

GM817

KEITH AMEMIYA

Nomination to the Board of
Education

NOMINATION TO BOARD OF EDUCATION – KEITH AMEMIYA
WRITTEN STATEMENT

Having served an inaugural term on the BOE, what made you decide to re-apply?

It's been a rewarding experience to serve on the BOE for the past year, and it's been a pleasure to serve with my fellow BOE members and to work with Superintendent Matayoshi and her administrative team. Although significant progress has been made, much more work needs to be done, and thus it would probably be in the DOE's (and BOE's) best interest to maintain continuity on the BOE, among other reasons.

What do you feel has been your most significant contribution to the Board in the past year?

Along with my fellow Board members, we've tried to bring stability to the Board and work cohesively together. Additionally, we've tried to work collaboratively with Superintendent Matayoshi and her administrative team to reach the Department's goals and objectives without getting involved in the Department's day-to-day operations.

What priorities do you feel are critical that the Board take up during the course of the year next term? What role do you see yourself playing in addressing these issues?

Although there are many, some of the more noteworthy upcoming Board priorities include: (1) continuing to work collaboratively with Superintendent Matayoshi and her administrative team to improve student achievement statewide; (2) continuing to explore ways to use the DOE's resources as efficiently as possible; (3) increasing student learning times and reducing the administrative burdens of our teachers; (4) continuing to engage stakeholders and the community at large to provide much-needed support in all areas; and (5) continuing to explore public-private partnerships in support of our students, teachers, and staff.

My role would be to continue to work collaboratively with the rest of my BOE colleagues to do what we can to support the Superintendent and her team, including providing the necessary resources to fulfill the DOE's many priorities.

How do you feel as an individual member, and the Board as a whole, can improve stakeholder and community engagement in the formation of education policy?

The Board must continue to engage stakeholders and the community by continuing to: (1) hold community meetings statewide throughout the year, (2) attend forums/meetings held by important interested parties such as the He'e Coalition and the Castle Foundation; and

(3) follow up on suggestions/recommendations made to the Board by stakeholders and the community in general.

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

Initially, I was concerned that serving on the BOE would conflict with my current position as Executive Administrator and Secretary of the University of Hawai'i's Board of Regents. However, Governor Abercrombie's staff has researched the issue and has found that I would be able to serve in both capacities if confirmed for the BOE position.

However, if any conflict of interest should arise, I would certainly recuse myself from being involved in the conflict of interest issue.

GM817

TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY OF
KEITH Y. AMEMIYA

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION 2012

Friday, March 30, 2012
1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 225

TESTIMONY ON GM 817 RELATING TO KEITH Y. AMEMIYA FOR
CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the committee, thank you for giving me this opportunity to provide testimony to you on my nomination to the State of Hawai'i's Board of Education.

While serving as the Executive Director of the Hawai'i High School Athletic Association (the governing body of high school sports in Hawai'i) for 12 years (1998-2010), I worked quite closely with the Department of Education (and the Board of Education), from the Superintendent on down to many public school principals, teachers, coaches, students, and parents.

I was thus fortunate enough to gain a deep appreciation as to the hard work and dedication of those involved in our public school system, as well as the many challenges and obstacles facing them.

Additionally, I have served as the Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i for the past two years, and have continued to have the opportunity to work with the Department of Education.

Moreover, I've had the honor and privilege to serve on the Board of Education for the past year or so, and would like to continue to work with my Board colleagues to support the Department of Education in reaching its goals and objectives for our public school students statewide.

Based upon the above, my work experience and knowledge of many of the key people involved in our public school system will hopefully continue to be of significant value if I'm confirmed to serve on the BOE for another term.

In sum, I humbly ask that you consider and approve my nomination to continue to serve on the Board of Education. If confirmed, it would be a tremendous honor and privilege to continue to serve on the Board and to continue assisting and supporting the DOE in their efforts to educate our youth and prepare them as best as we can to become productive adults in this ever-changing and dynamic global environment.



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

Friday, March 30, 2012, 1:15 PM
State Capitol Room 225

Testimony of
NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawaii

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

GM817 Confirmation of **Keith Amemiya** 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 Keith Amemiya to the State of Hawai'i Board of Education. I have appointed Amemiya as an at-large representative for a three-year term ending June 30, 2015.

Last spring, I appointed Amemiya for a one-year term on the inaugural State of Hawaii Board of Education. During his tenure, Amemiya has served as Vice Chair of the Student Achievement Committee. Amemiya's most notable contribution to the BOE has been in developing new public-private partnerships to address critical issues facing students and to provide opportunities which engage students in school. Amemiya led the development of partnerships and private to launch a bullying prevention campaign, establish intermediate athletics in the Zones of School Innovation, and establish high school surfing as a sport. Also, Amemiya has facilitated coordination between the DOE and University of Hawaii.

Amemiya brings significant experience in board governance to the BOE. He served on numerous board including Hawaiian Host Board of Directors, Shane Victorino Foundation, Mamoru and Aiko Takitani Foundation, Aloha Council Boy Scouts of America Board of Directors, Susannah Wesley Community Center Board of Directors, and City and County of Honolulu Police Commission. He is currently the Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

Amemiya also understands the diversity and opportunity across high schools in our state from his 12 years of experience as the Executive Director of the Hawaii High School Athletic Association.

I am grateful that Amemiya will continue to serve on the BOE. I am confident of the contributions that he will make to the BOE and to improving public education in Hawai'i. know that you will find Amemiya well qualified for the BOE and encourage you to confirm him.



STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

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

Friday, March 30, 2012
1:15 p.m.
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 225

Testimony of Don G. Horner, Chairperson

GM 817 Confirmation of Keith Amemiya to the State of Hawaii Board of Education

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

On behalf of the Board of Education, I am pleased to support the confirmation of Keith Amemiya to the State of Hawaii Board of Education (the "**Board**").

Certainly, this last year has proven to be a test in how the newly appointed school board would govern and work together. In the face of many challenges, the Board has come together around the Department to ensure that public education in Hawaii continues to grow and strengthen our community.

Keith is an integral part of this work and has brought with him the leadership, judgment and skills gained from years of service on numerous boards. He serves as the vice-chair of the Student Achievement Committee focused on reviewing and setting priorities for the Department. The Student Achievement Committee is vital to ensuring clarity and support around the Department's student achievement goals.

He is committed to students and to improving the work of the Department. Keith has supported the Department's endeavor to strengthen its relationship with higher education and find ways to enhance the P-20 continuum of education. He was instrumental in beginning discussions about the Board of Education and the Board of Regents jointly working together to further these goals and helped to organize a Governor's reception for both Boards. Moreover, Keith has taken leadership roles in supporting other Department initiatives including the start of middle school athletics, surfing as a high school sport and anti-bullying.

The Board collectively has worked hard to focus on policy aspects of governance and Keith has continually kept his eye on this goal.

Keith is truly a team player. He is an asset to this Board and I encourage you to confirm Keith's nomination.



GM817

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education,
Keith Amemiya**
Senate Committee on Education

March 30, 2012

1:15 p.m.

Room 225

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** the nomination of Keith Amemiya to the Board of Education.

Over the years, Mr. Amemiya has served in several positions that enabled him to exhibit his leadership skills to our community. He has served on boards for the Honolulu Firefighters Foundation, the Aloha Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the Susannah Wesley Community Center and the Learning Coalition. Moreover, in his role as the former executive director of the Hawai'i High School Athletic Association (HHSAA) from 1998 to 2010, Mr. Amemiya has worked closely with students and Department of Education personnel ranging from the superintendent to public school principals to teachers, coaches and athletic directors. Mr. Amemiya's experience demonstrates a deep appreciation for and dedication to public education.

Lastly, Mr. Amemiya has the aloha to serve as a true keiki o ka 'āina. In an interview with Civil Beat, he stated that he would strive for a future where "Hawai'i's public school students are at the top of the nation in terms of achievement, including test scores, graduation rate, and college readiness." The Board of Education would benefit greatly from his vision.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to PASS GM817. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

841 Bishop St., Suite 301
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



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Senate Committee on Education
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Conference Room 225

March 30, 2012

GM 817: Written testimony in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, Keith Amemiya, for a term to expire 6-30-2015

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani and Committee Members:

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 30 parent and community organizations dedicated to improving student achievement by increasing family and community engagement and partnerships in our schools. Our member list is attached.

HE'E has been attending regularly the Board of Education Student Achievement Committee meetings, of which Mr. Amemiya is Vice Chair. We appreciate Mr. Amemiya's active contribution to this committee and consideration for family and community engagement. Mr. Amemiya is leading the fundraising effort for the intermediate athletic program to be introduced in the Zones of Innovation. The program is an opportunity to extend learning hours for students as well teach discipline and provide self-confidence and self-esteem. Further, it is also an opportunity to bring families to the school to support their child in athletics as well as in academics.

We strongly encourage this Committee to reappoint Mr. Amemiya. We look forward to continuing our work with him and the Student Achievement Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration. The support of this Governor's Message represents 75% consensus or more of our voting membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director



Academy 21
After-School All-Stars Hawaii
*Castle Complex Community Council
Center for Civic Education
*DOE Windward District
*Faith Action for Community Equity
Fresh Leadership LLC
Girl Scouts Hawaii
*Good Beginnings Alliance
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars
*Hawai'i Charter School Network
*Hawai'i Education Matters
*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition
Hawai'i State Student Council
Hawai'i State Teachers Association
Hawai'i P-20
Hawai'i 3Rs
It's All About Kids
*INPEACE
Joint Venture Education Forum
Kamehameha Schools
*Kanu Hawai'i
Kupu A'e
*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
The Learning Coalition
US PACOM
University of Hawai'i College of Education
Voting Members (*)

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 4:47 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: tgeorge@castlefoundation.org
Subject: Testimony for GM817 on 3/30/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 3/30/2012 1:15:00 PM GM817

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Terrence R. George
Organization: Individual
E-mail: tgeorge@castlefoundation.org
Submitted on: 3/26/2012

Comments:

I strongly support the nomination of Mr. Amemiya to a second term at the Board of Education. His intelligence, commitment, integrity, and record of results would continue to be a major benefit to the Board.

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Education Committee
The Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

March 29, 2012

Dear Chair Tokuda and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

Subject: Reappointment of Board of Education Member, Keith Amemiya

My name is Wai Sam Lao, and I am a senior at Moanalua High School. I also serve as the 2011-2012 Board of Education Student Representative. Through my position on the Board of Education, I have had the honor and opportunity to work with Mr. Amemiya for the past nine months of my term.

I am a member of the Student Achievement Committee, of which Mr. Amemiya is the Vice Chairperson. His experience on the Board of Regents at the University of Hawaii undoubtedly is a valuable asset to the Board of Education because, in the spirit suggested by the Department of Education, the goal of an education system is to render its students ready for post-secondary education and career. Mr. Amemiya's carefully contemplated comments and actions as Board Member is reflective of this vital connection. As the Student Representative, I am also greatly comforted by his concern for the ultimate stakeholders in our education system, the students of Hawaii.

Mr. Amemiya's work and contributions to the Board of Education is to be appreciated and recognized. I give Mr. Amemiya the greatest support I can during your consideration of his reappointment to the Board of Education.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Wai Sam Lao
2011-2012 Board of Education Student Representative