

NANCY J. BUDD  
4374 Kukui Grove Street, Suite 103  
Līhu'e, Hawai'i 96766  
(808) 245-5343

April 3, 2011

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senate Committee On Education  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Nomination to the Hawai'i State Board of Education

Aloha Senator Tokuda and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your letter of March 30<sup>th</sup> regarding my nomination to serve on the Board of Education for Hawai'i. I am deeply honored by the nomination and hope to earn your trust and confidence.

Why did you decide to apply to serve on the BOE?

I decided to apply to serve on the BOE because I *believe* in public education and have devoted many years in many capacities toward its support and improvement. I believe that there is no more important investment we can make as a community and a society than in the education of our youth.

In light of recent changes to the Board's composition, how do you perceive the role and responsibilities of individual members and the overall role of the BOE in regards to educational decision-making?

The recent changes to the composition and selection of the Board of Education by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, should clarify and institutionalize lines of accountability and promote development and implementation of coherent educational policy. It is my hope that each of the members of the Board will bring experience and expertise to the table that is unique yet complementary and that we will be working together thoughtfully, but with a sense of urgency, toward a common goal.

Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the BOE, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of

your skills, expertise, experiences or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the BOE.

While I believe that my legal training and 30 years of experience as an attorney drafting and analyzing documents will serve me well in examining, evaluating and drafting policy, I believe my strongest qualifications come from my lifelong interface with public education. I have spent a quarter of a century in our schools working with principals and teachers, and most importantly, with students. I have also served on community boards and school committees, with missions as varied as establishing school-based health centers, setting curricular goals, promoting capital improvement projects and enhancing school facilities, hiring principals, and increasing the number of volunteers in our classrooms.

I am a product of public schools- from kindergarten through graduate school. As a parent, I was committed to a public school education for my daughter. Once she entered kindergarten, however, I saw the enormous challenges faced by our public schools and I went to work. I became an active member of the PTA and worked closely with a collaborative and inspiring principal on school-level initiatives. We worked with legislators, community individuals and organizations, and with policy makers. When my daughter was moved to a newly built elementary school, I was privileged to work with another outstanding principal who was willing to innovate, despite bureaucratic constraints. I founded the PTA at the new school and became its first president. This led to establishing a Kaua'i District PTSA and service on the statewide PTSA.

For the past thirteen years, I have been a third-grade reading tutor at a local elementary school. Serving as a judge in our Teen Court, I hear a high percentage of cases involving youth who are committing offenses on our public school campuses. In all of this, I have been looking at what works and what doesn't, what about the system enriches our kids' education and what gets in its way.

Highlight the three qualities you feel make you a highly qualified candidate. 1) Ability to analyze and synthesize complex information; 2) Lifelong commitment to public education in general and to removing barriers to provision of a quality education to each of our children in particular; and 3) Willingness to do the hard work that this endeavor will surely demand.

Please identify one short- and one long-term goal you would have as a BOE member and how you would accomplish these during your term of service. My appointment is for a one-year term, so I would consider this "short-term." My goal for the first year is to quickly bring myself current— looking at the data, the initiatives, the policies, the legislation—and then to work with the board to set our priorities. I will then see where my skills best fit within the board and go to work.

Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Board of Education? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I do not foresee any possible conflicts of interest. Should one arise, I would likely recuse myself from decision-making involving the matter or otherwise follow the guidelines established by the Hawai`i State Ethics Commission..

Thank you again for your service to the children of Hawai`i and for your interest in my nomination.

Sincerely,

NANCY J. BUDD

GM658

Testimony

TESTIMONY OF  
NANCY JO-YAMAKAWA BUDD

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

Friday, April 8, 2011  
1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room 225

RELATING TO GM 658 Gubernatorial Nominee, NANCY JO-YAMAKAWA BUDD,  
for  
STATE OF HAWAII BOARD OF EDUCATION

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the committee. I am honored to appear before you as one of Governor Abercrombie's nominees to serve on the Board of Education. I am deeply grateful for the confidence that the governor has shown in me and, if confirmed, I look forward to working with a talented and energized board toward a coherent and workable educational policy for the State of Hawai'i.

I grew up in a family that cares very much about education. My grandparents did not have the opportunity to attend school past the elementary grades, but both of my parents received a good education in public schools in Utah. They attended school in the 1930s, during the depression. After graduation from high school, they both worked very hard in order to attend the university, and my father feels that the opportunity to attend graduate school on the G.I. bill, after serving in WWII as a Navy combat pilot, changed his life, and ours.

Obviously, our world has changed a lot since then and our schools are asked to do much more, but an abiding belief in the central importance of public education to the well-being of our communities, our state, and our world, has *always* been in my blood; it may, in fact, be an inherited trait. I was born the same year my father graduated from dental school. I attended California public schools from kindergarten through university. My mother was the first PTA president of my elementary school and went on to serve on the Board of Education. Educational policy matters were routinely discussed in our home and we spent nearly every Saturday at the public library. My mother was a public school third-grade teacher and a counselor at the time of her death at the age of 75. My brothers are teachers: one a law school professor at the University of New Hampshire, another an English professor at Diablo Valley College. My sister is a physician and her children are teachers, one teaching in a public high school in the Bronx. My daughter is back on Kaua'i after graduating from college, working as an educational assistant at Wilcox Elementary school, where I have been tutoring for years. My husband has served in both faculty and management positions at the University of Hawai'i.

I came to Hawai'i in the summer of 1979 after taking the bar exam in California at the invitation of law school classmates from Hawai'i. I never left. I would like to thank Joe Florendo, now a judge in Kona, and Alan Murakami, litigation director for the Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation, for encouraging me to take that two week vacation so long ago.

My daughter, Lauren, was born in 1984 while I was working as the managing attorney for the Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i on Kaua'i. While working for Legal Aid, I had the opportunity to handle several cases involving high school students, which gave me my first glimpse into the public high schools on Kaua'i and the administrative review process.

A few years later, my daughter entered kindergarten at Kapa'a Elementary School, and my journey began. Kapa'a Elementary was then one of the largest elementary schools in the state and one that shared its campus with Kapa'a High School. At that school, I had the privilege of working with an energetic and innovative principal, a true leader, and with hard-working teachers and parents to create solutions to some of its many challenges. The following year, my daughter was in the inaugural class of the newly built King Kaumuali'i Elementary School. The principal and the teachers at King Kaumuali'i were able to create an environment that was exceptionally inviting to students, parents and community and we were able to accomplish a great deal together in support of the school. It is phenomenal to watch a school from its inception when there is clarity of mission.

During those years, I worked with other parents to create a collaborative structure that would encourage communication between schools and throughout the State of Hawai'i. We had been focused on our "own" schools, but realized that we shared common concerns. Eventually, we spent a good deal of energy examining how the educational governance system operated, and supported the Task Force on Educational Governance created by the legislature in the early 1990s.

Over the years, I have continued to be involved in our public schools and with our youth on Kaua'i. I have worked with many non-profit organizations that serve youth and the disadvantaged and have served on many boards and committees directly related to education. I have stayed in touch with students on Kaua'i as a third-grade tutor and a judge for our Teen Court.

For more than 30 years I have practiced law on Kaua'i, specializing in estate planning, real estate, business, charitable organizations and elder law. My experience as a practicing attorney has also helped prepare me for service on the Board of Education as I have spent many years synthesizing and analyzing complex information, arbitrating disputes, and drafting a wide range of legal contracts and documents.

To conclude, I believe that the ability of our children to think intensively and critically and to analyze information must be the highest priority of our educational system. To accomplish this, the board's policies regarding curricular aims, support of

and respect for innovation at the school level, professional training and compensation, getting resources to schools, establishing high expectations for both teaching and achievement, use of appropriate assessment tools (that provide instructionally supportive and accurate feedback and do not encourage “teaching to the test”), and encouragement of public-private collaboration as well as school-level collaboration, etc. are all critical components.

If confirmed to the Board of Education, I hope to help the board to clarify and institutionalize lines of accountability throughout the system. I believe that our first task will be to clarify the role of the Board of Education, with the aim that it be poised to set coherent and strategic educational policy. And as we move forward, I expect that each of us will advocate that *all* board policy have effective teaching and student learning as the ultimate aim.

In closing, I would like to thank all those who submitted testimony in support of my nomination. I would be remiss if I did not also thank my husband and my father, from the bottom of my heart, for their enthusiastic support in this endeavor. And I thank the committee for giving me the opportunity to appear before you and for considering my nomination. I look forward to answering your questions.



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

Friday, April 8, 2011, 1:15 PM  
State Capitol Room 225

Testimony of  
Honorable Neil Abercrombie  
Governor, State of Hawaii

To the Senate Education Committee  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

GM658 Confirmation of **Nancy Jo-Yamakawa Budd** to the  
State of Hawai'i Board of Education

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee:

I am pleased to support the confirmation of Nancy Jo-Yamakawa Budd to the State of Hawai'i Board of Education. I have appointed Budd to represent Kaua'i County for a one-year term ending June 30, 2012.

Budd is an attorney in private practice based in Lihue. She has been practicing law in the State of Hawai'i since 1982, after graduating from the University of California at Davis Martin Luther King, Jr. School of Law. Her current practice includes estate planning, estate and trust administration, elder law, real estate, business, and charitable planning. Budd has also served as the Managing Attorney of the Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i, Kaua'i Office, where she directed the organization and served as counsel on cases regarding issues of Hawaiian Homes, housing, and education.

Budd's commitment to our keiki is exemplified in her more than two decades volunteer service to public education. Budd became involved with public education as an active and involved parent. Budd founded and served as a Director and President of the Kaua'i District Parent Teacher Student Association and the King Kaumuali'i Elementary School PTA. Budd served as a board member of both the Hawai'i State PTSA Board of Managers and the Kapa'a School-Based Health Center Advisory Board. Although her daughter graduated from Kaua'i High School a few years ago, Budd has stayed

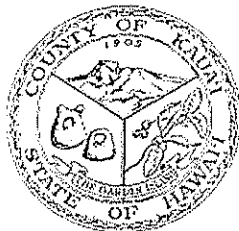


involved with the lives of young students by serving as a mentor and reading tutor for third grade students at Wilcox Elementary School and volunteering as a judge in the Teen Court program on Kaua'i. Budd has a genuine commitment to enrich the lives our keiki through direct action. Combined with her extensive legal background, Budd is the perfect person to advocate in the interests of our keiki and parents.

I am excited that Budd is willing to serve on the BOE. I am confident of the contributions that she will make to the board and to improving public education in Hawai'i. I know that you will find Budd well qualified for the BOE and encourage you to confirm her.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Jay Furfaro, Chair  
JoAnn A. Yukimura, Vice Chair  
Tim Bynum  
Dickie Chang  
Nadine K. Nakamura  
Mel Rapozo



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

Peter A. Nakamura, County Clerk  
Eduardo Topenio, Jr., Deputy County Clerk

Telephone (808) 241-4188  
Fax (808) 241-6349  
Email [cokcouncil@kauai.gov](mailto:cokcouncil@kauai.gov)

**Council Services Division**  
3371-A Wilcox Road  
Līhu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766

April 7, 2011

**TESTIMONY OF JOANN A. YUKIMURA  
KAUA'I COUNTY COUNCILMEMBER  
ON  
GM 658, CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION OF  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, NANCY JO YAMAKAWA-BUDD,  
TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Senate Committee on Education  
April 8, 2011  
1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room 225**

Chair Tokuda and Members of the Senate Committee on Education:

I am delighted to submit testimony in support of Governor Abercrombie's nomination of NANCY JO YAMAKAWA-BUDD to the State Board of Education. I write as an individual member of the Kaua'i County Council.

I have known Ms. Yamakawa-Budd for over thirty years as a fellow attorney, colleague, and friend. Our daughters, now both 27 years old, were friends. When they were in elementary school, Nancy and I joined forces with several other parents to work for quality public schools. Nancy and our mutual friend Laurel Brier led a group of parents at Kapa'a Elementary School to address critical problems of overcrowding, unworkable lunch schedules, inadequate playground equipment, and school governance. Nancy and Laurel also worked with their school, island and state PTSA's and the State Legislature to improve the quality of our public schools. (Senator Mike McCartney was the Senate Education Committee Chair back then). Unfortunately, progress has been elusive. Nonetheless, Nancy is thus familiar with many of the issues that the Board of Education will handle. She brings with her the valuable perspectives of a parent, a businesswoman, a member of the bar, and a concerned citizen who has long worked for quality public education.

A highly professional and widely respected attorney on Kaua'i, Nancy has served as a member on many nonprofit boards, including the boards of the Kaua'i Housing and Development Corporation, the Salvation Army, Voluntary Legal Services of Hawai'i and Hale 'Opio, which assists at-risk youth. Her life has been an expression of service to her community. She is a seasoned leader--thoughtful, articulate, collaborative, assertive, and experienced.

There is no more important issue facing our state than the quality of public education. If we are not able to meet the challenge successfully this time, the future of our state will be truly dismal. It will take visionary, committed and intelligent leadership to turn public education in Hawai'i around; we don't have much time. Senate confirmation of gubernatorial appointee Nancy Yamakawa-Budd will be a step in the right direction.

Senate Committee on Education  
RE: GM 658 Hearing on April 8, 2011  
April 7, 2011  
Page 2 of 2

I urge you to vote to confirm NANCY JO YAMAKAWA-BUDD to the State Board of Education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JoAnn A. Yukimura" with a small "wa" written below the end of the name.

JoAnn A. Yukimura  
Kaua'i County Councilmember



KANEOHE  
RANCH

April 6, 2011

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senate Education Committee  
Hawaii State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol – Room 218  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Hearings re GM651 through GM659

Dear Chair Tokuda and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

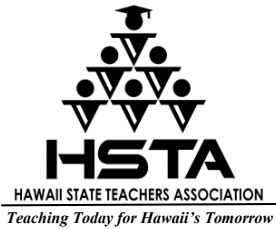
As a member of the business community engaged in the improvement of our State's public school system since at least 2002, I am writing to urge the Committee to confirm Governor Abercrombie's appointment to the State Board of Education of all nine individuals noted in GM651 through GM659.

Because of pressing matters that require policy leadership by the Board of Education in the next few weeks, it is crucial that the new Board be put in place as quickly as possible. Among these matters are the negotiation of new contracts with the teachers' and principals' unions, and the advancement of bold reform initiatives outlined in the State's winning Race to the Top plan.

Thank you for your kind consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

H. Mitchell D'Olier  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer



1200 Ala Kapuna Street λ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
Tel: (808) 833-2711 λ Fax: (808) 839-7106 λ Web: www.hsta.org

**Wil Okabe**  
President

**Karolyn Mossman**  
Vice President

**Joan Kamila Lewis**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Alvin Nagasako**  
Executive Director

## TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: GM 658, GM 655, GM 656, GM 652 – Gubernatorial Nominees for State of Hawaii Board of Education, **NANCY JO-YAMAKAWA BUDD, CHARLENE CUARESMA, CHERYL KA'UHANE LUPENUI, KEITH AMEMIYA**

Friday, April 8, 2011

**WIL OKABE, PRESIDENT**  
**HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports the appointment of **Nancy Jo-Yamanaka Budd, Charlene Cuaresma, Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui, Keith Amemiya**, to the Hawaii Board of Education.

Each of these nominees brings with them dedication, enthusiasm and a vast knowledge base to a Board of Education that will oversee the Department of Education with the Governor maintaining ultimate accountability.

Diverse backgrounds, hard working, experienced decision-makers, – these are all traits reflected in each of these individual nominees. These talents and abilities will join together to improve public education in Hawaii.

We urge your support in confirming Ms. Budd, Ms. Cuaresma, Ms. Lupenui, and Mr. Amemiya to the Board of Education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Garden Island  
Arts Council  
PO Box 827  
Lihue, HI  
96766

April 3, 2011

To: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

For: Hearing on Governor's Message 658  
Friday, April 8, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

Re: In Support of Nomination of Nancy J. Budd for State of Hawai'i Board of  
Education

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee,

I support the nomination of Nancy J. Budd as the Kaua'i representative to the State of Hawai'i Board of Education. Governor Abercrombie envisions making significant change in the State educational system to meet the challenges of preparing our students to take their place in society. To do that, we need a BOE that is intelligent, sensitive, resourceful, action-oriented and fearless in exploring possibilities and implementing necessary change. This is a matter of great complexity that requires board members of high integrity, great tenacity and a commitment to a shared vision.

Nancy J. Budd is such a person. Straightforward in her manner, she will commit to and champion the cause of education. She has been active in PTSA and other education-related positions on Kaua'i and Statewide, including tutoring in an elementary school here. She walks the talk. She is effective in whatever she takes on, and she is not afraid to take on big challenges.

As a teacher in the public schools for nearly 38 years, I have witnessed so much of what the system has attempted with a view to improving education—successes and failures, dedicated teachers, teacher burn out, gross waste of resources, outstanding scholars, students falling through the cracks, neglected facilities, state-of-the-arts classrooms and more. The education system is riddled with complex and quickly changing problems; it needs intense scrutiny and immediate overhauling.

Please make sure that Nancy is there standing up for Kaua'i.

Sincerely,

Carol Kouchi Yotsuda  
Executive Director  
Garden Island Arts Council



Corporate Office  
3105 Akahi Street, Lihue, HI 96766 ■ Ph 808-245-3304 ■ [info@DejaVuSurf.Com](mailto:info@DejaVuSurf.Com)

To: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

For: Hearing on Governor's Message 658  
Friday April 8, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

**Re: Support of Nomination of Nancy J. Budd for State of Hawaii Board of Education**

Dear Senator Tokuda, Senator Kidani, and members of the Senate Committee on Education:

I have known Nancy Jo Budd for approximately fifteen years. I have served with Ms. Budd on the Salvation Army Kauai board, the Kauai Planning and Action Alliance Public Education Action Team and on the Hawaii Community Foundation Annie Sinclair Knudsen Memorial Fund Advisory Committee.

Ms. Budd will make an excellent member to the Hawaii State Board of Education, as public education is an enduring passion of hers. Her resume notates the years she has spent as a proponent for Hawaii's students, teachers, administrators and public education staff, all as a volunteer.

Many Kauai non-profit organizations have sought Ms. Budd to serve as a director for their boards as her wise counsel is well regarded throughout our island community. For all her fine legal expertise, for me, Ms. Budd's most impressive credential is that she has been a volunteer 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading tutor for thirteen years. This is the essence of Nancy Jo Budd. Her commitment to our keiki, over such a long period, in spite of her demanding schedule is what defines her. Her selfless actions serving on various community education initiatives, along with leadership roles in PTSA over the years have undoubtedly created greater opportunities for our students.

Ms. Budd's years in active participation in public education will bring valuable experience and expertise to the Hawaii State Board of Education. I recommend Nancy Jo Budd without reservations and know that her contribution on the board will bring about great things for Hawaii.

Aloha,  
Deja Vu Surf Hawaii

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tad Miura". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tad Miura  
President



## Kapa'a Family Physicians

4-1461 Kuhio Highway  
Kapa'a, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96746-1715

Telephone: (808) 822-4333  
Fax: (808) 822-0938

Paul T. Esaki, MD  
*Board Certified  
Family Physician*

Sharon S. Ayabe, MD  
*Board Certified  
Family Physician*

HEARING ON GOVERNOR MESSAGE 658  
Friday April 8, 2011 1:15 pm

April 3, 2011

Senator Jill N. Tokuda , Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

Re: Support of Nomination of Nancy J. Budd  
To the State of Hawaii Board of Education

Dear Senator Tokuda:

I am a practicing physician in Kapaa, Kauai. I have known Nancy Budd for about 8 years.

Nancy Budd is very passionate about many things which relate to social justice; children, the elderly, land conservation and education. She is just as compassionate about people. For example, she has motivated my friends and me to participate in fundraising for the AIDS support group on Kauai, raising money for a friend who was severely injured, cleaning a person's home when he was disabled and getting treatment, and getting involved in the process of protecting Kokee State Park. She has been involved for years in public schools by volunteering; reading to children and serving as role model for at-risk children. Her passion for public schools is honed by her active involvement with students, teachers and principals over many years.

I trust Nancy completely as she is a leader, organizer and always does her homework. She has a great work ethic. She is also cheerful, has high moral standards and has special great aloha for the elderly, for whom she is a great advisor. She is still a great friend of a 104 year old retired public school teacher. There could not be a person more fit for the Board than Nancy.

I recommend Nancy Budd to the Board of Education without any hesitation.

Sincerely

Paul T. Esaki, MD





**K.I.D.S.**  
**KAUAI INDEPENDENT DAYCARE SERVICES, INC.**  
 1346 INIA STREET, KAPAA, HI 96746  
 (808) 822-0262, FAX: (808) 822-0047

April 6, 2011

TO: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
 Senator Michelle, Kidani, Vice Chair  
 Senate Committee on Education  
 FOR: Hearing on Governor's Message 658  
 Friday, April 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

RE: In support of the nomination of Nancy J. Budd for State of Hawaii, Board of Education

Nancy Budd comes from a family of educators. In fact, I think the education gene is in her DNA. From the time her daughter attended kindergarten at King Kaunualii Elementary, Nancy has participated in the classroom as a volunteer all the grades and onto Project Grad. In fact, she also was one of the founders of King Kaunualii PTSA and Kauai District PTSA where she held the positions of President, Director and Board Member.

I first met Nancy when I became a member of the Board of Directors of Hale 'Opio Kauai, an agency with programs for troubled youth such as Teen Court, Boys and Girls Youth homes, etc. Nancy's years of service as an attorney with legal matters as well as common sense decision making skills based on past knowledge and experiences make her a valuable asset. She is a great team player and is well respected in the Kauai community.

Being a kindergarten teacher myself for over 30 years, I see the benefits of volunteer work in the classroom. Nancy has been a dedicated and responsible tutor in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading program in Lihue Wilcox School for 14 years. What a record!

Presently, I am the founder, director and program creator of KIDS preschool (Kauai Independent Daycare Services). K.I.D.S. is a successful preschool for 80 three and four year olds on activities that stimulate the left and right hemispheres brain – educating the whole child. We were excited a few years ago when Senator Norman Sakamoto and Representative Roy Takumi, with members of their respective Education committees, took the time to visit our program on Kauai which embraces a strong child development philosophy.

Being a strong advocate for children getting a good start in school, Nancy recently asked to visit KIDS School after reading the book I authored, "Beyond the Sandbox: Preschool Matters- Closing the gap between research and practice". It is evident that Nancy has a passionate thirst for learning all things pertaining to educating our children including our youngest students, which is where it all starts.

I am sure the Legislature and the Governor's goal is to make a positive change in Hawaii's Education System. If we continue to do things the same way, we will continue to get the same results.

From my point of view, I feel that parents must be included in the success of a child's education. Parents are the third leg of the educational tripod that consists of the child, the school and the home environment. It is my belief that a partnership between school, child and parents will provide the most positive and successful learning experience for each child's development. Even though a teacher with a quality program can make a huge impact on a developing child, the biggest impact happens when the parents themselves are willing to participate and become partners with the teacher, and if necessary, to change their parenting style and consequently their home environment.

Nancy's value to the Board of Education is that she can view the Hawaii Education System through the eyes of what happens in a public school classroom as well as view it through the eyes of an involved parent who just happens to also have a legal background.

I look forward to having Nancy Budd, the Kauai Board of Education member, to be a part of this change in the Education of Hawaii's keiki.

Sincerely,



Phyllis Kunimura  
Director/Founder Kauai Independent Daycare Services, Inc  
Author, "Beyond the Sandbox: Preschool Matters - closing the gap between research and practice"

## Erin Conner

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**From:** CNakamura@thelearningcoalition.org  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 07, 2011 2:55 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Subject:** GM 658: Written testimony in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, NANCY JO-YAMAKAWA BUDD, for a term to expire 6-30-2012  
**Attachments:** HEE Voting Members and Participants 20110301.pdf

HE'E Coalition

4224 Waialae Ave., Ste 322

Honolulu, HI 96816

Tel: 808-926-1530

Fax: 808-926-1533

[www.HEECoalition.org](http://www.HEECoalition.org)

April 8, 2011

Senate Committee on Education

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Friday, April 8, 2011 at 1:15 pm

Conference Room 225

GM 658: Written testimony in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, NANCY JO-YAMAKAWA BUDD, for a term to expire 6-30-2012

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani and Committee Members:

Hui for Excellence in Education, (HE'E), a statewide education coalition working to improve public education through family and community engagement, has reviewed the Governor's nominees for the Board of Education and found that all of the nominees meet the minimum qualifications required in the new law creating the appointed BOE (Act 5 of 2011).

HE'E is made up of voting, non-voting members (list attached), individuals and policy makers. HE'E's endorsement is supported by at least 75% of its voting members. This insures that any action taken by the group is of significant importance to the coalition as a whole.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura

HE'E Coalition Director



## **HE'E Coalition Voting Members (\*) and Participants**

\*Academy 21

DOE Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Support

DOE Parent Community Networking Center

\*DOE Windward District

\*Faith Action Community for Equity

\*Good Beginnings Alliance

Harold K.L. Castle Foundation

Hawai'i Charter School Network

\*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition

\*Hawai'i Education Matters

Hawai'i P-20

\*INPEACE

Joint Venture Education Forum

\*Kanu Hawai'i

\*Leaders for the Next Generation

McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds

\*Our Public School

\*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

\*Parents and Children Together

Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i

Punahou School PUEO Program

UH College of Education

UH Law School

United States Army

Lyla Berg

Norman Sakamoto



Hawaii Education Matters  
111 Hekili Street, Suite A1606  
Kailua, HI 96734  
Tel: 808-888-6922  
[www.hawaiieducationmatters.org](http://www.hawaiieducationmatters.org)

April 8, 2011

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Friday, April 8, 2011 at 1:15 pm  
Conference Room 225

GM 658: Comments on Gubernatorial Nominee, NANCY JO-YAMAKAWA BUDD, for a term to expire 6-30-2012.

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani and Committee Members:

Hawaii Education Matters (HEM) is a non-partisan, non-profit parent advocacy organization dedicated to quality public education in our state.

We feel that the amount of information provided on Ms. Budd by the Governor was limited. Please consider asking Ms. Budd the following questions, taken directly from the new law Act 5. We hope these questions will help the Committee better evaluate the candidate. In addition we have included a question related to community and family engagement and would ask that you also consider this question in your evaluation of the candidate.

1. Please have the candidate describe her experience with collective bargaining.
2. Please have the candidate describe her experience with complex organizations.
3. Please have the candidate describe her experience working among diverse colleagues and in developing consensus based policies.
4. Because HEM is a parent advocacy organization we would like to hear the candidate's thoughts on enhancing parent and community engagement in our public schools. Does the candidate know of any particularly effective community engagement models that could be replicated?

HEM was recently named in SCR 145 by Senator Tokuda (a concurrent resolution to develop a statewide parent/community engagement policy) to work with BOE on developing this policy prior to the 2012 legislative session. What does the candidate feel is the role of community and family engagement is in the educational success of the public school student?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ann Davis, MPH  
Executive Director

Lauren N. Calhoun  
4306 Waipouli Road  
Kapa`a, HI 96746

April 7, 2011

To: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

For: Hearing on Governor's Message 658  
Friday April 8, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

Re: In Support of Nomination of Nancy J. Budd for State of Hawai`i Board of Education

Dear Senator Tokuda and Committee Members,

This letter is written in support of the nomination of my mother, Nancy Budd, to the Hawai`i State Board of Education.

One of my most vivid memories as a child is my mother's enthusiasm about learning and teaching me about the world around me. Her passion and curiosity was contagious. She was always finding a way to expand my knowledge of the world by teaching me about different cultures, the environment and whatever caught my interest. When I was in elementary school, I remember going to the public library with my mother after I expressed an interest in knowing more about the biology of a cell. She and I spent the day looking at the different pictures of cells and how they were formed. I knew from an early age that education was a priority and that it was not to be taken for granted. My mother had an ability to make me believe I could do anything with a little imagination, a bit of research and a lot of hard work. If I wanted to produce a documentary film my senior year of high school or direct a play with my friends, she would be there to guide me every step of the way. She made sure that I was supported, while letting me know that the hard work would be my responsibility. My mother was my first teacher and I am forever grateful for the passion for learning she instilled within me. My curiosity and having the tools to find the answers to my questions are gifts from my mother that will stay with me the rest of my life.

I am presently a part-time teacher at Wilcox Elementary School on Kaua`i, where I also teach an afterschool video class to 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. I also attended Hawai`i public schools, kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. An education really can shape a life and it is of the utmost importance to me that Hawai`i students are given a quality education.

As a daughter, I hope to do my best in expressing my profound respect for my mother in this letter at the risk of sounding biased. As someone who has been greatly influenced by



my mother's belief in the importance of education, and specifically public education, I know that she is a worthy candidate for the Hawai'i Board of Education and will do her best to serve Hawai'i's children.

Sincerely,

Lauren Calhoun

[EDUTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:EDUTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

ON: April 6, 2011

TO: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Thomas A. Noyes

FOR: Hearing on GM 658  
Friday, April 8, 2011; 1:15 p.m.

**RE: SUPPORT for nomination of NANCY J. BUDD  
to the State of Hawaii Board of Education**

Three years after statehood Kauai's newspaper, *The Garden Island*, published good news about education in Hawaii. On September 5, 1962 it reported that Hawaii performed better than the national average in reading, arithmetic, and language on the California Achievement Test. For fourth, sixth and eighth graders (with 4.0, 6.0 and 8.0 being the national median figures), Hawaii scored 4.5, 6.5 and 8.3 respectively. Sixth graders on the island of Kauai that year scored 7.1 in language, more than a full grade point higher than their peers across the country!

The picture looks considerably different now. While there have been some gains in the past couple of years, Hawaii today ranks well below the national average in its scholastic achievement.

What happened? Our students are as bright as ever, and we have many talented, committed teachers and administrators. But something has gone awry.

If we are to regain our superior educational system, the Board of Education must take a hard look at how we got to where we are today, and it must develop solutions that will assure a positive future for our children. I believe that Nancy Budd is the right person to participate in such work. She has all of the talent, skills and expertise necessary to do the job—and more. I recommend Nancy Budd without hesitation and ask you to confirm her with the same confidence.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas A. Noyes

## Erin Conner

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**From:** Beryl Blaich [blaich@aloha.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 05, 2011 6:17 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Subject:** Hearing of Governor's Message 658

Dear Chairperson Tokuda and Vice Chairperson Kidani,

I am writing to strongly support the nomination of Nancy J. Budd for the State of Hawai'i Board of Education.

I have known Nancy for more than twenty-five years. I have admired her legal expertise and reputation. I have been very impressed with her volunteer advocacy and involvement in land conservation, historic preservation and public education issues where many many community members were concerned but needed good information including learning when and how they could participate in governmental decision-making.

In diverse situations, Nancy has been a leader , but she always characterizes herself as just a group member. She is hardworking, organized, articulate, energetic , open and warm and I see that the combination of her skills and innate nature brings people together, encourages the building of effective teams.

But what I most admire about Nancy is her tutoring of third grader's at Wilcox Elementary School. She has been a reading tutor (and whatever else what needed) for years and years - I think going on 18 - despite demanding and diverse professional and personal commitments. She has experienced a plethora of educational initiatives during this time. She has raised her daughter Lauren and been very involved in the P'TSA of Lauren's schools. Her commitment to public education is fervent and abiding.

Please confirm the nomination of Nancy Budd to the BOE. I am impressed with all of Governor Abercrombie's nominees but wanted you to know how suited Nancy is - by experience, ability and character - for this critical position.

Thank you for your work and caring.  
With aloha and respect,  
Beryl Blaich

April 5, 2011

To: Senator Jill K. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

For: Hearing on Governor's Message 658  
Friday April 8, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

Re: In Support of Nomination of Nancy J. Budd for State of Hawaii Board of Education

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee.

As a former educator, I was please to learn that Governor Neil Abercrombie has appointed Nancy J. Budd to be a member of the State of Hawaii Board of Education Board for some of the following reasons:

- 1) She is directly familiar with Hawaii education system as her daughter was educated in the Hawaii State public school-system, founded the King Kaumalii Elementary School PTSA and Kauai District PTSA.
- 2) She has managerial skills being the past President and Director Kauai District Parent-Teacher Association, Board Member of the Hawaii State PTSA Board of Manager and so forth. (Please read her impressive resume.)
- 3) Nancy is a lawyer who continues to donate her skills and after hours to the Kauai Community.
- 4) Nancy is an active advocate in the preservation of Kauai's natural resources. (Kokee State Park Advisory Council, The Trust for Public Land, Grant Program.)
- 5) In summation: Nancy is a WONDER! She is a kind, bright, compassionate woman who I am proud to know and we, the citizens of Hawaii, will be fortunate to have Hawaii children's future in her hands.

Sincerely,

David P. Scott aka David Penhallow  
Writer - Educator

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Friday, April 8, 2011  
TIME: 1:15PM  
PLACE: Conference Room 225

Testifier – Gary Hooser, 6585 Ohelo Road, Kapaa Hawaii 96746

Testimony in strong support of GM658 Nancy Jo-Yamakawa Budd

It is my distinct pleasure to offer my testimony in support of the confirmation of Nancy Jo-Yamakawa Budd to the Board of Education.

I have known Ms Budd for over 20 years and have worked extensively with her both on a professional level and on community issues.

Ms Budd is thoughtful, articulate, thorough and passionate in her convictions.

It is without any reservation whatsoever that I support her confirmation and urge the Senate Education Committee to vote in support.

April 3, 2011

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

RE: Hearing on Governor's Message 658  
Friday April 8, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

This is a letter of support for the nomination of Nancy Jo-Yamakawa Budd for the State of Hawai'i Board of Education. I have known Nancy for at least 15 years in a personal as well as a professional capacity.

On a personal level, Nancy and I met when our daughters attended elementary school and through numerous extra-curricular activities, shared parenting duties. Nancy ingrained strong ideals of volunteerism in her daughter which I have always admired. A quality that I've come to appreciate in Nancy is her open-mindedness and willingness to see the value in other people's perspectives.

On a professional level, Nancy serves on numerous boards and I currently have the pleasure of serving on The Salvation Army Kaua'i Corps advisory board with her. Noteworthy is the fact that Nancy founded the King Kaumuali'i Elementary School Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) as well as the Kaua'i District PTSA. Also, as Public Education Action Team Member for Kaua'i Planning & Action Alliance, Nancy was instrumental in the development of the *Community Volunteers in our Classrooms* project.

As a practicing attorney on Kaua'i, Nancy has become a valuable resource to the many nonprofits that she serves on. Nancy is a team player and will bring a forward thinking and novel perspective to the table. With her ongoing personal dedication to a healthy future of our educational system, Nancy will contribute invaluable expertise on the Board of Education.

Respectfully submitted,



Faye Akasaki  
Retired Manager - Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative

3340-B East Manoa Road  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

April 5, 2011

TO: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

FOR: Hearing on Governor's Message 658  
Friday April 8, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

Re: In Support of Nomination of Nancy J. Budd for State of  
Hawai'i Board of Education

Dear Senators,

I have known Nancy Budd for over three decades. The possibility of her serving on the Board of Education truly excites me because of her long-standing commitment to public education in our State and her ongoing efforts to make a difference!

When Nancy's daughter Lauren entered King Kaumuali'i Elementary School, so did Nancy, helping to found the school's PTSA and serving as President! She has also served on the Kaua'i District PTSA as a President and Director and has been a Board Member of the Hawai'i State PTSA Board.

Many of us may criticize the public schools, but how many of us make a lasting commitment to make things better? This is the fourteenth year Nancy has been a volunteer reading tutor for third graders at Wilcox Elementary School! 1998 to 2011! Amazing, yes?!

Her daughter Lauren has graduated from Kaua`i High School and college as well, and Mom Nancy is continuing to make a difference in the lives of school children!

How she successfully juggles the responsibilities of her private law practice with her volunteer work in the community is remarkable and commendable!

Nancy is a collaborator, innovator, and doer who will not slink away from the hard work of meaningful change. She has been on the path of educational reform for a long time.

The fact that she is willing and eager to serve on the Board of Education shows the depth of her commitment.

We will be lucky indeed to have a hero like Nancy on the Board!!!

With aloha and high hopes,

Karen Yamamoto Hackler



## Erin Conner

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**From:** Louise Arakaki [bunkylk@hawaiiintel.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 05, 2011 8:52 AM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** Nancy J Budd  
**Subject:** In support of nomination of Nancy J Budd for BOE

**TO:** Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

**FOR:** Hearing on Governor's Message 658  
Friday April 8, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

Aloha Honorable Chair and Vice-Chair,

I am writing in support of Nancy Budd for a position on the Hawaii State Board of Education.

My friendship with Ms Budd goes back many years, from when her daughter was in pre-school. During countless hours of weekend walking and telephone conversations, the subject of education was a recurring theme.

Nancy has been a tireless advocate for quality education in the public schools, extending past her daughter's tenure in the system. In this regard, she is her mother's daughter. Her mother was a public school teacher, and very active in her PTA.

I am confident of Nancy's ability to serve with integrity and enthusiasm in this position. She has a sharp intellect, a compassionate heart and an ability to listen with an open mind. She is an excellent choice to help guide policy for our keiki and our future.

Thank you for your consideration of Ms Nancy J Budd to serve on our State Board of Education

Sincerely,  
Louise Arakaki BA, MA, LMT  
6549 Kahuna Rd #B  
Kapa'a, HI 96746  
(808) 822-4323

## Erin Conner

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**From:** Craig Nishimoto [pacvet@aloha.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 05, 2011 12:03 AM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** Royce Fujimoto Jr.  
**Subject:** In Support of Nomination of Nancy J. Budd for State of Hawai`i Board of Education

**TO:** Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

**FOR:** Hearing on Governor's Message 658  
Friday April 8, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

Dear Senators:

I am a Veterinarian on the Island of Kauai that has chosen to educate my children through the public education system here on our island. I value the diversity and opportunities that public schools have to offer to my children.

I am writing this letter in support of BOE candidate Nancy Budd. She is an intelligent and capable individual with the drive and desire to help the community. Nancy is very practical and able to draw from her experience as an attorney, community activist and as a public school student's mom.

I would like to recommend Nancy Budd, without reservations, to be confirmed to the position of member of the Board of Education for the State of Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted:

Craig M. Nishimoto, DVM  
Paradise Animal Clinic  
Kalaheo, HI  
808-482-1199

## Erin Conner

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**From:** Kaleo Patterson [kaleop@me.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 04, 2011 6:08 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Subject:** Nancy Budd Support Letter Board of Education

To whom it may concern,

The name Nancy Budd is well known in Kauai education circles. Nancy has been an advocate for educational reform in the Public Schools, and the Department of Education for many years. I first met her over 25 years ago at the Kapaa Elementary School. At the time Kapaa Elem was one of the largest elementary schools in the State. There were many issues there and Nancy and many other parents worked hard to tackle the issues and to bring the very best programs and facilities to Kapaa. We worked together on the Board of the PTSA, later the Island PTSA, and then the State PTSA, legislative committee. Out of our work emerged, Hawaiian Immersion, School within a School, and a new second elementary and middle school in Kapaa. When the Kaumualii Elementary School was completed, Nancy started up the PTSA and became the first president. During those days parents on Kauai studied many of the proposals for reform, and looked at other models, and possibilities.

Nancy could always be found, leading the discussions, and sharing research and insights. She received much support and encouragement from the community and schools. Over all these years, Nancy's passion and interest in educational reform never diminished, but became deeper, and seasoned. I believe she is very authentic about her willingness to serve. She will be a tireless servant of the community interests. I am confident that she will be a force for change in the BOE agenda. Her personality and instincts are well suited for working with others to create solutions and new possibilities. Her steady intellect, depth of knowledge, and wisdom will be appreciated by all.

Please give her name as the Kauai rep your most serious consideration.  
Her humanity and compassion will be an inspiration to all.

Sincerely

Dr. Kaleo Patterson  
President, Pacific Justice and Reconciliation Center

Sent from my iPhone  
Dr. Kahu Kaleo Patterson  
Pacific Justice and Reconciliation

T: 808 330-3769

## Erin Conner

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**From:** Andrew F Bushnell [abushnel@hawaii.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 04, 2011 4:35 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for Nancy J. Budd for Board of Education

6510 Olohena Road

Kapa`a, HI 96746

(808) 822-1651

April 4, 2011

To: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Education

FOR: Hearing on Governor's Message 658 Friday April 8, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

Re: In Support of Nomination of Nancy J. Budd for State of Hawai'i Board of Education

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee,

I am pleased to submit this letter in support of Nancy Budd's nomination to the State of Hawai'i Board of Education. Nancy has been a friend and neighbor of mine for more than twenty years. For much of that time she has been my lawyer and more recently a member of our paddling crew.

Ever since I've known her she has been involved in public service in one way or another, often in the area of education. I first got to know her during a political campaign. The candidate's program was focused on improving public education and his steering committee and major supporters were, like me, educators or like Nancy, members of various PTSAs on Kaua'i. At the time Nancy was the president of the Kaua'i District PTSA, an organization which she founded. When her daughter transferred to King Kaumuali'i Elementary School Nancy started the PTSA there. Talk about being pro-active!

Nancy continued to be especially active in the area of public education and the PTSAs until her daughter graduated from Kaua'i High School in 2002. Since then she has continued her service to Kaua'i's youth through

her participation in Teen Court and as a member of the Board of Hale `Opio where she serves as Secretary. (Hale `Opio provides a variety of services for troubled teens, including housing and counseling, and facilitates foster care.) Another way in which Nancy has maintained contact with public education is as a reading tutor for third graders at Wilcox School in Lihu`e. She has been doing this for thirteen years because she loves the kids. An outgrowth of this is her work with the Kaua`i Planning and Action Alliance where she has been working to implement a Community Volunteers in our Classrooms project.

Nancy is not simply a joiner—she is a hard worker and an effective one. While working with the PTSAs on Kaua`i she established very positive relationships with several of the principals with whom she had to work. She worked especially well with Cliff Bailey, the Principal at Kapa`a Elementary and Maggie Cox, Principal at Kaumuali`i Elementary. Much of the reason for her success is her positive attitude toward the public school system. Although she sees plenty of room for improvement, she recognizes that there is much that is good about public education in Hawai`i and she admires the hard work and dedication of most of the teachers and administrators.

Finally, I should mention Nancy's ability to get along with all sorts of people. She's equally at home with businessmen and environmentalists, lawyers and canoe paddlers—some of whom, admittedly, are lawyers. Hawaiian, haole, Japanese, and Filipino. She even consorts with bicyclists! She has a wonderful sense of humor and ready smile; she's an expert in breaking down barriers. I recommend her to you wholeheartedly!

Sincerely yours,

Andrew F. Bushnell

Emeritus Professor of History,

Kaua`i Community College

## Erin Conner

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**From:** Arnold Meister [arnoldmeister@hawaiiantel.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 04, 2011 12:37 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Subject:** In Support of Nomination of Nancy J. Budd for State of Hawai'i Board of Education

To: Senator Jill. N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

For: Hearing on Governor's Message 658

I write to express to you my deepest respect for Nancy J. Budd and my hope that you will confirm her as a member of the Hawai'i State Board of Education.

It has been my privilege to know Ms Budd for well over 20 years and to know her work as a leader in our Kaaui community. I know her to be fair and reasoned as well as deeply committed. I've always been impressed with her willingness to help others; she is known across our island as one who takes seriously her civic responsibilities.

Her fine intelligence is coupled with a true sense of aloha; her ability to bring disparate groups together is widely known. She is a solution-oriented soul.

I'm grateful to Governor Abercrombie for this nomination. I've no doubt she will serve in an honorable, helpful manner and that our DOE will be the better for it.

I am a retired DOE educator, having served as an administrator, a teacher, a resource person, and a learning center coordinator. I was also active locally and at the state level as an officer of the HSTA. I mention this only to indicate that I've been to many Board of Education meetings, had any number of fine acquaintances serve on that Board, and have a sense of the difficulty of the Board member position.

The Board faces an economic and social environment that is more fraught now than at any time I can remember over the past 45 years. The low ratings of our educational system keep bubbling up into the media, and public perception is greatly swayed by those negative releases.

More than ever, we need an activist, creative, committed, and knowledgeable Board of Education. I believe that Nancy J. Budd is ideal for the challenges our system faces.

[Arnold Meister](#)  
[1942 Pahoehoe Street](#)  
[Koloa HI 96756](#)  
[808 742 1338](#)

**Erin Conner**

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**From:** Royce Fujimoto Jr. [kingk30@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 03, 2011 10:14 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for Confirmation

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

For Hearing on Governor's Message 658  
Friday, April 8, 2011 at 1:15 pm

Re: In Support of Nomination of Nancy J. Budd for State of Hawaii Board of Education

Dear Senators Tokuda and Kidani,

I was pleasantly surprised to learn that the nominee to represent Kauai on the Board of Education was Nancy Budd. I have known Nancy well for years and know that in addition to her intellectual gifts, she possesses a deep seated passion for societal improvement and opportunities for all. I am sure that you are well aware of her many contributions to our community through her service on numerous boards and committees, but she is also involved in many other causes that do not show up on the curriculum vitae. She is a strong believer in public education and is an advocate of learning as a lifelong instrument of positive life change, leading to individual betterment and the prosperity of society at large. I wholeheartedly support Nancy's confirmation to serve on the Board of Education.

Thank you,  
Royce Y. Fujimoto, DDS

## Erin Conner

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**From:** Jim Popham [wpopham@ucla.edu]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 03, 2011 1:12 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Subject:** In Support of Nomination of Nancy J. Budd for State of Hawaii Board of Education

TO: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

FOR: Hearing on Governor's Message 658  
Friday April 8, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

Dear Senators Tokuda and Kidani:

I am writing this letter in support of the nomination of Nancy J. Budd, a Kauai attorney, to serve as a member of the Hawaii State Board of Education. I do so with unabashed enthusiasm, for when I learned several days ago that Ms. Budd might be nominated as a Board member, I was simply delighted. It is difficult to imagine a more suitable candidate for the Hawaii State Board of Education than Nancy Budd.

Although for the past four years I have resided in Oregon, for almost 10 years prior to this period my wife and I lived on Kauai in Koloa. During that time I became acquainted with Nancy, initially on the tennis court where for many years we were part of a Tuesday night tennis group that played in Lihue, then shared a post-tennis meal at one of the Lihue restaurants. It was mostly during those Tuesday evening outings that I had an opportunity to gauge Nancy's thinking about educationally relevant topics and to conclude how very interested she has always been in education. Because my own field is education, the conversations of the group sometimes drifted around to education-related issues. Well, way back then, well before I had any idea that Nancy might someday be asked to serve on the state Board of Education, I had arrived at the conclusion that this was a woman who not only cared deeply about the education of children, but who had already thought carefully about how a successful education might be delivered.

Through the years, we had numerous discussions about education, and my own specialization, namely, educational assessment, and there was never an instant in which her thinking was superficial. She would ask questions that clearly demonstrated to me that she had grasped the kernel of the idea under discussion, and was considering its implications. This is a remarkably insightful person, and a really quick study. She grasps complex matters, and makes sense of them rapidly. Given the complexity of serving as an educational policymaker in any state today, Hawaii included, this is precisely the kind of person who's needed—that is someone who can arrive at a deep understanding of complexities without being obliged to spend an eternity arriving at that understanding.

Let me also say candidly that most of our Tuesday night tennis gang were locals. Nancy not only was completely accepted by those friends, but she obviously is at ease with the diverse array of backgrounds certain to be encountered in Hawaii's schools. I trust her to be even-handed in her deliberations about all Hawaii students and educators.

At the end of 2010 I had an opportunity to spend a short while on Kauai, and had dinner once more with our Lihue tennis crowd—including Nancy. Because I had recently published a book regarding formative assessment, Nancy asked me to elaborate on what was involved in that particular process. I mailed her a copy of the book, and she clearly has digested what's in it, for in a subsequent telephone conversation, she accurately described several aspects of the formative-assessment process. As I said, she is a quick study.

I learned during that late-2010 dinner that she routinely serves as a volunteer in one of Kauai's public schools. How many practicing attorneys take time out of their days to function in that way? She cares about children; she cares about Hawaii's schools.

Truly, Senators, it would be impossible to make a better appointment to the Hawaii State Board of Education. She is truly a superlative candidate. It is an honor for me to endorse Nancy J. Budd as a nominee to my former state's Board of Education.

W. James Popham



Professor Emeritus, UCLA  
[wpopham@ucla.edu](mailto:wpopham@ucla.edu)



PAT L GRIFFIN

POST OFFICE BOX 3213  
LĪHU'Ē, HAWAII 96766

PHONE: (808) 639 1019

E-MAIL: PATGRIFFIN  
@HAWAIIANTEL.NET

EMAIL SUBMITTED TO EDUtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov ON APRIL 1, 2011

TO Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

FOR Hearing on GM 658  
Friday, April 8, 2011; 1:15 p.m.

RE **In SUPPORT of Nancy J Budd's nomination to the  
State of Hawai'i Board of Education**

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of the Nomination of Nancy J Budd to the State of Hawai'i Board of Education.

Nancy and I met more than a quarter of a century ago when our children were still in diapers. After they reached school age I watched Nancy begin an active role in the educational process, both through leadership in groups such as the PTA and as an always willing volunteer at school events. She has continued that dedication to education a decade after her daughter graduated from Kaua'i High School, providing both occasional assists, such as volunteering to chaperone the annual Project Grad graduation party nights, and ongoing participation in the system as a tutor at Wilcox Elementary School.

Admirable though such activities may be, they do not in themselves constitute the reason for my support of her nomination. I endorse Nancy Budd's nomination because she is the brightest, most ethical, determined, hard-working, conscientious, perceptive person I know. When we have participated together in community-based organizations, Nancy invariably arrived at meetings well prepared and well versed in the questions at hand. Nancy has a brilliant way of digging to the core of an issue and bringing its essence to light. Her probing, analytical mind deepens discussions and brings new insights to the debates. And, while open to others' analysis, she has never sheltered in the convenience of majority opinion if her quest for the truth leads in a different direction.

Nancy Budd is no seeker of spotlights, and I don't doubt that she'd blush at this embarrassment of superlatives, but they constitute the unvarnished facts about this woman of extraordinary intelligence and character. Governor Abercrombie could not have chosen a better nominee to the state's enormously important Board of Education. I wholeheartedly support Nancy Budd's nomination and encourage you to confirm her appointment without hesitation.

Yours very truly,

Pat L Griffin

**Erin Conner**

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**From:** Yukimura [jiroyuki@hawaiiintel.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2011 8:12 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** jiroyuki@hawaiiintel.net  
**Subject:** testimony in support of Nancy J. Budd

Hawai`i State Senate Education Committee  
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, vice-chair

Re. GM658

Dear Members of the Senate Education Committee,

My name is Jennie Yukimura, resident of the island of Kaua`i. My husband, Jiro Yukimura, and I are parents of five children, all educated in the public schools on Kaua`i and graduates of UH, Stanford, U. of Washington, Seattle Pacific, and Berklee College of Music in Boston. We have seven grandchildren; four have already graduated from college, and two young ones are at the public school in Lihu`e.

Education has been a very important part of our family's lives, and still continues to be.

I am a retired social worker of the State of Hawaii's Mental Health Division and have worked closely with disturbed and troubled youngsters of the Children's Mental Health Team, and other agencies.

I am very pleased that Governor Abercrombie has appointed Nancy J. Budd to the Board of Education. We have known Nancy as a friend, as our family lawyer, and as an advocate for many local causes we believe in. Her interest in public education as well as important environmental issues on Kaua`i has been ongoing for many years.

My family very strongly recommends her appointment to the School Board for the sake of Hawai`i and the betterment of the education of your precious youngsters.

Sincerely,

Jennie T. Yukimura

Deborah Kurose  
P.O. Box 294  
Kapaa, HI 96746

April 7, 2011

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

Re: Nomination to the Hawai`i State Board of Education

Dear Senators,

I strongly recommend the appointment of Nancy Budd as the Kauai representative to the Board of Education of Hawaii. I've worked with Nancy in some capacity since 1990 when she formed the PTA at our newly opened elementary school. She was instrumental in organizing parents, pulling in community partnerships, and tirelessly worked alongside the staff to support the school's vision during our hectic opening and expansion over the years from a 200 student K-2 school to a K-6 with a population of over 900 students. Nancy was often on campus, meeting with administration, providing assistance as well as funding for student activities.

When Nancy stepped down as president of the school PTA, she continued her involvement in the District PTA and as a parent volunteer who would rearrange her busy schedule to give an extra hand with a class project or sharing resources with the class. Nancy's passion continues to be focus on enriching the educational experiences of students. Volunteering as a reading tutor, she has helped countless students over thirteen years to improve their reading skills. It is rare to have a long term commitment from a volunteer with no other connection to the school except a desire to help kids.

Nancy possesses the skills to work with a diverse group of people. Looking at her record of volunteerism over the years, it should be noted that one doesn't serve on various committees and organizations unless you are willing to serve others and possess the ability to both lead and collaborate with others.

Nancy has served our island well and I'm confident that she will be a welcomed addition to the Board of Education.

Sincerely Yours,  
Deborah Kurose  
Teacher  
Wilcox Elementary

Senate Committee on Education  
Friday, April 8, 2011  
1:15PM  
Conference Room 225

**Testimony of Alan T. Murakami in Support of  
GM 658: Appointment of NANCY JO-YAMAKAWA BUDD**

I support the appointment of Nancy Jo Yamakawa Budd to the State Board of Education.

I have known Nancy for over 30 years, during which she has consistently demonstrated her dedication to public service and the public interest in many areas in which she has been active. As a law student, she was consistently an advocate of help for the disadvantaged, even working at great personal and financial sacrifice to help death row prisoners obtain legal representation. Early in her career, she worked for the Legal Aid Society of Hawai`i as a staff attorney on Kaua`i, offering her help to countless individuals who did not otherwise have such legal help.

I witnessed Nancy, as a parent, volunteer early and assertively in attempting to reform programs of the Department of Education, on behalf of her young daughter, who attended public school throughout her schooling years. Nancy was a staunch supporter of the public education system throughout much of those years, acting as a parent advocate who attained statewide recognition for her efforts at the time. Although she encountered some major disappointments in that process, she still maintained a positive and constructive attitude throughout that period. Even after her only daughter graduated and attended college on the continent, Nancy continued to volunteer in the public schools as a tutor, hoping to make a crucial difference in the lives of those students needing the most help from a professional like her who had skills that would benefit adolescents.

The Governor's appointment of Nancy appears to be based on her stellar reputation in the community. She is not a political appointment in the sense that she worked as a supporter during this past year's campaign. She is a person who brings great integrity to the BOE at a time of great challenge and need. I have no hesitation urging the Senate to welcome Nancy as an education champion who would never place any personal gain ahead of her duties as a board member. I am confident she will bring great credit to the board in the years she serves, if confirmed.

Finally, as personal friend, I have seen aspects of Nancy's dedication to causes that inspire those around her. Those that know her, like I do, can be assured that Nancy will put her heart and soul in any endeavor in which she engages. There is never a question about any selfish motivations in her actions. She acts on her conscience and is sincere about any effort in which she engages to improve the lives of others in her community. She loves the outdoors and is a protector of the environment around her. Her personal example motivates others around her to do better at what each does. She is attentive and meticulous to detail. The State is lucky to have her serve.

I urge her prompt confirmation to the BOE.

JOAN KEALALIO  
5821 Ahahea Street  
Kapa'a HI 96746  
(808) 823-8809

April 5, 2011

TO: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

FAX: Senate Sergeant-At-Arms Office 1-800-586-6659

FOR: Hearing on Governor's Message 658  
Friday April 8, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

Re: In Support of Nomination of Nancy J. Budd for State of Hawai'i Board of Education

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee,

I write this letter in strong support of the nomination of Nancy J. Budd to the Board of Education for the State of Hawai'i. I have known Nancy Budd for over 20 years and have the deepest respect for her: for her integrity, her resolve, her commitment to the children of Hawai'i and to public education, and for her willingness to put in the hard work necessary to bring people together for a common good.

I have mentored and worked with Kaua'i's kids throughout my adult life. My late husband, Kaipō Kealalio, was the Executive Director of Boy Scouts on Kaua'i and, during his tenure, we worked together to help the children meet their potential through scouting, volunteerism and sports. I am an EA at Kapa'a High School and work with the school counselors. I have been the adviser to the Kapa'a Interact Club at Kapa'a High School for over 10 years, I have coached a volleyball club for youth 12-18 years old for 16 years, and I recruit the community members to judge the senior project presentations for Kapa'a High School.

I met Nancy Budd when she became active at the Kapa'a Elementary School PTA in the late 1980s and early 1990s, and when she continued this work with me, my husband, Kaipō Kealalio, and many others, on the Kaua'i District PTSA. During those years, she helped us work toward a statewide alliance of parents, teachers and students, as we realized that the issues were not just at our school, but systemic. Nancy energized our group and, with her leadership, we brought together dozens of representatives from all of

our Kaua'i schools to attend a statewide PTSA conference in Maui. This was quite a feat. Throughout it all, Nancy worked collaboratively and passionately – with a sense of humor.

Over the years, Nancy has continued to be dedicated to the kids and to our community. She makes sure that our Interact youth volunteers show up to serve meals for the annual Salvation Army Thanksgiving luncheon each year and she volunteers for Project Graduation night year after year. She has also been known to spontaneously assist with HHSAA and KIF athletic events.

The BOE has an enormous job to do and the public has great expectations. Governor Abercrombie could not have found a more optimistic, yet realistic, person for the job. I believe that Nancy Budd will do all she can to move our State toward an educational system that works.

Sincerely,

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

JOAN KEALALIO