

GM819

CHERYL LUPENUI

Nomination to the Board of
Education

March 26, 2012

Senator Jill N. Tokuda
Senatorial District 24
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 218
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Reappointment of Cheryl Káuhane Lupenui to the Board of Education for a term ending June 30, 2015.

Dear Senator Tokuda:

In response to your request for a written statement, I submit the following:

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

Serving on the Board of Education is one way to show that I truly care about our students and am committed to an excellent education through our public schools. I believe in a uniquely Hawai'i educational system that meets the needs and recognizes the gifts of our indigenous and culturally diverse students. I believe we can truly prepare them for their vision of success in Hawai'i and in a global society. My belief in our students and our community's ability to serve them is the foundation for my continued service.

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

My contribution to the Board this past year has been in the work of listening to different communities and supporting strategies that can greatly impact student achievement. An early example was the work of the Student Achievement Committee that led to the passing of Board Policy 4540 defining high school graduation requirements in alignment with the newly adopted Common Core State Standards. A current example is the work behind the revisions to the Strategic Plan, which will re-set the priorities and focus resources going forward for DOE and our educational partners.

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

I believe it is critical that our efforts in the Zones of School Innovation succeed. The Zones were created as part of Race to the Top funding to turn around persistently low performing schools. However, I see them as unique places with communities deeply rooted in the 'āina, where families are interrelated and close-knit, and volunteers and agency partners are committed and investing significant resources. Current innovative pilots include extended learning time, professional development, broad band technology, place-based education, and performance-based evaluations. Demonstration of success in the Zones will lead to positive changes throughout the system statewide.

The students in the Zones schools are predominantly Hawaiian ~ Wai'anae and Nanakuli (66% Hawaiian) and Ka'ū, Kea'au and Pāhoa (46% Hawaiian). Persistent learning gaps exist between Native Hawaiian students and other racial and ethnic groups. Educational researchers suggest that poor outcomes of indigenous students in mainstream settings are partially due to the discontinuity between their home and school cultures.

I hope to contribute at a Board-level by keeping a focus on these efforts and engaging with community members in the Zones, specifically o'āna, to find ways to blend both national and culture-based models and practices that will achieve success for all our students.

4. 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?

First and foremost, we need an educational vision that is inclusive and connects to the hearts and mind of our communities. A lack of engagement mean people do not feel like they belong yet. A strong base of relationships is our foundation for success. Leaders must gain trust and respect as members of a community.

Thus, I believe as appointed Board members we should visit communities in their own "backyard" and get to know them better. We can improve stakeholder and community engagement when we treat them as critical to success, and we clearly define roles and responsibilities. Our efforts should promote:

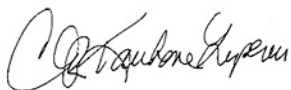
- The continuation of BOE Community Meetings in partnership with the Districts and their Complex Area Superintendents to listen and learn about the community and their commitments and concerns.
- The continuation of our volunteer roles on various councils and taskforces in addition to our Board and Committee meetings. For example, I currently participate in the P-20 Council, Hée Coalition, Great Teachers, Great Leaders Task Force, and the Wayfinding Group of the College Success Council.
- The continuation of school visits by Board members, representing the collective Board, to ensure each school knows that we care about them.
- The invitation to schools and community partners to attend BOE meetings to discuss relevant topics under consideration by the Board.

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

I do not foresee any possible conflicts of interests. I would address any potential conflict immediately with full disclosure starting with the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission. I would also include our Board Chair and/or Superintendent in discussions to achieve a timely and appropriate resolution.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit my statement in support of my reappointment to the Board of Education. If you should have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at cheryl@theleaderproject.com or (808) 383-4227.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Ka 'uhane Lupenui

GM819

TESTIMONY

March 30, 2012

To: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

From: Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui

Re: Testimony Relating to Mrs. Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui for Reappointment to the
Board of Education GM 819

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


Once again, thank you for this opportunity to serve our public education students. I would also like to thank my husband, friends, fellow Board members and community members who continue to support me and my role on the Board of Education. We stand here together with a commitment to preparing our students for their vision of success in Hawai'i and in a global society

A year ago, I expressed my hope to focus on community-based strategies, set world-class standards and collective accountability, and build systems of support. I believe we have made progress in these areas as a Board. Specifically, my contribution to the Board this past year has been in the work of listening to different communities and supporting strategies that can greatly impact student achievement. An early example was the work of the Student Achievement Committee that led to the passing of Board Policy 4540 defining high school graduation requirements in alignment with the newly adopted Common Core State Standards. A current example is the work behind the revisions to the Strategic Plan, to re-set priorities and focus resources going forward for DOE and our educational partners.

In addition, going forward I also believe it is critical that our efforts in the Zones of School Innovation succeed. I hope to contribute at a Board-level by keeping a focus on these efforts and engaging with community members in the Zones, specifically on Oahu, to find ways to blend both national and culture-based models and practices to achieve success for all our students.

Thank you very much for your support!

Sincerely,



Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui



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

GM819 Confirmation of **Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui** 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 **Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui** to the State of Hawai'i Board of Education. I have appointed Lupenui as the Oahu representative for a three-year term ending June 30, 2015.

Last year, I appointed Lupenui for a one-year term on the inaugural State of Hawaii Board of Education. During her tenure, Lupenui has served as Chair of the Student Achievement Committee. Significantly, under Lupenui's leadership, the Board upgraded high school graduation requirements so that Hawaii's graduates will meet the Common Core State Standards expectations for readiness to succeed in college and career. The process required considering research and recommended best practices, maintaining and advocating for high expectations for students, considering concerns about whether students can be successful, and taking into account public testimony about priorities. The BOE took bold action to accelerate the requirements proposed by the Hawaii Department of Education (DOE), so the requirements will apply beginning with this year's eighth grade students (Class of 2016).

Lupenui brings important experience in community engagement and business. Lupenui served as President and CEO of the YWCA of Oahu for ten years where she developed partnerships to promote well being of girls and women in Hawaii and led entrepreneurial activities to ensure the vitality of the YWCA as an viable and thriving organization.

Following her experience at the YWCA, Lupenui returned to consulting, often for non-profit organizations, providing leadership development, business development and strategic advice. She has applied this expertise to shaping the new strategic plan for the DOE.

Lupenui has been a valuable member of the Board of Education. I look forward to continuing to work with her and encourage you to confirm her appointment.



**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 819 Confirmation of Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui 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 Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui 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 with the goal of ensuring that public education in Hawaii continues to grow and strengthen our community.

Cheryl has done her part and more to further this goal. As chair of the Student Achievement Committee, she has set the tone for how the Board works with the Department on critical education reforms. She took the lead on organizing and developing the agenda for the first community meeting held in the Windward district of Oahu. True to her initial commitment and goals, Cheryl has worked to ensure that the Board, the Department and the community are truly engaged in collaboratively bringing about meaningful education reforms for students of Hawaii.

Cheryl's strategic framing and execution of her committee's work has been valuable to the entire Board and to the Department. She is thoughtful about the process of community building but certainly expedient and effective in moving priorities along.

In Cheryl we have a committed, reliable and effective member. She is an asset of this Board and I encourage you to confirm her nomination.



GM819
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education,
Cheryl Lupenui
Senate Committee on Education

March 30, 2012

1:15 p.m.

Room 225

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

Over the years, Ms. Lupenui has served in several positions that enabled her to use her leadership skills to benefit our community. She has served on boards and committees for the Hawaii Tourism Authority's Hawaiian Resource Advisory Committee, the Center for Asian Pacific American Women, Aloha United Way, the Hawaii Alliance for Nonprofit Organizations (HANO), Kamehameha Schools, and Chaminade University. She also participated actively in Youth Matters Network, a statewide network of youth-serving non-profit organizations, to develop youth outcomes and effective program practices to prepare our children for success in life.

Ms. Lupenui has demonstrated that she has the vision, judgment and leadership to serve on the Board of Education. As Chief Executive Officer for the YWCA of O'ahu, she led the revitalization of the agency's community building strategy and created a more sustainable business model for its mission objectives. Part of this effort included the creation and launch of several new youth development programs, including Culinary Arts for Enterprising Youth (CAFE Y), Camp \$tart Up (a career and college exploration program for teens), Youth Advisory Board and Young Leader Luncheon.

Moreover, Ms. Lupenui has the aloha to serve. In an interview with Civil Beat, she reflected with respect to the children of Hawai'i that it became a responsibility of hers "as kanaka makua to join the community's efforts to build a foundation for their success." Those are the words of a servant leader.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to PASS GM819. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

March 27, 2012

The Honorable Neil Abercrombie
Governor, State of Hawai'i
Executive Chambers, State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re.: Reappointment of Cheryl Lupenui to the Board of Education

Dear Governor Abercrombie:

I am honored to provide support for the reappointment of Cheryl Lupenui to the Board of Education.

My enthusiastic support for Ms Lupenui comes as a result of observing her performance on the Board, and opportunities to discuss her priorities and her vision for our public education system. As both an educator and member of the Wai`anae Place-based Learning Alliance, I wholeheartedly support Ms. Lupenui's vision whereby students are deeply rooted in our āina and extend their education for the betterment of our families, communities, Hawai'i and beyond to a global society. An educational system that draws upon the strengths of Hawai'i will prepare each and every student for their vision of success beyond high school - as they continue their journey to college, an enriching career, and the fulfillment of their inherent responsibility in the world.

There is ample research on the effectiveness of place-based learning environments such as envisioned by Ms. Lupenui. The outcomes reach beyond academic achievement; and include enhanced school engagement, active citizenship and environmental stewardship.

Ms. Lupenui's commitment to our public education system is highly valued and much needed. As such, her reappointment to the Board of Education is in the best interest of citizens of State of Hawai'i.

Sincerely,

Kay Fukuda
klfukuda@hawaii.edu
561-0427 (cell)

LEEWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE WAI'ANAЕ

March 28, 2012

To: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

From: Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui

Re: Testimony Relating to Mrs. Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui for Appointment to the Board of Education
GM819 Hearing on Friday, March 30, 2012

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

It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui to be reappointed to the Board of Education for a term ending June 30, 2015. I have known Cheryl in several capacities. I have worked with her as a network member. Cheryl was one of the key steering committee members that helped the Youth Matters Network (a group of 20+, youth-service providers) clarify its vision and make significant steps in advancing participants' professional development and adoption of the youth development field's best practices.

She has been a key mentor in my development as a leader in the field of education. As Director of Education for MA'O Organic Farms - a 501(c)3 non-profit - I received mentorship from Cheryl on how to coordinate a team of five, full-time programmers who built and ran intermediate to high school to college programs on the Wai'anae coast that effectively sent 40 students to college every year. As the Community Outreach Coordinator for Leeward Community College - Wai'anae, I am currently receiving mentorship from Cheryl on how to facilitate discussions amongst Wai'anae residents and University of Hawai'i staff on the change needed to send our youth to college.

In conclusion, I firmly believe that Cheryl has the qualities most desirable for a BOE member. She understands the art of facilitation and group process - a critical skill set that makes her a team player and most importantly, able to be embraced by Hawai'i's diverse communities. She is highly knowledgeable in a wide array of areas: community-development, business, the non-profit sector, education, native Hawaiian culture, theory and practice of leadership, women's issues. We need out-of-the box, 21st century thinkers like her in the BOE to provide a fresh and relevant perspective. Lastly - she is a person of integrity. I trust in her motivation and willingness to work hard in helping to improve Hawai'i's education system.

Sincerely,



Summer Miles
Instructor, Community Outreach Coordinator
Leeward Community College Wai'anae
summerls@hawaii.edu, (w) 696-6378



HAWAI'I P-20
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March 23, 2012

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda
Hawaii State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Re: GM 819 in support of Ms. Cheryl Kauhane Lupenui for the Hawaii Board of Education
Friday, March 30, 2012, 1:15 pm, Capitol Conference Room 225**

Dear Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee on Education,

I am honored to be able to give my highest recommendation of **Cheryl Kauhane Lupenui** to the Hawaii Board of Education (BOE). I have known Ms. Lupenui for 1 year in my capacity as the Executive Director of Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education ("Hawaii P-20").

Hawai'i P-20 is a statewide partnership led by the Early Learning Council, the Hawai'i State Department of Education, and the University of Hawai'i System that is working to strengthen the education pipeline from early childhood through higher education so that all students achieve career and college success. P-20 partners share a sense of urgency about the need to improve Hawai'i's educational outcomes in an increasingly global economy.

Ms. Lupenui, in her role as chair of the student achievement committee of BOE, and I worked together with others on the adoption of a more rigorous high school diploma in 2011. As a result of Ms. Lupenui's tireless efforts to fully understand the requirements of the existing and proposed diplomas, her diplomacy in bringing dissenting views to consensus, and her relentless pursuit of the best opportunities for success for all of Hawai'i's youth, the single college and career ready diploma was passed by the BOE. This will allow all public high school graduates to be ready for the demands of college as well as of a living-wage job. I was incredibly impressed by Ms. Lupenui's intelligence, attention to detail, passion for students and social justice, and ability to listen to and reason with a variety of people. She truly wants every student to succeed in the State of Hawaii

Ms. Lupenui is completely committed to a high quality public education for all, and is deeply motivated by a vision where students not only learn academic skills but also learn to contribute back to their society. She has been an invaluable member of the BOE, and I know she is committed to continuing her excellent work for our keiki. In short, I highly recommend Ms. Lupenui for the Board of Education position. She is a true asset to the Board and will continue to contribute to the BOE in this capacity.

Sincerely,

Karen C. Lee

Hawai'i P-20

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KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Education Committee
March 30 2012
GM 819, Cheryl Kauhane Lupenui

My name is Shawn Kana'iaupuni, Ph.D., Director of the Public Education Support Division of Kamehameha Schools. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of the re-appointment of Cheryl Kauhane Lupenui to the state Board of Education.

The long-standing achievement gap of Native Hawaiian students in the state's public schools is a significant concern for Kamehameha Schools and for many diverse stakeholders including the state Board of Education, the Department of Education and the state legislature. Increasingly data and practice in indigenous communities demonstrate the importance of culturally relevant education as a means for engaging and empowering students and their families in the learning process.

We have had the opportunity to work closely with Cheryl Kauhane Lupenui in her current role of the Board of Education and have personally observed her exemplary work to improve the academic achievement and overall school experience of all of Hawaii's keiki, including Native Hawaiian students. She has made notable contributions to the Ka Pua College Success Council and served as a community leader and role model in many other educational contexts. We have met with her extensively and repeatedly concerning the contributions of Hawaii's public charter schools and other culture-based learning opportunities. She has been a part of the Wai'anae place-based learning alliance conversations which Kamehameha School supports and she has personally attended and contributed to positive community dialog in Kamehameha Schools' Wai'anae community forums.

We believe that her viewpoint, dedication and clear-eyed optimism are essential to the success of the Board of Education. Ms. Lupenui's demonstrated commitment to the excellence of Native Hawaiian students and all of Hawaii's public education students is without question. We support her confirmation and respectfully ask that you do the same.



Read Aloud America®

Building Families of Lifetime Readers™

TESTIMONY TO THE TWENTY-SIXTH STATE LEGISLATURE, 2012 SESSION

TO: Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Jed Gaines, President, Read Aloud America, Inc.

Telephone: (808) 561-8096

RE: GM 819

Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHERYL LUPENUI, for a term to expire 6-30-2015

HEARING: Friday, March 30, 2012, 1:15 PM,

Conference Room 225, State Capitol

Honorable Committee Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committees:

As President of Read Aloud America, Inc., I respectfully urge you to support Cheryl Lehua Ka'Uhane Lupenui for Confirmation to the Hawaii State Board of Education.

Ms. Lupenui has been a tireless advocate on behalf of all students, but especially our native Hawaiian population for more than 20 years. She is a quiet yet effective advocate who has consistently developed innovative, forward-thinking yet low cost programs to help Hawaii's youth understand and participate in global leadership, workforce development, cultural preservation and volunteerism in the social service sector. One of many examples of this was her production of the popular televised course called "Entrepreneurship," which helps educate local high school students on self-employment and business-plan writing skills.

In her 10 years as the Executive Director for the Young Women's Christian Association in Hawaii, Ms. Lupenui's leadership helped to develop more than \$2.2 million in new funding for youth and economic development programs including Camp Start-Up, Culinary Arts for Enterprising Youth, HomeBase at Fernhurst, Ways to Work, and many other truly innovative and exemplary programs.

With so many challenges facing Hawaii's Department of Education and our schools these days, someone with Ms. Lupenui's administrative skills and ability to understand the "big picture" without sacrificing cultural strength is needed on the Board of Education.

808. 531-1985 • Fax 808. 593-1984

1314 S. King Street, Suite G4 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

www.readaloudamerica.org • read@readaloudamerica.org

Please understand that Read Aloud America does not generally advocate in this way for one candidate or another, as we trust your careful consideration in these matters. But we have made an exception here because our experience with Cheryl Lupenui has convinced us that she would be a breath of fresh air, and an effective addition to the State's Board of Education.

On behalf of the many schools, and the thousands of parents and children we serve, we respectfully ask for your kokua in supporting Cheryl Lupenui's confirmation to the Board of Education.

Jed Gaines, President, Read Aloud America, Inc.

March 26, 2012

To: The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

From: Terrence R. George
Executive Vice President & COO
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation
1197 Auloa Road, Kailua, HI 96734

RE: GM819 - Consideration and confirmation as a Board of Education member,
CHERYL KAUHANE LUPENUI – **SUPPORT**
Hearing date: Friday, March 30, 2012
Hearing time: 1:15 pm
Senate Conference Room 225

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

I have known Cheryl Kauhane Lupenui since 2003, and have worked closely with her in her roles both as former CEO of the YWCA and as a member of the appointed Board of Education. Cheryl is passionate about education for all of Hawaii's children. She has a collaborative leadership style, is an active listener, and is receptive to different points of view. Cheryl has proven a quick study on Hawaii's public education system, and has played a significant leadership role in shaping the work that the current Board of Education has done to develop a long-term strategic plan for Hawaii's K-12 system.

Ms. Lupenui is a person of high integrity, honesty, and commitment to Hawaii. She would provide important continuity to the Board of Education's work to set our state on a clear, strong path to improve educational outcomes for our children and to build the Hawaii DOE's capacity to move its schools down that path.

Thank you for your consideration, and I respectfully urge your committee's **support** to confirm this nomination.

841 Bishop St., Suite 301
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530
Contact@HEECoalition.org

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

March 30, 2012

GM 819: Written testimony in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, Cheryl Lupenui, for a term to expire 6-30-2015

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

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 had the opportunity to work closely with Ms. Lupenui as Chair of the Student Achievement Committee for the Board of Education. She has proven to be an excellent committee chair, emphasizing a collaborative and engaging style of leadership. She has empowered the DOE leadership to find creative and innovative methods of improving student achievement and supporting teachers and principals. We have also been particularly impressed with her commitment to community and family involvement in education policy. Overall, we have been very impressed with her dedication and commitment to our public education and library system in Hawai'i.

We strongly encourage this Committee to reappoint Ms. Lupenui. We look forward to continuing our work with her 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 (*)



CENTER FOR TOMORROW'S LEADERS™

March 29, 2012

To: The Senate Education Committee

Re: GM 819 Board of Education - Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui Appointment

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

I would like to submit personal testimony in strong support of Cheryl Lupenui's reappointment to the Board of Education (BOE).

As the Director of the Center for Tomorrow's Leaders, I have worked together with Ms. Lupenui on various leadership initiatives. She is a volunteer guest speaker in our leadership programs, and I am honored to be a participant in the Paumalu Emerging Leader Project, which she directs.

Ms. Lupenui is one of Hawaii's brightest and most passionate leaders. She possesses the special trait combination of intelligence, drive, and heartfelt compassion for Hawaii's people. Specifically, she has an expert ability to craft and answer strategic questions and to bring the best out of a group through facilitation, which has and will be valuable for the BOE.

Most importantly, Ms. Lupenui is well-positioned to help lead the BOE to design and develop a uniquely Hawaii educational system. Her understanding of our distinct cultural heritage is sophisticated, and her ability to apply this in the educational sphere will be a gift.

On a more personal level, I have seen Ms. Lupenui show respect for those around her regardless of title or age. She walks her talk and is a role model for emerging leaders, like myself.

For these reasons, I strongly support Ms. Lupenui's nomination. Thank you for your consideration.

Best wishes,

Katie Chang

Director, Center for Tomorrow's Leaders

March 27, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a truly great pleasure and honor to recommend Cheryl Kauhane Lupenui for reappointment and a three year term on the Hawaii Board of Education.

I have come to know Ms. Kauhane Lupenui as a visionary leader who places students first in all decisions and at the same time has made very clear that she values those who educate our children. Ms. Kauhane Lupenui is a joy to work with in even the most difficult and complex of circumstances. She is service and solution oriented, collaborative and remains focused in all situations on building and sustaining the capacity of the educational system so that diverse students are grounded in a love for the land and sea of our islands, proud of where they come from as caring members of their families and community and able to define and meet their own visions of success as they complete college, enjoy a career and serve as citizens in a global society. In short, she wants the best education and support system for every student and she has the skill sets, values and high expectations as well as the ability to work with parents, educators and community members to make the Hawaii Department of Education a far better place for every student.

Ms. Kauhane Lapenui is a leader. I believe her to be an inspirational leader who consistently meets her responsibilities as she fulfills the goals and the work of the Board. I recommend Ms. Kauhane Lapenui most highly and without reservation.

Sincerely,

Lea E. Albert

Lea E. Albert

Aloha Coleman

March 28, 2012

To: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

Re: Testimony Relating to Mrs. Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui for Appointment to the Board of Education GM819 Hearing on Friday, March 30, 2012

Dear Senators,

It is without any hesitation that I urge you to continue the appointment of Mrs. Cheryl Lehua Ka'uhane Lupenui to the State of Hawai'i Board of Education.

Mrs. Lupenui's professional achievements clearly demonstrate her abilities to lead organizations to continued success. As you can see from her resume, she has established a record of accomplishments in working with non-profit organizations as both a leader and a consultant. The vision, leadership, and partnership skills that she brings to the Board of Education has already made her a valued member of the Board and to cease her involvement at this time would be detrimental to both the Board of Education and the Department of Education.

Mrs. Lupenui's professional success is largely due to her positive moral values and personal integrity. She is a bright, articulate, and effective individual. Her strong communication skills, ability to work with those from diverse perspectives, and superior expertise in forging productive alliances are noteworthy. In addition, Mrs. Lupenui has the sensitivity to persevere through difficult challenges while maintaining the dignity of all individuals.

I strongly support Mrs. Lupenui's continued appointment to the State Board of Education. Her dedication to quality education, genuine desire to serve others to improve our society, and innate ability to positively affect organizations will insure that she continues to be a respected member of the Board of Education at this critical time for the Department of Education. Please call me at 622-6550 or email me at aloha_coleman@notes.k12.hi.us if there are questions or concerns that need to be discussed further.

Sincerely,



Aloha Coleman

Puanani Burgess
86-641 Pu'uhulu Road
Wai'anae, O'ahu, Hawai'i 96792
Cellular: 808-630-7260

To: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

From: Puanani Burgess
Wai'anae Coast Community Member

Re: Testimony in Support of Mrs. Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui's Appointment to the Board of
Education GM819 Hearing on Friday, March 30, 2012

Via: EDUtestimony@cpitol.hawaii.gov

Aloha Senators:

I believe in public education even now, when it has become difficult to believe that our schools can reach each of our children.

In my work, which I call Building the Beloved Community, I tell a story about a young 16 year old man who taught me a lesson about the power of teaching to a person's gift. While, by every standard by which our school system measures success, capacity to succeed, worth - he was a failure, and he knew it clearly. So, when I asked the students in his class to tell "the story of their gift," he was the only one of the twelve students who pushed back and asked, "What miss, what kine gif' you tink I get? I stay in dis frick'n special ed class; I get hard time read and I cannot do dat math stuff, so why you make me shame foa, ask me dat kine question - 'What's your gift?' If I had gif' you tink I be hea?"

Story made short: I saw him in Tamura's Store two weeks after that disaster and all I wanted to do was run! I still felt shame because I made him feel shame. But, he turned. threw his arms open and greeted me, "Aunty, I been tinkin about you." For two weeks he had been thinking about his gift: whenever he went into the ocean, he can call the fish, **and they would come, every time**. "Every time, I can put food on my family's table, **everytime!**" When he told the story of his gift, his head was held high. his back straight - confident. From this young man I learned to ask: **"What if our schools were gift-based? What if we could find and teach to each child's gift(s)?"**

I believe in Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui and her willingness and ability to search for answers, advice and opportunities from the community, teachers of all kinds, from the kids. She is a searcher and a doer, a facilitator and a thinker, a cultural practitioner and advocate. She has led well, an old, well-established organization, the YWCA-O'ahu, introducing innovative ideas and approaches which helped the YWCA advance its vision and mission. I know she, as a member of the Board of Education, will bring her whole self and gifts to the work of strengthening our school system, and all of its parts.

I strongly support her continuing service as a member of our Board of Education. Please call upon me, if I can offer any further testimony.

March 29, 2012

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair
Committee on Education
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BY
Kylee P. Mar**

IN SUPPORT OF GM 819

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee,
CHERYL LUPENUI, for a term to expire 6-30-2015

Friday, March 30, 2012, 1:15PM

Aloha Chair Tokuda and Vice-Chair Kidani,

I stand in strong support of Ms. Cheryl Ka'uhane-Lupenui to be confirmed to the Board of Education for a term to expire June 30, 2015.

As the former Executive Director at the YWCA, Ms. Lupenui was extremely supportive of Partnerships in Unlimited Educational Opportunities Program (PUEO) at Punahou School and provided guidance, facilities and leadership in the CBO sector towards private schools pursuing partnerships with public schools. She recognized the value of such partnerships as a "win-win-win" for the student, the public and private school and the community organizations involved. She continues to provide perspective and advice to me in my role as PUEO Assistant Director in new role as Founder of The Leader Project.

Because of Ms. Lupenui's deep involvement in developing leaders through Women Leading Change and the Center for Asian and Pacific American Women, I have had the privilege of learning from her and working directly with her. Her exceptional skill set and experiences allow her to synthesize and communicate clearly and responsibly. These are both traits of character currently needed on the Board of Education.

She is committed to our public education system and brings her distinctive perspective and experience to carry a vision where our diverse students are deeply rooted in our 'āina and extend their caring and contributions to our families, communities, Hawai'i and a global society. She believes and demonstrates in her actions that we have a unique Hawai'i educational system that can prepare each and every student of Hawai'i for **their vision of success** as they continue a journey to college, an enriching career, and the fulfillment of their inherent responsibility in the world.

Mahalo,
Kylee P. Mar
4348 Wai'ālae Avenue #679
Honolulu, HI 96816

[March 24, 2012]

To: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

From: [Boots Lupenui]
[Principal, Boots Lupenui Illustration and Design]
[46-122 Kiowai Street, #2812, Kane'ohe, Hawai'i, 96744
boots.lupenui@gmail.com, (808)840-7507]

Re: Reconfirmation of Mrs. Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui for Board of Education –
Support
Hearing date: Friday, March 30, 2012

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

I am writing this letter in support of my wife, Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui, for the continuation of her position on the Board of Education. When my wife first told me she was asked to consider staying on the board I had my concerns, having seen how much time and energy she had put into her first term. However, after talking with her it became obvious to me that her commitment to this work had only deepened during her first term, and that she was now more passionate than ever to see that commitment expressed as real and lasting benefit to the Department of Education, the schools, communities, families, and students they serve.

Cheryl has demonstrated her willingness to embrace the challenges that face our system, taking the time to reach out to fellow board members, legislators and community leaders. Additionally and of her own accord, she has gone out to visit various schools to hear first-hand from students, parents, principals, teachers and staff.

Now, poised at the end of her inaugural year as a member of the board, she can finally see a path that leads to a public school system where all students and all communities are valued, a system on which each and every student can rely for the education they need to become vital members of society, both local and global.

Cheryl's first term has only served to prove the wisdom of her initial appointment and so once again, I support her confirmation to a second term as a member of the Board of Education, and once again I humbly thank you for your time and your consideration.

Mahalo nui loa,
Boots Lupenui

Erin Conner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2012 10:46 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: hustedj002@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for GM819 on 3/30/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDU 3/30/2012 1:15:00 PM GM819

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Joan Lee Husted
Organization: Individual
E-mail: hustedj002@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/25/2012

Comments:

I regret that I will be travelling when the hearing is held.

Joan Lee Husted

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, Cheryl Kauhane-Lupenui

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 Ms. Kauhane-Lupenui for the past nine months of my term.

I am a member of the Student Achievement Committee, of which Ms. Kauhane-Lupenui is the Chairperson. From my very first meeting as the sole Student Representative on the Board of Education, I have seen her great capacity and passion to not only lead those at the table, but also to encourage everyone to contribute because she understands that the important work that we do is the summation of all our efforts. I remember at one of the first Committee meetings, she did something rather unprecedented but extremely refreshing. She asked everyone in attendance to introduce him or herself, and in doing so that meeting, and other subsequent meetings, began to resemble an engaging and necessary conversation. I especially appreciate the fact that she is also a visionary leader who sees the "bigger picture", its essential components, and the connections that must be made between the ends and means by which to attain them. This is apparent in her avid discussion on the role of the Student Achievement Committee and the Board of Education in the Department of Education's Strategic Plan.

Ms. Kauhane-Lupenui's work and contributions to the Board of Education is to be applauded. As the Student Representative, I am also greatly comforted by her open-mindedness and genuine concern for the ultimate stakeholders in our education system, the students of Hawaii. I give Ms. Kauhane-Lupenui the greatest support I can during your consideration of her 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