

GM-707

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 10:24:12 PM

Testimony for EDU on 5/14/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ivy Kelling	Testifying for Ke Kula o Samuel M Kamakau, LPCS	Support	No

Comments:

Committee on Education
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

May 10, 2020

Aloha Sentors,

I am writing to provide testimony in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, Lynn Fallin, to the Board of Education.

With her wealth of experience and understanding of public policy and administration at senior leadership levels, as well as her strong network of relationships in both the public and private sectors, I believe Mrs. Fallin would be a tremendous asset to the needs of the Board of Education.

Hawaii's education system is currently facing a crisis and must re-invent itself to build a system of the *future* and not simply return to the education of the *past*. It's time to take hold of this opportunity, move forward with new ideas and cast aside or at least question and review old assumptions. Educational fixtures such as the thirteen year K-12 primary and secondary system, with its campus-based, classroom only, fixed schedule features, are all needing review. Early childhood education must be given a stronger position in the system. Linkages to other educational venues, such as internships, work study, exchanges etc., all need to be considered in the mix of educational opportunities.

I believe Hawaii's Board of Education must be prepared for both the challenges and opportunities ahead, with visionary leadership, bold thinking, creativity and collaborative processes.

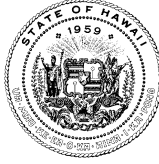
Please confirm Mrs. Fallin's nomination to move forward at this critical juncture in Hawaii's education.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gale Flynn", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs. Gale Flynn

Project Director
Hawaiian Art and Early Literacy Project
Native Hawaiian Education Program



**STATE OF HAWAII
Kualapu'u School
Public Conversion Charter**

P O Box 260
Kualapu'u, Moloka'i, Hawaii'i 96757
Phone: (808) 567-6900, Fax: (808) 567-6906

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Thursday, May 14, 2020
TIME: 1:00pm
PLACE: Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

GM707: SUPPORT of Board of Education Gubernatorial Nominee, LYNN FALLIN

To Committee Chair Kidani, Vice-Chair Kim and Members:

Kualapu`u Public Conversion Charter School, a PreK-6 grade elementary school on the island of Moloka'i, is in support of Lynn Fallin's appointment to the Hawaii Board of Education. In short, Ms. Fallin is an advocate for the health and well-being of children.

As outlined in her resume, Ms. Fallin has extensive experience in government and non-profit organizations. My experience with Ms. Fallin is as the inaugural executive director of our Ho'okako'o local school board and non-profit organization. As a start-up support organization for charter schools, she initiated and completed the conversion of three DOE schools into conversion charter schools, from three different islands. Kualapu'u Public Conversion Charter School is one of those schools. These conversions showed her skills and leadership required to navigate the concerns from agencies of state government, the legislature, unions (HSTA, HGEA, & UPW), and even the from the local schools and their communities. The conversion of each school from Waimea Middle School on Hawaii Island, Kualapu'u School on Molokai, and Kamaile Academy on Oahu posed different challenges. Ms. Fallin was able to assist in problem solving each school's bureaucratic and community challenges and was able to convert three DOE schools to charter within a four-year span during her 7 years at Ho'okako'o. This was a tremendous feat.

I am excited to support Ms. Fallin's appointment to the Hawaii Board of Education because of her deep understanding of how government works, her experience and understanding in policy development and policy impact. She will also serve as an advocate for discussion and support to foster successful innovation in both charter schools and traditional school. In my experience, Ms. Fallin has a loyalty to what is best for children's health and well-being in an organization that needs systemic change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lydia Trinidad', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lydia Trinidad

Principal

Lydia_Trinidad@kualapuu.k12.hi.us



david.miyashiro@hawaiikidscan.org
hawaiikidscan.org

David Miyashiro
Executive Director

May 14, 2020

Committee on Education
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee,

HawaiiKidsCAN would like to provide comments on GM 707, which submits for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education (BOE), Gubernatorial Nominee, Lynn Fallin, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

We want to extend our gratitude to the committee for taking the time to address this important position. Our current COVID-19 health crisis has highlighted the critical role our public education system plays in our communities, from social-emotional supports to the distribution of food and digital devices.

We are also grateful to Ms. Fallin for her willingness to serve on the BOE and support Hawaii's diverse learners. Her extensive experience in the fields of health and education brings an important perspective to the BOE.

Founded in 2017, HawaiiKidsCAN is a local nonprofit organization committed to ensuring that Hawaii has an excellent and equitable education system that reflects the true voices of our communities and, in turn, has a transformational impact on our children and our state. We strongly believe that all students should have access to excellent educational opportunities, regardless of family income levels and circumstances. Part of our kuleana is to serve as a resource for policymakers, including the BOE and legislature, as you work to build a better future for all kids. We look forward to getting to know Ms. Fallin and helping to share guidance we receive from students, parents, and educators on the challenges and opportunities facing our schools.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

David Miyashiro
Founding Executive Director
HawaiiKidsCAN

GM-707

Submitted on: 5/9/2020 8:22:30 PM

Testimony for EDU on 5/14/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Poepoe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

From her service as the executive director of our Ho'okāko'o School Board at Kualapu'u Elementary on Moloka'i, I know Lynn Fallin to be a dedicated and concerned leader who always listened attentively and deliberated carefully in making fair and wise educational decisions in the best interests of our children, families and community.

GM-707

Submitted on: 5/10/2020 9:52:08 AM

Testimony for EDU on 5/14/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Virginia Pressler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It gives me great pleasure to highly recommend Lynn Fallin for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education for a term to expire June 30, 2023.

I have known Lynn Fallin for over twenty years in her various capacities while serving in gubernatorial appointed positions in Hawaii and Oregon. Ms. Fallin has extensive experience serving children and families in both regular and special education and has been a leader in improving behavioral health outcomes and health access to children, adolescents and adults.

While I was Director of the Hawaii State Department of Health (2015-2018), Ms. Fallin served as my Deputy Director of the Behavioral Health Administration. I struggle to find words with which to adequately express my deep admiration and respect for Ms. Fallin, and the extent to which I depended upon her every day. She consistently demonstrated integrity, wisdom, respect, dedication and unflappable critical thinking in both planning and crisis management.

Not only was Ms. Fallin an excellent and respected day-to-day administrator, she also worked closely with me and the rest of the Department of Health to collaborate with the Department of Human Services and the Department of Education to improve behavioral health services, access and integration with social services and education.

Ms. Fallin's experience in both regular and special education as well as child and adolescent mental health make her uniquely qualified to serve on the Board of Education. Ms. Fallin is a mature, thoughtful, critical thinker who will be a wonderful asset to the Board of Education. She really shines in a group decision making environment. I am delighted

she is willing to serve in this capacity. I very strongly support her for confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in very strong support of Ms. Fallin.

May 13, 2020

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senate Committee on Education
Thirtieth Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 228
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Kidani and Members of the Committee on Education:

My name is Danette Wong Tomiyasu, Deputy Director, Health Resources Administration, Department of Health and I am submitting testimony as a private citizen. I am writing to express my strong support of Governor's Message No. 707 Gubernatorial Nominee, Lynn Fallin to serve on the Board of Education for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

I have known Lynn as a highly effective leader while at the Department of Health as Deputy Director of Behavioral Health. She has the ability to articulate a vision and bring people together to work toward its achievement. Lynn established critical partnerships with government and community leaders to restore behavioral health services that were cut as a result of the economic downturn in 2009, planned and designed the new State Hospital, integrated behavioral and physical health services, increased federal funding for prevention programs for youth, and expanded the use of technology to increase access to behavioral health services and records.

Lynn has over 20 years of senior level experience in policy and administrative leadership positions in major state government and the non-profit sectors in education, health and human services. Additionally, she has 14 years of teaching in regular and special education in Hawaii and abroad. She has directed a state agency responsible for coordinating and developing policy and plans for children and youth birth to age 21. Lynn has received awards nationally and locally for her leadership in advocating for disadvantaged children and youth. This makes Lynn well qualified to serve the students and the Board of Education.

I strongly encourage the Committee's approval of the nomination of Ms. Lynn Fallin to the Board of Education. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Danette Wong Tomiyasu, M.B.A.

GM-707

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 7:24:07 AM

Testimony for EDU on 5/14/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Mersereau	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in my capacity as a private citizen in vigorous support for the nomination of Lynn Fallin to the Hawaii Board of Education.

Lynn is my predecessor, and was my direct supervisor as Deputy Director of the Department of Health, Behavioral Health Administration; but more than that she has been a mentor and a friend. In the 5 years that I have know Lynn, I have always been impressed with her unwavering commitment, thoughtfulness and determination in working toward the betterment of our community. Lynn has extensive experience working in government systems and in advocacy for various populations. She has served in cabinet positions under four governors in Hawaii and Oregon. She has also been the recipient of a wide range of awards such as the Community Service Award from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Lynn's many years of direct experience as a teacher, both in Hawaii and across the world, also make her an exceptional candidate for the BOE.

I wholeheartedly support Lynn's appointment to the Hawaii Board of Education and know that she will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Board.

PATTI COOK

% 67-1229 Mamalahoa Highway
Kamuela, HI 96743 - Cell: 808-937-2833
Email: cookshi@aol.com

May 12, 2020

To: The Honorable Michelle **Kidani**, Chair and Members
Hawai'i State Senate Committee on Education

RE: GM#707 - Lynn Fallin Nomination to State Board of Education

HEARING: Thursday, May 14, 2020 @ 1 p.m.
Hawai'i State Capitol Room 229

SUPPORTING NOMINATION

Aloha Senators from Waimea, Island of Hawai'i –

I write to please ask your support for the nomination of Mrs. Lynn Fallin to the State Board of Education. The school-community of Waimea Middle School met and worked closely with Lynn for about five years beginning in 2003.

Lynn was then the new Executive Director of the newly established not-for-profit Ho'okako'o Corp., which was enabled by Legislative Act 2/2002 to recruit, manage and support what was intended as an innovative legislative-and-community-initiated strategy to support improved academic outcomes for public school students in Hawai'i. After extensive teacher-staff-family and community discussion and research, Waimea Middle School opted to take advantage of Act 2/2002 by becoming Ho'okako'o Corporation's first public conversion charter school.

The law was brand new and included a valuable partnership for our children with Kamehameha Schools with funding assistance. WMS was then a school of about 550 6th-8th graders and we had students crammed literally into closets, a bathroom, on the nearby community gym stage, etc. We were then already considered exemplary in implementing schoolwide academic strategies to improve reading and computing, but regardless, many of our students were struggling academically. Our school-community believed we needed greater flexibility to implement programs and strategies better suited to our students' needs. We waded in and did we ever have a lot to learn.

Throughout those early years, Lynn was at our side as guide and mentor, helping us research, define and implement "best practices" as we learned about managing everything from student safety to funding and facilities. She helped ensure we were accountable and transparent academically, fiscally, contractually and organizationally – especially for our high need Special Ed students. She

helped us develop a detailed plan addressing all aspects of public education and also address evolving federal No Child Left Behind mandates.

It was extremely challenging as we continued to burst at the seams with kids who needed substantial academic and social-emotional supports. We were and continue to be fortunate to have a highly motivated, experienced and collaborative teacher-staff team and excellent community involvement, and Lynn was our guide.

I'm not sure in retrospect that being a public conversion charter school has gotten easier over the years, but she helped us lay a solid foundation of accountability and transparency. She supported our teachers and staff in prioritizing student and family engagement and developing strong community partnerships including significant nonprofit partners. A number of the relationships she helped us forge continue to this day.

Lynn's prior experience as a 14-year classroom teacher for regular students and Special Ed, and her prior service with the Governor's Office of Children and Youth served us well. I was not surprised that she was subsequently tapped by the Governor to head up DOH's Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division to improve behavioral health outcomes and access.

Lynn is responsive, respectful, and understands and champions cultural diversity and accountability. She is experienced with managing large budgets and working with both the Administration and Legislature. And she is well connected with the community – labor, business and not-for-profits. Finally, she has high standards for her own deliverables and is a good communicator.

Thank you for this opportunity to convey our support for her appointment to the State Board of Education. We believe she would be an asset in many ways to HDOE's Strategic Plan implementation and helping respond to the "new norms" and funding impacts shaped by the Covid pandemic.

MAHALO for your time and continued dedication to nurturing the children of Hawai'i.

Patti Cook

May 11, 2020

Re: GM707: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, LYNN FALLIN, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

To Senate Education Chair Michelle Kidani and members of the Senate Committee on Education, Aloha!

My name is Pualani Akaka, and this is a personal letter of support for Lynn Fallin, Board of Education Gubernatorial Nominee.

I am a retired, Hawaii State public school educator, National Board Certified, served six years on the Hawaii Charter Review Panel 2007-2011. I taught for the Department of Education at Nanakuli Elementary. At Kualapuu Elementary, I experienced the Kualapu`u conversion from a Department of Education to charter school in 2004. I also served as HSTA Molokai Chapter President from 2003-2005. I currently serve on the Ho`okako`o Corporation Board of Directors.

Lynn Fallin was the first Executive Director for Ho`okako`o Corporation (2002), the Local School Board for the first and only Hawaii public conversion charter schools across three islands. She navigated the new century conversion of Hawaii Island's Waimea Middle School (2003), Molokai's Kualapuu (2004), and Oahu's Kamaile Academy (2007). "Navigated" means she articulated the vision of creating new educational foundations and more flexible, innovative systems for children (most of whom were Hawaiian and part Hawaiian) in their geographic neighborhoods. She held the goal of creating schools that could be models for the Hawaii State Department of Education for which the needs of high-risk, Hawaiian children were a challenge.

As a teacher, I watched her steer the mission of collaborating with communities, educators and families for educational excellence for early childhood programs. Because the law and concepts were new, it was uncharted territory. As a member of the bargaining team, I experienced the, then, new idea of interest-based bargaining. Lynn Fallin brought people together who shared the vision to work through the funding challenges like the (4:1 match). Lynn Fallin balanced the business of state, private, union, and school-community interests.

I believe Lynn Fallin provides positive assets for our Hawaii State Board of Education. She brings historic perspective and authentic understanding of the unique, Hawaii charter school, both start-up and conversion. She brings strength of character, integrity, and respect. She loves children, youth and public education. She is skilled in the business of providing a rich education with limited resources. Without reservation, I support Lynn Fallin, Gubernatorial Nominee for the Hawaii State Board of Education.

Sincerely,
Pualani S. Akaka
(808) 567-6510
34 Kalama Road, Kualapuu, Molokai, HI 96757

May 11, 2020

Senate Committee on Education
Hawaii State Capitol Room 227
Honolulu HI

GM #707 Consideration and Confirmation of Lynn Fallin to the
Board of Education

Honorable Michelle Kidani, Chair, Honorable Donna Kim Vice-
Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Education:

Please give Lynn Fallin your favorable consideration and confirm
her appointment to the Board of Education.

Ms. Fallin has an extensive background that not only includes
working as a teacher with a diversity of students and in different
venues, but also has held positions with governmental and
nonprofit agencies that, frankly, has required delicately
balancing interests at variance with one another. She has a style
that works.

In the over 20 years that I have known Ms. Fallin, she has been
both realistic and optimistic about life and goals; stayed her
course, irrespective of large obstacles in her path, real and
perceived by others; and has responded to the foregoing with
practicality and good humor. Our State unfortunately is facing
uncertain and difficult times, and these qualities contribute to
finding solutions.

With her experience and outlook, Ms. Fallin can make a
difference. Mahalo for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Chang

GM-707

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 9:31:03 PM

Testimony for EDU on 5/14/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shanna Willing	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

May 11, 2020

Senate Committee on Education
Hawaii State Capitol Room 227
Honolulu HI

GM #707 Consideration and Confirmation of Lynn Fallin to the Board of Education

Honorable Michelle Kidani, Chair, Honorable Donna Kim Vice-Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Education:

Please give Lynn Fallin your favorable consideration and confirm her appointment to the Board of Education.

Ms. Fallin has an extensive background that not only includes working as a teacher with a diversity of students and in different venues, but also has held positions with governmental and nonprofit agencies that, frankly, has required delicately balancing interests at variance with one another. She has a style that works.

In the over 20 years that I have known Ms. Fallin, she has been both realistic and optimistic about life and goals; stayed her course, irrespective of large obstacles in her path, real and perceived by others; and has responded to the foregoing with practicality and good humor. Our State unfortunately is facing uncertain and difficult times, and these qualities contribute to finding solutions.

With her experience and outlook, Ms. Fallin can make a difference. Mahalo for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Chang

GM-707

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 8:55:52 AM

Testimony for EDU on 5/14/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rose Yamada	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony in Behalf of Lynn Fallin for Confirmation to the Board of Education

I am now a private citizen, having retired from the Department of Education where I served for over eleven years as the Administrator of Child and Adolescent Mental Health, (CAMHD). I was Ms. Fallin's subordinate throughout her entire tenure. I can only give her the highest possible recommendation after years of serving with her.

In that capacity as Administrator of CAMHD I was in daily communication with Ms. Fallin. In general I found her an excellent administrator due to her ability to listen to and understand those advising her. Even in health care issues that were new to her, this listening skill made her a quick study. All who worked for her respected her fair-handed and rational decision making process.

As CAMHD has a long, and sometimes complicated relationship with the Department of Education, Ms. Fallin's vast years of experience with the DOE and her deep interest in the welfare of children in general, led to me often ask for her guidance in these matters. Again, she was always well reasoned and committed to developing policies that were in the best interest of Hawaii's youth. She is committed to children. As a Pediatrician, this value cemented our partnership as we worked to develop new programs such as statewide telehealth services for psychiatric therapy throughout the state, the first program in the Department of Health to embrace telehealth. A second area of development that she advocated for was in the overall area of Quality Improvement for our services and the contractors that provided those services directly to children. She is well versed in measures to ensure quality and best practices for the care of youth.

I am certain that Ms. Fallin will provide experience, expertise and sound judgment to the Board of Education. I know of no better qualified candidate.

Sincerely,

M. Stanton Michels, MD

3949 Round Top Drive

Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Telephone: (808) 265-2091

GM-707

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 12:33:48 PM

Testimony for EDU on 5/14/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rhonda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Chair and Members of the Senate Education Committee

From: Rhonda Nishimura

Date/Time: Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 1:00 pm

GM #707: Lynn Fallin

Over the course of nearly 30+ years, I have personally observed Ms. Fallin's growth and development as a passionate, committed individual, dedicated to serving Hawaii's community, encompassing the underserved, at-risk populace. Not only does her educational background (regular and special education), administrative skills, collaborative partnerships amongst the private and public sectors establish her as a highly qualified individual for the Board of Education, but of equal importance, it is her integrity and value system that speaks highly of her as a human being. Amongst her many accomplishments:

- 14 years teaching in regular and special education in Hawaii, California and Saudi Arabia
- Responsible for overseeing and working with Child and Adolescent Mental Health at the DOH
- Inaugural Executive Director of Ho'okako'o Corporation (gaining experience working with charter schools)
- Recognized nationally and locally for leadership in areas impacting disadvantaged children, youth and families as a fellow with the Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Governmental leader by the Hawaii Association for the Education of Young Children and PONO fellow by the Hawaii Community Foundation

On a personal note, Ms. Fallin embodies the true spirit of "ohana" or "One Family", as a devoted daughter, caring for her mother, until her peaceful passage. Her devotion carries over in watching over and "lending a helping hand" to her adult children and her grandchildren.

It is with an unqualified testament, that I strongly urge this Committee to confirm the nomination of Lynn Fallin to serve on the Board of Education.

To: Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair

Senate Committee on Education

From: Liz Chun, Early Education Policy Consultant

Date: Thursday, May 14, 2020, 1:00 pm, Conference Room 229

Subject: **GM 707: Relating to Lynn Fallin Nomination to Board of Education**

I submit this testimony **in strong support of Lynn Fallin's nomination to the Board of Education.**

I have known Lynn for over 20 years and appreciate her dedication to the children and families of Hawaii and to developing strong data driven systems of education and care. She is an excellent nominee for the Board as she possesses the knowledge and broad experience working in state systems that I believe can highly benefit Hawaii's Board of Education.

From 1999- 2002 when Lynn served as Governor Cayetano's Policy Advisor on Children, Youth, and Families, she was on the Board of Directors for the Good Beginnings Alliance, a non-profit organization named in legislation to assist in the coordination and expansion of Hawaii's public and private early childhood system. At that time, I was the Executive Director of the Good Beginnings Alliance (GBA).

Lynn not only brought a strong data driven policy and interdepartmental focus to our organization but also was deeply committed to increasing Hawaii's national connection to work being accomplished for early childhood system development. A prime example of this was GBA's involvement in the Boost for Kids performance partnership in collaboration with Vice-President Al Gore and the National Partnership for Reinventing Government to improve outcomes for children and youth.

From 2003- 2010 when Lynn was Executive Director of the Ho`okako`o Corporation, I served on that organization's Board of Directors. As Ho`okako`o worked with conversion charter schools in communities on Molokai, Waianae, and Waimea, I witnessed Lynn's ability to connect with schools in the most at-risk communities and to assist their journeys to becoming effective charter schools. This was not an easy path, but one she worked very hard to accomplish. Her dedicated efforts at Ho`okako`o also demonstrated Lynn's knowledge of Hawaii's public school system and of the broad measures required to increase students' performance.

I strongly encourage you to approve this nomination. Hawaii's public education system will benefit greatly by having someone with such deep system and policy knowledge assisting to move it forward.

With Aloha, Elisabeth (Liz) Chun

lizchun@hawaii.rr.com; cell/text: 808-226-2619

May 12, 2020

Claire L. Asam, Ph.D.
1288 Ala Moana Blvd. #13A
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

To Whom It May Concern,

It is an honor to submit this letter of support for the nomination of Ms. Lynn Fallin to the Board of Education. I have worked with Ms. Fallin and can attest to her leadership ability, knowledge of education, administration and policy.

Ms. Fallin has had over 20 years of senior level experience in policy and administrative leadership positions in the major state government children and family serving departments and the non-profit sectors in health, human services and education. Her depth and breadth of professional experience provides an excellent foundation for her contributions to the Board of Education.

As a Member of the Board of Education, Ms. Fallin will be an advocate for teachers, children, and will bring a collaborative spirit to the Board. She understands the challenges faced by children and their families will continue to work tirelessly as an advocate for children, their families, and their communities.

I urge you to support the nomination of Ms. Lynn Fallin to the Board of Education.

Sincerely,



Claire L. Asam, Ph.D.

GM-707

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 5:54:48 PM

Testimony for EDU on 5/14/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna Gamiao	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a parent of a Kualapuu Charter School student on the island of Molokai, I support Lynn Fallin's nomination. She has been a strong supporter to our school.

Senate Committee on Education
May 14, 2020
HI State Capitol Rm. 229, 1:00 p.m.
GM #707 Lynn Fallin

May 12, 2020

Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair
Members of the Senate Education Committee

RE: GM #707 Lynn Fallin
Board of Education nominee

FR: Barbara Kim Stanton

I enthusiastically offer my **strong support** for Lynn Fallin's nomination to the Hawaii Board of Education. I have known her for nearly forty years—first as a work colleague, then as a friend.

Lynn's entire career has been dedicated to enabling children, young adults, their families, and communities to maximize their potential, open opportunities, and achieve their aspirations.

Her skillsets are aligned with what is needed to move public education forward. She is a strategic thinker, caring advocate, community builder, and outcome driven educator.

Over her twenty years in executive leadership positions (in the public and non-profit sectors), she has aptly used her talents and experience to develop integrated program delivery for students ranging from preschool to age 21, launch charter schools, and pilot single point-of-access to contract services to prevent out-of-home placement of children.

Her fourteen years as a classroom teacher have provided invaluable hands-on experience on how students with varying abilities, circumstances, and needs learn and develop. Lynn is persistent and can anchor a vision to an implementable plan. She does not get discouraged easily and will work through each challenge until it is resolved and the goal met.

Equally, if not more important, is Lynn's fearless, tireless commitment to individuals who are disadvantaged and could easily slip between the cracks of our society. She has been a strong advocate for severely emotionally disturbed children and programs to help youths veer away from drugs and gangs. She truly cares for each individual.

Her strong advocacy, leadership, and impressive outcomes have been recognized at the national and local levels with several honors, including the prestigious Annie E. Casey Foundation National Fellow award for outstanding work on behalf of disadvantaged children and families and the Hawaii Boost 4 Kids performance partnership with former Vice-President Al Gore for Reinventing Government to improve childhood education and health.

Lynn would be an outstanding Board of Education member, and I respectfully ask that you support her appointment. Thank you.

GM-707

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 10:34:01 PM

Testimony for EDU on 5/14/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Armitage	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support Ms. Lynn Fallin for the Board of Education. I worked with her for about 8 years while she was Deputy Director of the Behavioral Health Administration for DOH. She was a joy to work with. Ms. Fallin is competent, smart, compassionate, and strong. She sees the forest, while walking through the trees. She's been a deputy director at both DHS and DOH. which makes her unique. She is more than qualified to be a member of the Board of Education, and I recommend her without any hesitation. You will not be disappointed.

GM-707

Submitted on: 5/13/2020 11:41:41 AM

Testimony for EDU on 5/14/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Norman Yee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I wish to express my strong support for Lynn Fallin to become a member of the Hawaii Board of Education.

I have been a professional colleague with Lynn Fallin for nearly two decades. We first met through the Annie E. Casey Foundation Children and Family Fellowship, a national program. During the times Ms. Fallin and I participated at the Fellowship program in education affinity work groups and other group discussions, I have seen Ms. Fallin consistently view education through a racial and economic equity lens.

I had the opportunity to visit Honolulu in the mid 2008 while Ms Fallin was the Executive Director of Ho'okako'o Corporation, an education management and capacity building focused on non profit organization serving charter (conversion) public schools. I was serving as the President of the San Francisco Board of Education at that time and appreciated Ms. Fallin taking the time to arrange a visit to one of the charter schools. During this visit I learned more about the depth of educational knowledge Ms. Lynn possessed and was very impressed with her understanding of what system changes were needed to better serve the students of Hawaii. I came away from the visit with many new thoughts and ideals that I eventually applied while serving of the San Francisco Board of Education.

I have been serving on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors since 2013 and am currently the president. I continue to stay in contact with Ms. Fallin and have enjoyed her insights on children and family issues.

I believe that Ms. Fallin would be a great additional to the Hawaii Board of Education and will provide great leadership in any organization.

Sincerely,

Norman Yee

President, San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Former President, San Francisco Board of Education

GM-707

Submitted on: 5/13/2020 11:22:02 PM

Testimony for EDU on 5/14/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lani Nakazawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My testimony is in support of Lynn Fallin, for a position on the Board of Education. I have known Lynn for about 30 years, professionally and personally. Her deep experience with State government and her concern for people will be a tremendous asset to the Board and Department.