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**HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
SECTOR STRATEGIES & CAREER PATHWAYS MEETING**

MINUTES

Date: February 2, 2026
Time: 1:00 p.m.

In-Person Meeting Location: Princess Ruth Ke'elikolani Building
830 Punchbowl Street, Room 310
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Agenda: The agenda was posted to the State electronic calendars as required by §92-7(b), Hawai'i Revised Statutes ("HRS")

Board Meeting Materials: Meeting materials are available for review at <https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/meeting-docs/>

Attendees:

Members:

Cary Miyashiro, Sector Strategies & Career Pathways Committee Chair, President of Quad D Solutions
Wanelle Kaneshiro, Director of Workforce Development Branch, Hawaii Department of Education
Pat Anbe, Principal, Waipahu Community School for Adults
Corey Reincke, Hawaii Parole Authority
Erin Nicole Fernandez, Oahu workforce Development Board
Faustino Dagdag, Leeward Community College
Jarret Yip, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education
Maurea Walsh Cheers, Resource Teacher, Campbell-Kapolei Complex, Hawaii Dept. of Education
Erin Yagi, Leeward Community College
Molly Mamaril, Oahu Economic Development Board
Roseann Propato, Program Manager, Corrections Education
Troy Sueoka, Career Technical Education, Hawaii Department of Education
Vanessa Rogers, Hawaii Chamber of Commerce
Jon Henry Lee, Campbell-Kapolei Complex
Julia Altoff, Program Specialist, Development Disability Council, Hawaii Island
Lei Ana Green, DLIR Workforce Development Division
Lisa Pereira, Oahu Workforce Development Board
Randy Higa, Workforce Transition Center

Guest/Presenters:

Joy Van der Voort, Community Outreach, Federal Bureau of Investigations
Christina Sung, Federal Bureau of Investigations
Shanell Kagamida, Waikele Elementary School
Joshua Sekiya, 6th grader, Waikele Elementary School
Michelle Tavares, Academy Pathways director, Waikele Elementary School
Jacqueline Nuha-Tabernerero, Vice Principal, Waikele Elementary School

Staff:

Bennette Misalucha, Executive Director, Workforce Development Council
Jeanne Ohta, Employment Specialist, Workforce Development Council
Margaret Miura, Program Specialist, Workforce Development Council

- I. Call to Order – Cary Miyashiro, Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 1:01pm
- II. Minutes for the November 6, 2025, meeting approved without discussion and opposition.
- III. Presentations
 - A. Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)

Christina Sun presented information about the FBI Citizens Academy, held once a year. Applicants are nominated and go through a limited background check. Once selected, participants attend one night a week for 7-8 weeks from 6-9 p.m. There is also a one-day teen academy for high school students. Information will be sent to Troy Sueoka, CTE Specialist with the HI DOE. More information also available at <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices/honolulu/community-outreach>

Joy Van der Voort covered the career opportunities within the FBI and honors internship program for full-time enrolled college students that opens February 9th and closes March 5th. For more information go to <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices/honolulu/community-outreach> Note: The application process is very lengthy and some positions require training.
 - B. Waikele Elementary School
Vice Principal Shanell Kagamida and Joshua Sekiya, grade 6 student, from Waikele Elementary School, the first the NCAC (National Career Academy Coalition) elementary school model with Distinction in the nation. To support the Department of Education and Superintendent Hayashi's vision of being globally competitive and locally committed, Waikele Elementary School works with the complex as a pre-academy to support the journey through high school. As one of five schools in the complex, the goal is to expose students and lay the foundation of the 13-year journey. Globally competitive and locally committed. The 13-week program is intentionally aligned to expose students to various careers and knowledge to be successful as they go up the pipeline.
 - C. HIEMA (Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency) – was unable to present.
- IV. Executive Director's Report – Bennette Misalucha, WDC Executive Director
 - A. Update on the State Unified Plan Implementation & Plan Modification
 - Pivoting from the Four Pillar Catalyst Teams into a Generational Commitment (Learn, Work, Thrive, and Belong)

- The community-driven movement is being led by the Hawaii Funders Collaborative and the Hawaii Chamber of Commerce.
 - Currently working on the Workforce Pell which will provide grants for shorter-term training modules than the traditional Pell Grant
 - WDC is hosting a webinar series called Stronger Together: How Other State are Building Better Workforce Systems which started with an overview by the National Governors Association. The next meeting will be lessons learned by Maine, North Dakota, and wrapping up with North Carolina.
- B. Every two years, the State Unified Plan needs to be updated and aligned with a Guidance Letter from the US Department of Labor. Working with core partners, a draft is expected to be completed for approval by the board at the February 18, 2026, meeting and posted for public comment. After 30 days, a final draft will be prepared to be submitted. We are hoping to get an extension from March to April 3, 2026.
- C. Activities with the Learn, Work, Thrive Hui & focus for the new calendar year
- A public announcement is expected to be made on the Generational Commitment goals
 - A third Synergy Summit is planned for July 2026
 - In September, along with the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, Future of Work conference
 - Inaugural Hawaii Internship Summit will be on March 4, 2026, in partnership with the Hawaii Employers Council at the Japanese Chamber of Commerce Hawaii. In addition to interns, the event will honor organizations with outstanding internship programs and coordinators. Please send in your nominations.
- V. Updates and Announcements - none
- VI. Next Meeting: Monday, April 13, 2026, at 1:00 pm
Virtual Videoconferencing Meeting via Zoom and in-person at 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 317, Honolulu, HI 96813
- VII. Meeting adjourned at 2:21 p.m.

Reasonable accommodation for people with disabilities is available upon request. Requests for accommodations should be submitted via email to Bennette.E.Misalucha@hawaii.gov or by calling Bennette Misalucha at (808) 586- 3018 (voice) as soon as possible. Such requests should include a detailed description of the accommodation needed. In addition, please include a way for Bennette Misalucha to contact the requester if more information is needed to fulfill the request. Last-minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to accommodate. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate formats.