



SENATOR WILL ESPERO

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JUNE 2015

Important Community Updates

Air-Conditioning Projects for Area Schools Moves Forward

On June 4, 2015, Senator Espero called a meeting between officials from the Department of Education and area schools and district legislators to discuss a master plan for the air conditioning and heat abatement projects. The meeting was extremely productive and concluded with a strong fiscal and logistical plan that stakeholders will be pleased with.

During the 2015 Legislative Session, Governor Ige released \$2.4 million of capital improvement program monies to tackle the overheated classrooms, especially at James Campbell High School. In addition to heat abatement projects, the money will include the installation of photovoltaic air-conditioning units on portable classrooms. This pilot project of PVAC will be the largest in the state and happening right in our community's backyard! The breakdown of that money is as follows:

\$500,000 (est.)	Plans A: Heat abatement projects that will lower temperatures in classrooms with a goal of 76-78 degrees. These projects will including painting building roof's white, installing ceiling fans, thermal flushing, tree planting and other options that do not include air conditioning.
\$1,900,000 (est)	Plan B: All the effects of Plan A will monitored and studied to determine the areas needed for air conditioning. Those areas that do not meet the 76-78 degree baseline will be marked for air conditioning. In addition, these monies will include the pilot project that will retrofit portable classrooms with photovoltaic air-conditioning systems.
Total: \$2,400,000	Both Plan A and B, along with the start of the PVAC pilot program will begin this year and contribute significantly to improved classroom conditions in the fall. Additional monies will allow for similar projects at adjacent schools.

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Proposed New Building for James Campbell High School In The Works!

The population of James Campbell High School exceeds the total enrollment of UH West Oahu and is not slowing down. In order to alleviate the influx and growing number of students, Senator Espero is challenging the Department of Education to make this their top priority.

In total, \$4 million has been appropriated to this project capacity issue. \$1 million will go towards planning and design while the other \$3 million will go towards additional portables as a short-term solution. At the request of JCHS administrators and area legislators, the Department of Education will submit a request for an estimated \$20 million in the upcoming legislative session to build a brand new building to house additional students.

The Department also has a long-term plan that includes the building of a new high school in the East Kapolei area that will help to alleviate the pressures on JCHS in the future.

Community Parade Held In Honor Of Saber Nation Athletics

The Sabers had quite the year securing several HHSAA State Championships in a variety of sports. The Saber’s baseball team won its first state championship in over thirty years! In addition, the softball and track and field teams both took home the gold in their respective tournaments. The Ewa community is was so proud of Saber Nation that they sponsored a community parade to honor these fantastic student-athletics.



Photos: Saber Selfies with the girl’s softball team and boy’s baseball team champions.



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The makeup of the Hawaii State Senate committees have been organized. The leadership of the Senate choose individuals that will utilize both their interests and knowledge to be most effective with specific subject matters.