding requested in SB 2580 is for formal comprehensive planning for Stevenson facilities and for building consistent with the plan and with the needs of the school and the community. The school and community need this funding to make Stevenson effective in the 21st century. Please vote in favor of SB 2580.

If you have any questions, I would be happy to answer them or you may reach me at 523-0702.

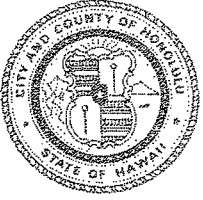
Very truly yours,



Arlette S. Harada

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cc: Senator Brian Taniguchi



CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065 / TELEPHONE 547-7000

ANN H. KOBAYASHI
Chair, Executive Matters Committee
Councilmember, District V
Ph: 547-7005 Fax: 523-4220
Email: akobayashi@honolulu.gov

L A T E

February 7, 2008

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair
Senate Committee on Education
State Capitol Building, Room 230
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:


Subject: S.B. 2580 – Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds and Making an Appropriation for Stevenson Middle School

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of S.B. 2580 Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds and Making an Appropriation for Stevenson Middle School.

The issuance of these bonds will help in much needed improvements and renovations at Stevenson Middle School, including upgrades to meet current educational specifications for classrooms, electrical and communications upgrades, and the installation of new air conditioning systems in selected classrooms.

I respectfully urge support and passage of S.B. 2580 and again, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,


Ann H. Kobayashi
Councilmember, District V

John Chung
1120 Nehoa St.
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96822
(808) 587-4600 ext. 326

L A T E

Testimony Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
February, 8, 2008, 1:15pm.
Room 225, State Capital

Chairman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

I offer my testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2580. This bill appropriates funds for Stevenson Middle School to construct a building to house administrative and support offices and multipurpose educational facilities, and plan and design a multipurpose recreational facility.

This bill is important to Stevenson Middle School as it moves forward to be a Science Focused School. The passage of this bill will provide Stevenson Middle School the resources it needs such as: laboratory space, classroom space as well as an upgraded electrical and technological system. These components will be essential to the teachers and staff of Stevenson to ensure that their plan of becoming a Science Focused School will be realized. These components will also allow their teachers the flexibility to be more creative and innovative in their lessons. As a former Special Motivation, Health and PE teacher, I know the value of having the needed resources to help keep the students motivated to learn.

The passage of this bill will also provide Stevenson Middle the opportunity to plan and design a multipurpose recreational facility. A multipurpose facility will not only support Stevenson's PE department but will also support the entire student body as well as the community. With a multipurpose recreational facility, Stevenson will be able to hold school assemblies, dances, band performances, parent meetings as well as community functions.

A multipurpose facility will also allow for afterschool programs to be conducted. With the recent focus on nutrition and exercise in the schools, having a multipurpose facility will ensure that children will have the opportunity to live a physically active lifestyle. With amount of youngsters that are considered to be overweight or obese it only makes sense that we have a facility that can provide for them.

A multipurpose facility may also help out Roosevelt High School. With the movement of girl's basketball to the winter season, gym space has been an issue at all public schools. Some teams are forced to stay until 9:00pm. while others are having their teams practice at 6:00am. Because Roosevelt's gym is so small, the possibility of being able to work something out with Stevenson if they are able to get a multipurpose facility is uplifting.

As a former Stevenson teacher and now the athletic director at Roosevelt High School I know how important this bill is to the faculty and students of Stevenson Middle School. I urge the Committee to pass this measure without amendments.

Sincerely yours,

John Chung