

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



ALAN HAYASHI
CHAIRPERSON

ALLICYN C.H. TASAKA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

Workforce Development Division
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
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**YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, May 10, 2022
1:00 p.m. – 2:00p.m.**

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, protecting the health and welfare of the community is a priority.
The meeting was held remotely, with Board members and staff participating via an online meeting venue.*

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

Ian Kitajima, Committee Chair, Oceanit
Cary Miyashiro, Quad D Solutions
Maureen Bates, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Dept. of Human Services
David Miyashiro, HawaiiKidsCAN
Deborah Spencer-Chun, Adult Friends for Youth
Iva Cain, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Dept. of Human Services
Josiah Akau, Kinai 'Eha
Linda Puppolo, Maui County Workforce Development Board
Sheri Komatsu, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation: Oahu, Dept. of Human Services
Stacy Ferreira, State Senate, Ways & Means Committee
Steve Sue, Bizgenics Foundation
Troy Sueoka, HI Dept. of Education, Career and Technical Education
Warren Kawano, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education
Cheryl Matthews, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Dept. of Human Services
Joseph Passantino, Princess Keelikolani Middle School

STAFF:

Allicyn Tasaka, Workforce Development Division (WDD)
Harrison Kuranishi, WDD
Jaimee Tabangay, WDD
Katrina Ramos, WDD

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Committee Chair Ian Kitajima.

II. Approval of Minutes from April 26, 2022 Meeting:

Committee Chair Kitajima requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 26, 2022. A motion was made by Cary Miyashiro and seconded by Steve Sue. There were no amendments, questions, objections, or abstentions. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

III. Discussion on Committee's Short- and Long-Term Goals

The committee members continued discussion from the May 10 meeting on short- and long-term goals and projects.

Cary Miyashiro introduced Joseph Passantino, Principal of Princess Ruth Keelikolani Middle School, formerly Central Middle School, who shared the school's unique population, activities, challenges and successes. Principal Passantino explained the school has a total population of 340 students with the highest population of Chuukese/Micronesians, of whom 8% graduate (8 out of 100 students), and 92 out of 100 do not earn a diploma. These students make money illegally and live in a violent environment. There is 50% absenteeism rate with many students unable to read and function at third grade level. During the time that Principal Passantino has been leading the school, there has been an increase in comprehension and test scores at levels of 8% in math, 7% in science, and 20% in language arts. He asked members, "how to we make the students successful and transition with learning and language deficits?" He invited members to attend Micronesian family night with entertainment by the Micronesian Clubs. These activities help to build relationship and trust with parents and families. Another event they've had are food drives – food donated by the Food Bank distributed to families. The school faculty and staff will be participating in computer literacy assessments. He wants to create people who are communicators. He also added that a new media class will start next year through a partnership with Olelo.

This meeting's discussion encompassed the following ideas:

- A digital media and entrepreneurial program as a way for students to tell stories using technology, action, developing captions, engaging in community, and so on. He mentioned film festivals and borderless school concepts.
- Partnering with organizations with existing grants and provide counseling programs and services.
- DOE's Career and Technical Education have new career pathways rolling out that involve sustainable hospitality and tourism, culinary, cultural arts and media entertainment, and artisan design and entrepreneurial. Recruit people to serve on Pathway Advisory Council with expertise to review school standards, align with industry needs, and post-secondary alignment.
- Goal to develop Princess Ruth Keelikolani Middle School into a school that you would have your family attend.

- When partnering with the Micronesian community, reminder to show appreciation, that they are important, valued and proud. They live day to day, so develop methods to allow them to look to the future with hope and identify role models within the community to grow as leaders.
- This is Mental Health Awareness Month so promote peer mentors, counselors, and adjusting to remote work and back to in-person work.

IV. Next Meetings:

To continue the discussion and allow members to present proposals for consideration and action, another meeting has been scheduled for May 24, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

V. Announcements and Public Testimonies:

A. There were no announcement and public testimonies.

VI. Adjournment:

Committee Chair Kitajima adjourned the meeting at 2:08 p.m.

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