

STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO P.O. BOX 2360

P.O. BOX 2360 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96804

Date: 04/11/2025 **Time:** 03:00 PM

Location: CR 229 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Bill Title: GM 0779 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the School Facilities

Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, SHELLIE PAIVA, for a term to expire

06-30-2029.

Purpose of Bill:

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) is in support of Shellie Paiva for confirmation to the School Facilities Authority (SFA) Board.

Ms. Paiva possesses significant leadership experience throughout her career in law enforcement, having served in various command positions within the Honolulu Police Department, including Major, Captain, Lieutenant, and Sergeant. This experience demonstrates her ability to lead teams, manage personnel, and oversee complex operations. This experience in managing large-scale operations and diverse teams is directly applicable to the complexities of school construction projects, which involve numerous stakeholders and intricate timelines.

While in law enforcement, she actively engaged with community groups and developed programs fostering trust between students and police officers. This experience demonstrates her understanding of the importance of community input and the creation of safe and supportive environments, which are crucial considerations in the planning and construction of schools that serve the community. Her work coordinating operations with federal, state, and local agencies as part of the SWAT demonstrates her ability to work effectively with diverse stakeholders, which is essential in the often collaborative nature of large-scale construction projects involving various government bodies and private sector partners.

The Department recommends the confirmation of Shellie Paiva for the SFA Board.



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

My name is Joshua Mueller, and I am writing in support of the nomination of Shellie Paiva for the School Facilities Authority Board. It is both an honor and a privilege to write this letter of recommendation for Shellie Paiva. I have had the honor of working for Shellie in the Honolulu Police Department during my tenure in the Specialized Services Division (SSD) and my current position in the District 4 Burglary/Theft Detail. During our time together at SSD, she was the only female within a tactical unit of only men but served as a fearless and powerful presence, mentor, and inspiration for myself and others. Recently, as I transitioned to the District 4 Burglary/Theft Detail, Shellie too was assigned to District 4 where again, I witnessed her change the moral of not only my own detail but also the moral of multiple units that cover the span of Kahuku to Waimanalo for the better.

Shellie is one of the most capable, driven, and grounded professionals I've ever worked with. She doesn't just lead—she inspires. Whether it was in the middle of high-stress tactical operations or during strategic planning sessions, Shellie always maintained her clarity, her poise, and her focus on the team's mission. She set the standard and raised everyone around her to meet it.

What made Shellie stand out, beyond her unmatched skills and work ethic, was the heart she brought to the job. She took the time to know her people—not just their roles or titles, but who they were at their core. Shellie became more than a supervisor or team leader to me—she became family. Her encouragement, loyalty, and genuine care for my well-being made a lasting impact on both my personal and professional life.

As I've moved forward into a role focused on criminal investigations, I often find myself relying on the lessons I learned from Shellie—about resilience, attention to detail, and leading with integrity. She played a foundational role in shaping the investigator and person I am today.

Anyone who has the chance to work with Shellie Paiva is in the presence of someone rare—someone who makes you better just by being on your team. I recommend her with complete confidence and the deepest respect.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you'd like any further insight.

Sincerely,

Joshua Mueller

Detective, Honolulu Police Department

District 4 Burglary/Theft Detail

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

My name is Michele Yoshiki and I am sincerely writing this letter in support of the nomination of Ms. Shellie PAIVA for the Hawaii State Board of Education.

More than 22 years ago, as a new Officer in the HPD, my path in life crossed with Ms. PAIVA, while she was an Officer in the Central Patrol Bureau. I always admired Ms. PAIVA because she exemplified not just a great Officer, but a professional female in a male dominated environment. Ms. PAIVA always strived for more, and promoted through the ranks while setting a good example to the rank and file.

In 2024, I was honored to finally work under Ms. PAIVA's supervision when she became the Major of District 4, where I am currently assigned as a Sergeant. Almost immediately, Ms. PAIVA brought the District back to life and inspired those under her command with renewed energy and positivity.

During my career, I had always wanted to be more involved with the community, especially with our District schools. However, being in Patrol and not a specialized unit limited by ability to be involved other than in a reactive capacity. Ms. PAIVA paved the way, with her background and expertise in Community policing and management, and gave me the tools and opportunity to achieve my goals and dreams of being directly involved with our schools, creating and building new partnerships. I was able to effectively interact and reach out to hundreds of Windward side elementary school aged children and the school administrations in our District. These positive interactions have continued to this day in various programs at different schools. This, as a Patrol Sergeant, has been invaluable to my personal growth, passion for my chosen career, and leaving lasting impressions on our young people of District 4. I have continued to receive support from the school administrations while nurturing and bridging these ongoing community partnerships. I owe all of this to the support and tutelage of Ms. PAIVA.

Over the years on a personal level, I have seen Ms. PAIVA with her family, and she is an amazing, loving and supportive wife and mother.

As a Supervisor, and mentor, she is highly knowledgeable, efficient, and an impeccable motivator and leader.

I truly believe Ms. PAIVA will be an attribute to the Hawaii State Board of Education due to her strong background and dedication to duty towards the public she serves. Her infectious positive attitude, spirit and ability to work well with others and inspire those around her, make her an excellent candidate for this position. I strongly recommend the committee confirm Ms. PAIVA for the Hawaii State Board of Education, and have no doubt she will be a great representative for the State of Hawaii.

-/ VICVOD

Sergeant Michele K. Y

Honolulu Police Department

Regional Patrol Bureau, District 4, Day Watch

April 8, 2025

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 5:27:56 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By Organization		Testifier Position	Testify
Leah Cui	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha All,

I am Corporal Leah Cui, of the Honolulu Police Department and am writing in full support of Shellie PAVIA's nomination to the Schools Facilities Authority Board. I have had the privilege of knowing Shellie for over 20 years during her distinguished 27-year career with the Honolulu Police Department. In that time, I've seen firsthand her dedication to public service, her unwavering integrity, and her exceptional leadership.

As a Major, Shellie led both the Specialized Services Division and the District 4 Patrol Division—two of HPD's most dynamic and demanding commands. She approached each role with a remarkable balance of professionalism, passion, and humility. What stood out most about Shellie was how deeply she cared for the people she supervised. She invested in her teams, mentored officers at every level, and consistently prioritized the well-being of both her personnel and the communities they served.

Her ability to lead with compassion, communicate effectively, and navigate complex operational challenges makes her an ideal candidate for this position. I have no doubt that she will bring the same level of dedication, thoughtfulness, and accountability to the School Facilities Authority Board that she brought to her work at HPD.

Sincerely,

Corporal Leah Cui, District 4, Honolulu Police Department

April 9, 2025

Hawaii School Facilities Authority Board 2759 S. King Street, #H201 Honolulu, HI 96826

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Kathleen Cruz, I am a Patrol Sergeant in District 5 Kalihi, for the Honolulu Police Department. I have known and worked with Shellie Paiva for over 19 years. I was a brand new officer in Pearl City when I was exposed to her amazing leadership. As a new officer it was not long before I decided who I wanted to emulate.

Shellie Paiva was a pioneer for the other female officers in the department without even trying. Her hard work and dedication moved her into key positions such as the Community Policing Sergeant, the first female Crime Reduction Unit Supervisor, Field Lieutenant for District 1, Urban Honolulu, and the first female Commander of Specialized Services Division. She has held other positions, but those are just to name a few to emphasize the impact she has had on so many officers, (male and female) within this organization.

I have personally witnessed Shellie make decisions which concerned the safety of the community as well as her officers. Shellie Paiva is grace under pressure and grounded. As my immediate supervisor at one point in our careers, she communicated effectively and was fair with punishment and praise. Most of the officers and supervisors who worked under her went on and were promoted due to her training. She has had a profound effect on many officers and those around her without any effort on her part. She is deeply respected and she is a true leader!

Shellie Paiva will be an asset to the Board.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Cruz

FROM THE DESK OF

Barbara Delaforce

April 8, 2025

Hawaii School Facilities Authority Board 2759 S. King Street, Room H201 Honolulu, HI 96826

To whom it may concern,

My name is Barbara Delaforce, and I am a Sergeant with the Honolulu Police Department. I have had the privilege of knowing Retired Major Shellie Paiva for over two decades. As a rookie officer, I was in awe of her tireless work ethic which resulted in numerous arrests and impressive statistics. I told myself, "I want to be just like her when I get on the road."

Shellie Paiva was widely respected by her subordinates, peers, and supervisors. Her remarkable career trajectory speaks volumes. As the only female officer to ever hold the position of a Crime Reduction Unit Sergeant and Major of the Specialized Services Division (better known as SWAT), Shellie has broken many barriers in this maledominated organization.

Throughout her career, Shellie has consistently demonstrated exceptional communication skills, the ability to work under pressure, constructive collaboration with others, and a genuine desire to help others reach their full potential. These qualities make her an asset to any organization.

I firmly believe that Shellie Paiva will be an invaluable addition to the board.

Respectfully,

Barbara Delaforce

barbare delifore

Honorable Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Committee on Education State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 WEED & SEED

Aloha Honorable Kidani and Honorable Mercado Kim:

In support of Ms. Shellie Paiva to the School Facilities Authority

My name is Gale Braceros, and I serve as the Executive Director of Weed and Seed Hawaii, a nonprofit organization that originated as a national initiative under the U.S. Department of Justice. Although the federal program has since concluded, we proudly continue our mission locally as an independent nonprofit, serving three longstanding sites across Oahu: Site I – Kalihi-Palama-Chinatown-Ala Moana-Sheridan, Site II – Waipahu, and Site III – 'Ewa-'Ewa Beach, with recent expansion into parts of Kalaeloa (formerly Barbers Point).

Our mission is rooted in a two-prong approach: "weeding out crime" and "seeding" positive programs for youth, vital resources for our kūpuna, and collaborative community efforts. At the heart of our work is the belief that law enforcement and the community must work hand-in-hand to create safe, nurturing environments for families to live, work, and thrive.

I have had the privilege of knowing Retired Major Shellie Paiva for over 15 years. When we first met, she was a Sergeant leading the Weed and Seed Detail and later became the supervisor of the District 3 Community Policing Team. Throughout our years of collaboration, I have seen firsthand her deep commitment to public safety, community well-being, and most notably—education.

Her greatest priority was always making sure that students felt safe on campus. Ms. Paiva worked closely with school administrators, teachers, and families to ensure a secure and supportive environment for all students. She was known and respected for being a "hands-on" officer, often responding personally to school-related issues rather than assigning them to others. Her approachable personality, coupled with her ability to be appropriately firm—especially when it came to matters affecting our youth both at school and at home—made her a trusted leader and role model.

WEED AND SEED HAWAII

91-884 Ft. Weaver Road Ste. A Ewa Beach Hawaii 96706

Tel: 808-376-7005 (Direct)

Board of Directors

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Gale Braceros, Executive Director Lorrie Kanno, Program Director

WSHI is a non-profit organization

It is because of her unwavering dedication and strong commitment to serving the community that she quickly rose through the ranks of the Honolulu Police Department, ultimately retiring as a Major. Her leadership and integrity earned the respect of her peers and the communities she served.

Her leadership and expertise are grounded in her unique ability to connect with people. She builds relationships rooted in trust and respect, which proved essential as Weed and Seed Hawaii expanded into new communities. Ms. Paiva played a critical role in helping us establish strong partnerships with schools and neighborhoods, creating safer spaces where children could focus on learning and growth.

As the School Facilities Authority is tasked with overseeing the development of state preschools, Central Maui schools, and workforce housing, I can think of no better candidate than Shellie Paiva. Her decades of public service, unwavering dedication to youth, and exceptional ability to engage with diverse communities make her an outstanding choice to help guide this important work.

I offer my full support for her appointment and urge your favorable consideration.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

Gale Braceros
Executive Director

Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 8:20:05 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bernadine Canite	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair Donna Mercado Kim, and members of the Committee,

My name is Bernadine Canite. I am writing to support Shellie Paiva's nomination to the Hawaii State Board of Education.

Shellie Paiva's experience of exceptional leadership skills, effective communication, and the ability to solve complex challenges was proven with her leading the Honolulu Police Department District 4 as our Major.

Shellie Paiva changed the comradery among the District 4 personnel, bringing out the best in myself and fellow employees. She also changed the atmosphere at work with her open-door policy.

My experience working with Shellie Paiva has been an honor, as evidenced by her strong work ethic and ability to network with other agencies. I work with the District 4 Honolulu Police Department Community Policing Team, and we had our first "Heroes & Helpers" shopping event with Target store for students with financial hardship. Shellie Paiva brought together multiple agencies; her input made the event a great success and changed the lives of 40 students and their families.

Given Shellie Paiva's strong background and leadership skills, I strongly recommend that the committee confirm Shellie Paiva for the Hawaii State Board of Education.

Respectfully,

Bernadine Canite

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 11:17:07 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dana Tokioka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my **enthusiastic support** for the appointment of Robert Davis to the Hawai'i School Facilities Authority as a Board member. Mr. Davis brings a critical perspective and understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing schools and their facilities. His insights will allow for a more comprehensive and effective management of school physical spaces and priorities. I believe he will be an outstanding member of the Board.

I have known Mr. Davis for the past 15 years. During that time, he has consistently demonstrated his passion for education and his belief in the need to create interactive and exciting learning environments for our keiki. He understands that not only are the people important, but the environment that our children learn in is impactful as well. Mr. Davis is knowledgeable and will prove helpful in SFA's three key objectives: building preschools, building central Maui schools, and building workforce housing for teachers.

From his time as Principal of Ka'ala Elementary, he understands the importance of preschools to Hawaii's keiki. Mr. Davis knows that the more interactive and safe learning environments that 3 to 5-year-olds have to attend, the more these children gain over the long run in terms of social and economic advancement.

From his time as a Complex Area Superintendent for the North Side Central District (including Leilehua, Mililani, and Wailua areas), he knows that overcrowded schools can result in distractions, less personalized learning, and poorer student outcomes. Mr. Davis recognizes the urgent need for more schools and classrooms to accommodate students and ensure that each child receives the attention they deserve.

From his time as an educator, Mr. Davis also understands the deep commitment teachers have for their students and their desire to support the communities they live in. He recognizes that

failing to provide teachers with affordable housing means that fewer teachers will see teaching as a viable career, resulting in higher student-to-teacher ratios and poorer student outcomes.

All of these insights will allow Mr. Davis to move forward with conviction in providing Hawaii's communities with modern learning environments and affordable housing for teachers and other school supporters. Mr. Davis is dedicated to ensuring that communities get the school facilities they need to support their children and that teachers can find affordable housing so that they can focus on supporting their students. It is for these reasons that Mr. Davis would be an excellent addition to the SFA Board.

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

My name is Wayne Wong and I am writing in support of the nomination of Shellie Paiva for the School Facilities Authority.

I have been employed by the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) for the past 29 years, the last 17 years as a patrol lieutenant in District 4 (D4) on the windward side of Oahu.

I have known Shellie Paiva for over 27 years while she attained various ranks within HPD.

She was first assigned to D4 in 2019 as a Captain and again in 2024 as a Major. Both times she's been assigned here she has brought nothing but positive energy to this district.

Out the last 10 majors assigned to D4, she has been the most engaged and most approachable. She has strong communications skills, leads by example, promotes teamwork, and is a great problem solver.

This is evident by how effectively her Haiku Stairs operation went in 2024. Major Paiva was tasked with securing the world famous "Stairway to Heaven" 24/7 from June 2024 to December 2024. She communicated her plan of action very well to her supervisors and even participated in a few overnight shifts to see for herself the conditions that her personnel endured during this operation. This project involved using personnel from various assignments and ranks working together to attain one goal of preventing trespassers on the

more than 3,000 step hike. Any issues that arose were addressed immediately and strategically by Major Paiva. As a result, this assignment resulted multiple arrests and citations.

Major Paiva's energy is contagious, she poured her heart and soul in making sure D4 was being managed effectively. Her hard work had a trickle-down effect, all the way down to our entry level foot officers. The culture she promoted in D4 was work hard but to also have fun while accomplishing the goals of the district. Morale in our district was at an all-time high during her tenure her.

She was always willing to try new approaches to policing and believed in being proactive in educating our community about burglary and theft prevention by having a "boots on the ground" approach and going out into the neighborhoods and business to educate and promote positive relationships within our community.

As our commander, Shellie Paiva made smart, quick, and educated decisions. From budgeting to staffing, from major operations to smaller community policing projects, she thrives in being placed in situations where she can make a positive difference in her workplace and the community she serves.

Given Shellie Paiva's strong background, I strongly recommend the committee confirm Shellie Paiva for the School Facilities Authority as a Gubernatorial Nominee.

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 1:54:53 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bienvenido C. Villaflor II	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing testimony to support Shellie Paiva for the position of, School Facilities Authority. I have known Shellie Paiva for over 3 decades now. I knew her as a soccer player and coach since the 1990's. I then knew her as a fellow officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant. She did great work with the, D3 Community Policing Team. Finally, she was also my commander (Major) while assigned to the District 4.

I have firsthand knowledge of her excellent ability to lead, plan, coordinate, and facilitate small and large scale operations. Her vast knowledge, experience, and expertise gives her the ability to prioritize operations, to maximize efficiency and improvements, but never compromising the safety of any stakeholders involved. In this particular position, most importantly, the stakeholders are our youth, and the staff responsible for educating and caring for them. Having someone with Shellie Paiva's knowledge and experience is not only invaluable, it is vital.

Along with her leadership, knowledge, and experience is a woman with integrity, compassion, and fairness. We absolutely loved her as our leader and commander. We were very disappointed when she retired. However, we are happy for her and her future endeavors. Shellie Paiva is the perfect candidate for this position.

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 2:03:21 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Miki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom it May Concern,

I am submitting my testimony on behalf of Gubernatorial Nominee, SHELLIE PAIVA, for consideration and confirmation to the School Facilities Authority.

My name is Shannon Miki and I am a retired Detective of the Honolulu Police Department with twenty five years of service. I have known Shellie for over twenty years. During this time, Shellie advanced to the rank of Major where she commanded and supervised the Specialized Services Division and would later be the Commander of District Four (Kaneohe) Station. These positions required excellent communication, time management and honesty.

Shellie's tireless dedication to her job created high morale for the Police Officers who worked for her and positively impacted the community. Shellie is extremely intelligent, works well with others and makes sound decisions. Shellie has always strived to make our community a safer place to live, work and attend school and I find it commendable that she wants to continues her efforts outside of the Police Department. Shellie would be a great asset to the School Facilities Authority.

Respectfully,

Shannon Miki

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

My name is Jeffrey Kaiawe, and I am writing in support of the nomination of Shellie Paiva for the School Facilities Authority Board. I had the honor of working for Shellie in District 4, which encompasses Waimanalo to Kahuku, during her time as a Major in the Honolulu Police Department.

Shellie brought extensive experience in leadership and community engagement. Her commitment to listening to the needs of her officers led to meaningful changes that enhanced morale and effectiveness within District 4.

Throughout her time in District 4, Shellie consistently demonstrated her ability to foster collaboration and accountability, which are essential qualities for the School Facilities Authority Board. She effectively engaged with notable community members and partner government agencies, ensuring that the voices of those impacted by policies were heard and addressed. Her strategic decision-making prioritized the needs of the community, enabling her to make informed choices that benefited the public.

Shellie was one of the few executive leaders who genuinely valued input from her team, creating an environment where everyone felt empowered to contribute. This earned her the respect and loyalty of her officers and resulted in impactful initiatives that resonated with the District 4 officers.

Given her strong leadership background in the Honolulu Police Department and her deep commitment to improving the community, I wholeheartedly recommend that the committee confirm Shellie Paiva for the School Facilities Authority Board. Her insights will undoubtedly help align school facility planning with the educational goals and priorities of Hawaii's public education system.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Kaiawe
Acting Lieutenant
Honolulu Police Department
District 4 Burglary/Theft Detail and Misdemeanor Follow Up Detail

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 2:57:47 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Kaneko	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of Shellie Paiva to be appointed to the School Facilities Authority Board. I have worked under Shellie Paiva for several years and can attest to her abilities in personnel and resource management. Mrs. Paiva has a unique ability to connect with different persons from all backgrounds which allows her to communicate and problem solve effectively. Mrs. Paiva takes into account the indiviidual, community, and the goals of the department she works for when making decisions. Mrs. Paiva is creative and is able to think outside of the box when dealing with complex or problematic issues. Mrs. Paiva is passionate about the things she does and is not afraid to take on new and challenging roles. Her background, training, and previous work history has well prepared her for this endeavor.

In closing, I woud highly recommend Mrs. Paiva to be appointed to the School Facilities Authority Board as she would make a wonderful and effective leader on the board.

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 2:59:15 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dawnmarie Tafaoa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a former co-worker of Shellie Paiva, I can confirm that she possesses the character and work ethic suitable for this chosen position. One of her admirable characteristics is that she thinks "outside of the box" when exploring problem solving options. She includes herself in the solution, and takes into consideration the opinions of all involved, regardless of her personal feelings. She is fair, not afraid to make difficult choices, and is confident in her decision making. She is a supportive team member who will work harmoniously with others to accomplish tasks, and will voice her thoughts to benefit teamwork. Shellie will be a highly valuable asset to your organization, if selected.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 3:08:50 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaula Rowe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern,

I respectfully submit the nomination of Shellie Paiva for consideration and confirmation as a Gubernatorial Nominee to the School Facilities Authority for the State of Hawaii. I have had the privilege of knowing Shellie both professionally and personally for over ten years.

With a strong commitment to educational equity and a deep understanding of community needs, Ms. Paiva brings valuable insight and leadership to support the Authority's mission of enhancing and maintaining safe, modern, and effective learning environments across the state.

Shellie Paiva is a dedicated and community-minded leader, known for her integrity, collaborative spirit, and commitment to the well-being of Hawaii's keiki. With a strong sense of responsibility and deep ties to her community, she brings both heart and experience to her work. Her thoughtful approach to problem-solving, grounded in equity and transparency, makes her an exceptional choice for this role. Ms. Paiva's character reflects the values of service, accountability, and aloha—qualities essential to guiding the future of our public school infrastructure.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this nomination.

Sincerely, Kaula Rowe April 9, 2025

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 4:04:26 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paula Akamine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Paula Akamine and I am writing to support the nomination of Shellie Paiva for the Hawaii State Board of Education.

Ms. Paiva possesses a unique blend of community engagement. The windward area had its inaugural "Heroes & Helpers" event last year. Ms. Paiva quickly collaborated with various first responder agencies to seek volunteers to shop with and bring holiday joy to children in the community facing hardships.

Ms. Paiva has successfully demonstrated her ability to lead. While she was assigned to manage a specialized unit for several years, she dealt with high-risk situations that needed immediate attention and quick-thinking planning.

I had the pleasure of working with Ms. Paiva for nearly a year until her recent retirement. During that time, I have been impressed by her enthusiasm of taking on challenges, dedication to her work ethics, leadership skills, and innovative thinking.

Given Ms. Paiva's strong background, I strongly recommend the committee confirm Shellie Paiva for the Hawaii State Board of Education.

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for Shellie Paiva for the position of School Facilities Authority. I have had the privilege of knowing Shellie Paiva for approximately 15 years, and during this time, I have known her as a Sergeant in the Crime Reduction Unit. Shellie has been a role model for me as a young police officer, embodying professionalism and exhibiting excellent supervisory and leadership traits.

Throughout my career, I have often said that if I ever became a Sergeant, I would strive to be like Shellie. Eventually, as we were stationed in the same district, we developed a friendship, and she became a mentor to me. Her genuine desire to guide and help others in improving the Honolulu Police Department was both inspiring and impactful.

Over the years, I have watched Shellie rise through the ranks, from Sergeant to Lieutenant, and ultimately to Major. She has held many roles within the Department and was often the first female to do so, setting a precedent and excelling in each position. Shellie has been an asset to every division she was part of, and the Honolulu Police Department lost an excellent commander when she decided to retire.

I am confident that Shellie will bring all her exceptional qualities and proven leadership to the School Facilities Authority position. Her dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to excellence will undoubtedly benefit any organization she joins.

Thank you for considering Shellie Paiva for this vital role.

Sincerely,

Macaria Carroll

Corporal, Honolulu Police Department

Macaria.carroll@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 5:59:08 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify	
Nicole Ilae	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only	

Comments:

Nicole Ilae

46-201 Kalali St.

Kaneohe, HI. 96744

nikiilae@yahoo.com

808-295-2366

April 9, 2025

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to you today with immense enthusiasm and without reservation to express my strongest support for the appointment of my dear friend and former soccer teammate, Shellie Paiva, to the School Facilities Authority Board.

I have had the distinct pleasure of knowing Shellie for the past thirty years. Our friendship has been a constant in my life, built on mutual respect, shared experiences, and a deep understanding of her character and values. Beyond our personal connection, we also spent many years as teammates on the soccer field, where I witnessed firsthand her exceptional leadership qualities, collaborative spirit, and unwavering commitment to the team's success.

These very qualities, which made Shellie such a valuable teammate, are precisely what I believe will make her an invaluable asset to the School Facilities Authority Board. Throughout our friendship, Shellie has consistently demonstrated:

- A genuine passion for community and education: She has always shown a keen interest in the well-being of our community and a strong belief in the power of education to shape young lives. This was extremely evident when she worked for the Honolulu Police Department, which she just retired from.
- Exceptional communication and interpersonal skills: Shellie has a remarkable ability to listen attentively, articulate ideas clearly, and build consensus among diverse groups of people. This was evident on the soccer field and, as I can imagine, as the first woman captain of the SWAT Team.
- A strong sense of responsibility and dedication: When Shellie commits to something, she does so with unwavering dedication and a commitment to seeing things through to a positive outcome.

While my perspective is rooted in our long-standing friendship and shared experiences, I am confident that the qualities I have observed in Shellie over the past three decades are indicative of her broader character and will translate directly into effective and dedicated service on the School Facilities Authority Board. She possesses the integrity, intelligence, and commitment necessary to contribute meaningfully to the governance and well-being of our schools.

I wholeheartedly recommend Shellie Paiva for this important position and urge you to give her nomination your full and favorable consideration. I am certain that she will serve the students, families, and educators of our community with distinction.

Thar	ık you	for your	time and	consideration	of this	s important	matter.
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Sincerely,

Nicole Ilae

<u>GM-779</u>

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 6:01:27 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Denise Eldredge Sagapolutele	Testifying for Accel Events and Tents	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committe on Education,

I humbly submit this testimony in support of Shellie Paiva for School Facilties Authority. I've personally known Shellie for 40 years. She is a dedicated public servant, a people person, a responsible and committed wife and mother and an unbelievably great friend. Her leadership in life has brought her to many difficult situations which she has successfully resolved with professionalism and commitment to do what is right. I fully endorse Shellie for this position.

Mahalo,

Denise Eldredge Sagapolutele

Accel Events and Tents - President

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 7:53:14 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
sharie souza	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Shellie Paiva has served the community with integrity, respect, and fairness for decades. Her knowledge and expertise in the field of law enforcement would be a great asset to this position. Mrs. Paiva is a diligent worker and a pioneer for women in the field of law enforcement. The knowledge and skill set that she would bring to the position would serve the community well. She was the first female commander of the HPD Specialized Services Division (SSD) and one of the few female plain clothes sergeants. Her work ethic speaks for itself. I am proud to call her my sister in blue and my friend. I support her nomination for this position.

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim and members of the committee,

My name is Chantel Gomes, and I am writing in support of the nomination of Mrs. Shellie Paiva for the Hawaii State Board of Education.

I have had the honor to work under the leadership of Mrs. Paiva for ten months until her recent retirement. She is an innovative individual who has spent her career improving the safety of our community. Mrs. Paiva increased productivity and morale by supporting and engaging in her personnel.

Mrs. Paiva is a hands-on leader. She attended various Community Policing Projects. This includes the neighborhood board meetings and coffee with a cop. Both of which gave her the opportunity to meet face-to-face and hear firsthand the concerns of the windward community. She made it a point to be present and encouraged the officers to go out into the community to build relationships.

Mrs. Paiva introduced Heroes and Helpers to district 4. It is an event in which a child gets to spend time with a law enforcement officer to search for the perfect Christmas gift. The district was excited to be a part of this even due to Mrs. Paiva's past experiences with the event. She contacted the Windwards schools and reached out to multiple law enforcement agencies. She led the event by being organized, communicative, proactive and positive. However, her main goal was to ensure each child felt seen, heard and felt special.

Given Mrs. Paiva's strong background, I strongly recommend the committee confirm Shellie Paiva for the Hawaii State Board of Education.

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 11:10:47 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kammie Aguada-Nakaue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Kammie Aguada-Nakaue. I support Shellie Paiva for the position of School Facilities Authority.

I have known Mrs. Paiva for 25 years. She has been a dedicated first responder and servant to our community for the last 27 years. She is a committed team player who leads by example and operates with integrity.

Mrs. Paiva works well under pressure, is solution oriented and able to make fair and knowledgeable decisions. I believe she will excel in this position and be an asset to the School Facilities Authority.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 12:18:48 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorrie Kanno	Testifying for Weed and Seed Hawaii, Inc.	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair Donna Mercado Kim, and Members of the Committee:

RE: GM 779 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the School Facilities Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee, SHELLIE PAIVA, for a term to expire 06-30-2029

Aloha,

My name is Lorrie Kanno and I have known Shellie Paiva since July 2009. I first met Ms. Paiva when she served as the Sergeant for District 3 Community Policing Team. In fact, she was the first "Weed and Seed" Sergeant that I had the pleasure of working with.

Ms. Paiva's resume speaks for itself. She has served in numerous leadership roles retiring as a major, was tasked with working through challenging situations as a SWAT commander, maintained oversight of both Honolulu Police Department and grant funding, worked closely with the community which included businesses, churches, public and private organizations and schools, and was entrusted with managing and supervising staff. During the 6 years that we worked together, Ms. Paiva was organized, hardworking, trustworthy, direct, and tenacious when necessary. It is these qualities that led to the advocacy for and development of successful programs at the elementary, intermediate and high school level and helped her to ascend the ranks within the Department. These qualities also earned her the respect of her peers and community partners.

If given the opportunity, I truly believe that she will do well if confirmed to the School Facilities Authority. She understands how schools operate and will be able to use her leadership and management skills to ensure that safety is top priority while ensuring ethical governance and fiscal accountability.

I urge you to confirm Shellie Paiva to the School Facilities Authority.

Respectfully,

Lorrie W. Kanno, Program Director

April 09, 2025

Senator Kidani, Senator Mercado Chair & Vice Chair Committee on Education Hawai'i State Capitol Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Strong Support for the Confirmation of Shellie Paiva to the School Facilities Authority

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado, and Members of the Committee,

I am honored to submit this letter in strong support of Shellie Paiva and her confirmation to the School Facilities Authority for the State of Hawai'i.

I have known Shellie for over 35 years, and I can say with absolute confidence that she is a person of exceptional character and commitment. She is hard-working, loyal, respectful, honest, and trustworthy—the kind of leader who always puts people first and follows through on her word. Shellie is deeply mission-oriented, always focused on what's best for our keiki and the future of Hawai'i.

She is also family-oriented and a strong community advocate, someone who understands the importance of serving not only with heart but with deep responsibility to others. Her ability to build bridges between systems and communities is rooted in a lifelong commitment to equity, integrity, and meaningful progress.

Shellie's values and experience make her an ideal choice for the School Facilities Authority. She brings not only knowledge and leadership, but the compassion and cultural grounding needed to create school environments that are safe, supportive, and forward-thinking.

I respectfully and wholeheartedly urge you to confirm Shellie Paiva. Hawai'i's students, educators, and families will benefit greatly from her service.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pamela Fox

Punahou School

1601 Punahou St.

Honolulu, HI 96819

piperpk@gmail.com

Brittany Feiteira 1545 Ala Amoamo St Honolulu, HI 96819

RE: Letter of Support for Shellie Paiva - School Facilities Authority Confirmation

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Shellie Paiva's confirmation to the School Facilities Authority for the State of Hawaii. As someone who has known Mrs. Paiva professionally and personally for the past decade, I can attest to her exceptional character, leadership abilities, and dedication to community service.

Throughout our ten-year acquaintance, I have consistently observed Mrs. Paiva demonstrate the qualities essential for this important position. Her remarkable character is evident in every interaction, as she approaches challenges with integrity and transparency. She is unfailingly kind and helpful, always willing to extend herself to support others in need, whether in professional settings or community initiatives.

What particularly distinguishes Mrs. Paiva is her community-centered approach to leadership. She possesses a unique ability to identify needs within diverse communities and develop thoughtful strategies to address them. This mindfulness of needs, combined with her collaborative leadership style, enables her to bring stakeholders together to achieve meaningful outcomes. As Hawaii faces important decisions regarding school facilities, her inclusive approach will ensure that all voices are heard and considered.

In addition to her leadership capabilities, Mrs. Paiva excels as a mentor. She actively invests in developing the next generation of community leaders by sharing her knowledge, providing guidance, and creating opportunities for growth. Her mentorship extends beyond mere professional development to encompass holistic support that encourages individuals to realize their full potential.

The School Facilities Authority requires individuals who understand both the technical aspects of infrastructure development and the human impact these decisions have on students, educators, and communities. Mrs. Paiva brings this rare combination of technical competence and human compassion that will serve the Authority and the people of Hawaii exceptionally well.

I firmly believe that Shellie Paiva's confirmation would represent a significant asset to the School Facilities Authority. Her demonstrated commitment to service, exceptional leadership abilities, and genuine care for Hawaii's communities make her uniquely qualified for this role.

I am available to discuss Mrs. Paiva's qualifications further should you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully.

Brittany Feijeira

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

Re: GM 779 Shellie Paiva

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim and Committee Members:

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Shellie Paiva to the Schools Facilities Authority.

I have known Shellie Paiva for around 17 years. I first met Shellie when I was the U.S Attorney for Hawaii and she was a Sergeant with the Honolulu Police Department, in charge of the Community Policing Team in District 3 (Pearl City, Waipahu). The U.S. Attorney's Office's outreach efforts were with the Weed and Seed program which, in turn, worked very closely with the Honolulu Police Department. I believe now Department of Education Superintendent Keith Hayashi was Waipahu High School's principal and there were robust programs to work with students so that they had the opportunity to explore career fields (including health, business, education, law and safety); and many safety and crime prevention programs for students, families and kupuna which were joint efforts with community and business groups. Because of the U.S. Attorney's relationship with Weed and Seed, I got to know Shellie very well—she was collaborative, easy to work with, informed, and a "go-to" person—she got things done. The Community Policing Team of which Shellie was in charge worked closely with Weed and Seed in these efforts and their presence made a difference—students saw police officers as members of the community, people wanting to help others—and Shellie was a big part of this. The youth mentoring and community-led safety initiatives were very successful, reached many individuals and continues to today.

HPD recognized Shellie's talents and abilities and she quickly rose through the ranks. In my current position, I had the pleasure of working with Shellie when she was the Major of the Specialized Services Division and Major of District 4 (Waimanalo-Kahuku). She is highly regarded and respected by her fellow officers and by those of us who have worked with her when she was in charge of these divisions. I spoke to her about operational/policing issues; saw her at HPD meetings and out in the community. She is an outstanding leader, officers want to work with her and she never asked them to do anything that she herself would not do—she led by example. Shellie is also a quick study, analytical and can think strategically and creatively to come up with solutions to problems. Shellie has always sought to improve herself and help her officers improve by learning the skills necessary to be an effective 21st century police officer. She understands the challenges and issues facing our community and in turn, law enforcement officers. She has a collaborative "hands-on approach" in her leadership style.

Shellie Paiva is someone who studies a problem or issues and can come up with a plan to deal with it and she has the ability to bring people together and execute that plan. She is personally

involved. The successes of operations whenever she was in charge is the result of her leadership, her ability to work well with others and her ability to motivate people. Shellie has a reputation of being able and willing to work with everyone including those who might not necessarily agree with her position. She will speak up but respectfully. She is open to new ideas and believes in collaborating and joining forces with others toward shared goals. She will be an asset to the Schools Facilities Authority given her leadership experience, understanding of the community, and willingness to listen to people, and work hard in order to learn about the issues facing the Authority. She will work collaboratively with others to come up with workable strategies, objectives and plans. If Shellie tells you she will do something, she will. I have always enjoyed dealing with her because she is a "people person," she is willing to consider new or different ideas, and she wants to do what is right and what is best for the community. She will work well with the other members of the Authority, the community and other stakeholders. I am proud to call her my friend.

Very truly yours,

FLORENCE NAKAKUNI

It is my privilege to recommend Shellie Paiva as a member of the School Facilities Authority. Shellie and I have been teammates and friends for over 35 years. I truly believe that character traits within a person are exposed during the moments of challenging competition and adversity. During these times, Shellie has been the strongest, the most focused and without question, the most loyal. Although I have not seen her in her active role as a police officer, I am positive that these are the traits that led to her success in her career. Being a few years older than Shellie, my abilities were not able to keep up with hers during later years. It was during this time that Shellie showed her compassion, respectfulness and again, loyalty, ...always supporting her "older" teammates/friends during their weaker moments. I know Shellie will bring these qualities to the School Facilities Authority because these traits are a part of who she is.

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 1:51:13 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Eugenio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Ms. Shellie Paiva to the Hawai'i School Facilities Authority Board. I have had the privilege of knowing Ms. Paiva as my soccer coach, mentor, and role model. She has had a profound impact on my life and the lives of countless others in our community through her unwavering dedication, compassion, and leadership.

Ms. Paiva's contributions to fostering trust and positive relationships go far beyond the soccer field. She has coached at Kamehameha Schools, Punahou, and Iolani, bringing her expertise, dedication, and mentorship to young athletes across Hawai'i. Additionally, she has been a vital part of the Leahi Soccer Program, which focuses on nurturing creativity, character, and excellence in players both on and off the field. Through her involvement, Ms. Paiva has embodied and furthered these values, shaping countless young individuals into confident and capable leaders. She also created a soccer program at Halawa Housing through PACT (Parents and Children Together), providing opportunities for underserved youth to grow, learn, and thrive through the sport.

Beyond her athletic leadership, Ms. Paiva has been instrumental in initiatives like the Real and Powerful (R.A.P.) sessions at Waipahu Elementary, where she worked to bridge the gap between students and police officers. These sessions created a safe space for open dialogue, trust-building, and mutual understanding, leaving a lasting impact on young minds.

She also partnered with the Hawai'i National Guard to launch the Stay on Track program at Waipahu Intermediate School. This program brought together students from challenging circumstances and encouraged them to collaborate and develop problem-solving skills. Under her guidance, the program transformed the school environment, creating a safer and more unified community.

At Waipahu High School, Ms. Paiva worked alongside the FBI in the Adopt-a-School program. This initiative targeted 125 at-risk freshmen and proved so successful that it laid the foundation for the Law & Justice Pathway program, which remains a cornerstone of the school's curriculum today.

As an engineer who has served on several Area Development Planning committees, I have developed a deep appreciation for the importance of understanding both the community's needs and the needs of schools. Ms. Paiva's wealth of experience and unique perspective position her as someone who can successfully bridge these two vital aspects. Her ability to lead with insight and empathy ensures that she will make valuable contributions to the Hawai'i School Facilities Authority Board and effectively advocate for our community and its schools.

Through her incredible efforts, Ms. Paiva has shown her ability to lead, inspire, and create meaningful change. I am confident that her dedication, experience, and vision make her an ideal candidate for the Hawai'i School Facilities Authority Board.

Thank you for considering Ms. Paiva for this important role. Please feel free to contact me at 808-387-9704 if you have any questions or require further information.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Eugenio

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 1:54:05 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glenn Eugenio Jr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the nomination of Ms. Shellie Paiva to serve on the Hawai'i School Facilities Authority Board. I have had the privilege of knowing Ms. Paiva for many years through both professional and personal connections, and I can confidently say that her qualifications and dedication make her an outstanding candidate for this position.

As a professional in the construction industry, I have witnessed the importance of effective and thoughtful leadership in shaping the infrastructure of our schools. Ms. Paiva's extensive experience, both as a dedicated police officer and as a steadfast community leader, provides her with a unique and invaluable perspective. She has consistently demonstrated her commitment to our community, not only through her professional endeavors but also as a passionate soccer coach who has positively impacted the lives of many young people, including my two daughters; one who is now an engineer and the other a teacher.

Moreover, Ms. Paiva's deep understanding of the needs of our schools and her unwavering dedication to the betterment of our community are qualities that set her apart. Her ability to lead, inspire, and foster collaboration ensures that she will make a meaningful contribution to the Hawai'i School Facilities Authority Board.

I wholeheartedly endorse Ms. Paiva's nomination and firmly believe that she will serve with integrity, vision, and an unwavering commitment to our schools and community. If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 808-479-4783.

Thank you for considering her nomination.

Sincerely,

Glenn Eugenio

Owner

Paradise Reinforcing, Inc.



Submitted on: 4/10/2025 7:59:15 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

 Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sanford Yue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I've known and worked with Shellie Paiva for many years throughout my career in the Honolulu Police Department, and have found her to be one of the finest leaders I've had the pleasure of working with.

She posses many qualities that I believe will lead her to become successful in this position once she's confirmed.

She's very intelligent, as well as being a quick learner. Much more importantly, she's intelligent and has common sense, which is a rarity these days.

She's also an excellent teacher, who easily gets her points across to her audience.

She's very approachable and easy to talk to, and has never made me feel as though I'm her subordinate, even though I was. Furthermore, her communication skills are excellent.

During her career in the Honolulu Police Department, she advanced through the ranks very quickly, and I have no doubt that had she remained longer in the department that she would attain the rank of Assistant Chief, or higher. The department suffered a great loss when she decided to retire in December.

I have no doubt that once confirmed, Shellie will make an excellent director for the School Faciligties Authority.

Sincerely, Sanford Yue



Submitted on: 4/11/2025 1:05:08 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted B	\mathbf{y}	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tammy Fac		Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

My name is Tammy Fao, and I am a Police Communications Officer 2 with the Honolulu Police Department. I have been in the department for over 20 years and have had the privilege of knowing Retired Major Shellie Paiva for most of my career.

Shellie is a person who truly cares about her community and she has proven that with her amazing career in the Honolulu Police Department. She was the first female CRU Sergeant as well as Major for SSD. She is much respected by her peers and subordinates. She's a great friend with the heart of gold and will be there whenever you need her.

Shellie Paiva will be a very good addition to the board.

Respectfully,

Tammy Fao