

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2009

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING

DATE: Monday, March 30, 2009
TIME: 2:00 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 309
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

A G E N D A

The purpose of this informational briefing is to learn about the 21st century public education reform movement and the New Tech Foundation's critical role promoting 21st century skills for our keiki. Representatives of the New Tech Foundation, Monica Martinez, PhD., Chief Operating and Bob Pearlman, Director of Strategic Planning will present updates on their work and share the New Tech vision and how it is being embraced in Hawaii.

Currently, Hawaii has a commonplace end-of-year test (HSA) to measure student achievement in accord with No Child Left Behind. Across the continent, there is a growing body of knowledge that suggests these high stakes tests do not assess the skills students need. Making adequate yearly progress (AYP) does not guarantee that students graduate college, career or citizenship ready. Ten states and over 40 communities have committed to these "21st-century skills" -- the idea that kids need to think critically and creatively, be technologically savvy, and work well with others. New Tech High is one of a handful of education reform models at the heart of this 21st century school redesign movement.

By focusing on systemic rather than programmatic reform, New Tech High (NTH) and its associated non-profit development arm, New Tech Foundation (NTF), have succeeded where many other reform efforts have failed. Unlike canned curriculum approaches designed to improve test scores, NTF's holistic approach to school reform addresses many of the education system's challenges at once. The unique principles, process and practices developed by NTF provides a clear roadmap for creating 21st Century schools for those who are willing to take on the work.

This visit is sponsored by the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation in its continued efforts to close our public school achievement and preparation gaps.

If you require special assistance or auxiliary aids and/or services to participate in the House public hearing process (i.e., sign or foreign language interpreter or wheelchair accessibility), please contact the Committee Clerk at 586-6170 or email your request for an interpreter to HouseInterpreter@Capitol.hawaii.gov at least 24 hours prior to the hearing for arrangements. Prompt requests submitted help to ensure the availability of qualified individuals and appropriate accommodations.

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Rep. Roy Takumi
Chair

