



**STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD
TEACHER STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING**

MINUTES

Remote Technology via Zoom

650 Iwilei Road, Suite 158
Honolulu, HI 96817

Friday, April 24, 2026

PRESENT IN-PERSON:

Kristi Miyamae, Ex Officio Committee Member, Board Chair

PRESENT ONLINE:

Dr. Katina Soares, Committee Chair
Dale Matsuura, Committee Vice Chair
Kahele Dukelow for Roy Takumi, Committee Member
Justin Mew, Committee Member
Daphne Okunaga, Committee Member
Dondra Ozaki, Ex Officio Committee Member, Board Vice Chair

EXCUSED:

Deanna D'Olier, Committee Member

STAFF:

Felicia Villalobos, Board Executive Director
Dr. Mitzie Higa, Licensing Specialist
Tracey Idica, NBCT, Licensing Specialist
Kaulana Molina, NBCT, Licensing Specialist
Kris Murakami, Esq., Licensing Specialist
Dr. Jennifer Padua, Licensing Specialist

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM

Committee Chair Dr. Katina Soares called the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board ("HTSB") Teacher Standards Committee ("Committee") meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. She called roll call to establish quorum. Ex Officio Committee Member Kristi Miyamae was present in-person. Committee Chair Dr. Soares; Committee Vice Chair Dale Matsuura; Committee Members Kahele Dukelow, Justin Mew, and Daphne Okunaga; and Ex Officio Committee Member Dondra Ozaki were present online. Committee Member Deanna D'Olier was excused.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares shared information regarding procedures for virtual committee meetings. She shared information regarding non-public site disclosure. None of the Committee Members participating online had anyone present with them to disclose. Committee Chair Dr. Soares shared additional information regarding meeting protocols and procedures.

B. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS

On-time and late written testimonies were submitted and posted to HTSB's website. No one signed up for in-person or online public testimony.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares wanted it on record that written testimony had been submitted and would be referenced later.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were made.

D. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the January 16, 2026, meeting were approved as written.

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS

Office of Hawaiian Education (OHE) Specialist Anela Iwane testified on behalf of Dawn Kau'i Sang, Director of the Office of Hawaiian Education for NBI 25-22 Revised Policy on Hawaiian Permits Requirements, Program Responsibilities, and Review. She testified in support of NBI 25-22 Revisions because it reflects the shared understanding of the Hawaiian Workgroup meeting on February 12, 2026, and confirm the value of ensuring strong collaboration among parties with the most appropriate experience in responding to the needs of the Papahāna Kaiapuni classrooms.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares asked if there was any other testimony.

There was no written or oral testimony.

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. NBI 25-26: License Affirmation (December 2025 and January 2026)

Committee Chair Dr. Soares reviewed NBI 25-26, affirming the licenses and permits for December 2025 and January 2026.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares asked the Committee if there were any questions or discussion.

Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae asked Committee Chair Dr. Soares, if she should abstain from voting on this NBI because Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae's license was up for renewal.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares deferred to HTSB Staff for advice and history on the process for Board members' license renewals.

HTSB Executive Director (ED) Villalobos stated that in history members recused themselves from voting.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares deferred to Committee Vice Chair Matsuura.

Committee Vice Chair Matsuura stated that she will also abstain due to her license being up for renewal.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares deferred to Committee Member Mew.

Committee Member Mew made a statement on past practices and statutes for abstaining.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares stated that even without the votes of Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae and Committee Vice Chair Matsuura we are still able to have enough quorum.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares called for a roll call vote on whether or not to recommend NBI 25-26, as written, to the full board ("Board") at the general business meeting scheduled at 2:45 p.m.

AYE (5)	Soares, Dukelow, Mew, Okunaga, Ozaki
NAY (0)	
ABSTAIN (1)	Matsuura
RECUSE (1)	Miyamae
EXCUSED (1)	D'Olier

ACTION — The Teacher Standards Committee voted to recommend NBI 25-26, as written, to the Board.

B. NBI 25-36: License Affirmation (February 2026 and March 2026)

Committee Chair Dr. Soares reviewed NBI 25-36, affirming the licenses and permits for February and March 2026.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares asked the Committee if there were any questions or discussion. There were no questions or discussion from the Committee.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares called for a roll call vote on whether or not to recommend NBI 25-36, as written, to the Board at the general business meeting scheduled at 2:45 p.m.

UNAPPROVED

AYE (6)	Soares, Dukelow, Mew, Okunaga, Miyamae, Ozaki
NAY (0)	
ABSTAIN (1)	Matsuura
EXCUSED (1)	D'Olier

ACTION — The Teacher Standards Committee voted to recommend NBI 25-36, as written, to the Board.

C. NBI 25-27: Standard Limited Career and Technical Education Licensure Criteria to Meet Act 151

Committee Chair Dr. Soares reviewed NBI 25-27, highlighting the Rationale/Background and the NBI's history. She explained that the CTE workgroup has been working on this NBI since 2023 to keep up with the laws and policies, including matching the 13 CTE pathways. This NBI also clarified comparable education and adding language of NC-SARA so any candidates enrolling in a non-HTSB program are aware their requirements may not be accepted for licensure in Hawai'i. She explained that the updated language was written in red.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares deferred to ED Villalobos to add anything before going to discussion.

ED Villalobos explained that this NBI took a while because it required the legislature to change the Hawaii Revised Statutes. Once the changes were made by the legislature, Licensing Specialist and her Licensing clerk presented research practices in the U.S. and then worked with the Career Technical Education (CTE) Workgroup.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares deferred to Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae.

Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae asked to add clearer language for successful clinical experience "as outlined in Hawaii Administrative Rules" for Options A and B.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares deferred to Committee Member Mew.

Committee Member Mew agreed with having clearer language of successful clinical experience.

Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae made a motion to add the language "as outlined in Hawaii Administrative Rules" to the bullet points in Option A and Option B.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares asked for a second motion.

Committee Vice Chair Matsuura made a second motion.

HTSB staff displayed and edited the NBI.

Committee Chair Soares asked if there were any more comments/discussion on NBI 25-27.

UNAPPROVED

Committee Vice Chair Matsuura made a comment on the importance of CTE, especially in high schools.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares asked the Committee if there were any questions or discussion about the amendment. No other comments or discussion were made.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares called for a roll call vote on the motion to amend NBI 25-27:

AYE (7)	Soares, Matsuura, Dukelow, Mew, Okunaga, Miyamae, Ozaki
NAY (0)	
EXCUSED (1)	D'Olier

The Teacher Standards Committee voted to amend NBI 25-27.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares asked the Committee if there were any questions or discussion on NBI 25-27, as amended, as a whole. There were no questions or discussion from the Committee.

Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae thanked the workgroup and made a statement on National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI) Testing to attain the CTE licenses and deferred to ED Villalobos.

ED Villalobos made a statement about NOCTI Testing and testing options. She also stated meeting with Pearson and the Educational Testing Services (ETS) staff. ED Villalobos discussed the importance of working with the Hawaii Department of Education to ensure tests align with the CTE Pathways and the ACCN courses. She is excited about future test options and hopes the Board will vote to adopt the tests. Currently, the test cost is about \$175.00

Committee Chair Dr. Soares asked the Committee if there were any questions or discussion on NBI 25-27.

No further discussion was made.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares called for a roll call vote on whether or not to recommend NBI 25-27, as amended, to the Board at the general business meeting scheduled at 2:45 p.m.:

AYE (7)	Soares, Matsuura, Dukelow, Mew, Okunaga, Miyamae, Ozaki
NAY (0)	
EXCUSED (1)	D'Olier

ACTION — The Teacher Standards Committee voted to recommend NBI 25-27, as amended, to the Board.

D. NBI 25-22 Revised: Policy on Hawaiian Permit Requirements, Program Responsibilities, and Review

Committee Chair Dr. Soares presented NBI 25-22 Revised and explained that there have been several iterations with the Hawaiian Workgroup, it was reintroduced in January, then deferred. It was scheduled to be presented at the March 2026 meeting, but the meeting was canceled. She explained the Hawaii Administrative Rules, eligibility criteria, conditions, requirements, and a periodic review every three years, with the scope and evaluative criteria. She referenced the revisions that were struck out or underlined.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares deferred to ED Villalobos to elaborate on the timeline and process of the Hawaiian Workgroup.

ED Villalobos stated this NBI was a hot topic legislatively and in the public. She explained that the HTSB staff organized the workgroup with the Hawaiian Workgroup members. The NBI first came about after an in-person meeting with the Hawaiian Workgroup members. The NBI was circulated among the Hawaiian Workgroup members and Committee Chair Dr. Soares. There was consensus that the NBI could be a part of the January 16, 2026 Board meeting. But then the workgroup spoke to their stakeholder groups and testimony came in requesting changes. ED Villalobos elaborated that there have been statements in the public by legislators that this NBI was voted on and that is inaccurate. The NBI was deferred and no vote took place. The Teacher Standards committee decided to defer the NBI in January to give Hawaiian Workgroup members more time to discuss the language.

ED Villalobos stated that there was another Hawaiian Workgroup meeting, and that the language on the revised NBI was a consensus reached at that meeting. She explained that HTSB staff are there to facilitate the meetings and ensure information is in compliance with federal and state laws. ED Villalobos also mentioned that no members of any stakeholder group contacted her regarding their concerns about this NBI.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares stated that a couple of Hawaiian Workgroup members met with her before this meeting to ensure there was consensus with the language and agreed upon. She mentioned that testimonies had been submitted in support of NBI 25-22 Revised. Committee Chair Dr. Soares then asked if there were any more questions or discussions and deferred to Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae.

Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae made a statement on the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC SARA) was stricken out, and emphasized how NC SARA is a federal consumer protection act for the candidates. Board Chair Miyamae made a motion to restore the NC SARA language to the NBI.

Committee Member Mew asked why it was stricken out, and he agreed with Board Chair Miyamae's statement.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares stated the Hawaiian Permit was supposed to be presented before the CTE Permit, and moving forward, the NC SARA would be added to all permits. Committee Chair Dr. Soares stated that since there was disagreement on the language in the Hawaiian Permit, NC SARA was taken out so it would not be a point of opposition.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares deferred to Committee Member Dukelow if she wanted to add anything to what has been said.

Committee Member Dukelow deferred to OHE Specialist Iwane for more clarification of why NC SARA was taken out.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares deferred to Executive Director Villalobos to clarify due to technical difficulties for OHE Specialist Iwane.

ED Villalobos stated that there was concern that NC SARA would only apply to the Hawaiian Permit, not to the other permits. ED Villalobos stated that she reassured the Hawaiian Workgroup members that NC SARA would be added to all permits. It is not on the Emergency Hire Permits because there has not been a workgroup. ED Villalobos stated that she informed the Hawaiian Workgroup members that NC SARA should be added so teacher candidate are aware of program requirements. She stated recent examples where candidates attended a non-approved HTSB program and were misguided and exhausted all of their Emergency Hire Permits. ED Villalobos stated that the NC SARA law is for the teacher candidates, and OHE would not need to be monitored.

OHE Specialist Iwane presented the discussion on NC SARA with the workgroup and explained how it should be implemented across all NBIs rather than one by one. She stated the language was changed in the NBI when it appeared on the agenda.

Committee Chair Soares deferred to ED Villalobos to address how NC SARA would be adopted more broadly.

ED Villalobos stated NC SARA is currently on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board website and that many people do not navigate the website. She explained the importance of NC SARA on all permits because there are concerns from teacher candidates who ultimately pay the price, as it can lead to extending their program and financial burden. She explained that the committee can decide if the NC SARA should be put on a similar basis to the CTE Permit and reiterated protecting the teacher candidates.

Committee Member Dukelow made a statement on NC SARA and in support of the current proposed version of NBI 25-22 without NC SARA due to the Hawaiian Workgroup members intentionally taking it out.

Committee Member Mew disclosed his wife was the administrator who implemented NC SARA in Hawai'i. He reiterated that it is a federal requirement and a consumer protection act under the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA). Committee Member Mew said it would be good to draw attention to NC SARA for the permit holders and supports Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae.

Committee Member Okunaga stated the concerns about bringing back the NC SARA language and the Hawaiian workgroup's response.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares asked the Committee if there were any questions or discussion on NBI 25-22.

Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae deferred to ED Villalobos and asked how to put the NC SARA language everywhere or on all NBIs at once.

ED Villalobos stated that NC SARA is on the HTSB website and on the CTE permit. The other possible way is to put it in the Hawaii Administrative Rules. She mentioned there were

many complaints nationwide and that she had met with representatives from the US Department of Education about the history and rationale of NC SARA. ED Villalobos also stated that the Board can create another NBI on NC-SARA.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares deferred to Committee Member Dukelow.

Committee Member Dukelow wanted to clarify that she agrees that students know about NC-SARA and stated that the universities must report on their involvement with NC SARA. Committee Member Dukelow said that if the NC SARA language had been a requirement, it should have been stated at the Hawaiian Workgroup meeting so they could have a conversation. Committee Member Dukelow stated the reasoning behind the response to NC SARA was inserting the language of the NBI without being notified. Committee Member Dukelow highlighted that she wasn't opposed to the NC SARA language; however, she emphasized the procedures used to implement it and opposed adding the NC SARA language to NBI 25-22.

Licensing Specialist Murakami stated the purpose of NC SARA was to put institutions on notice that they have an obligation to have the disclosure and disclaimer for the students. She added that NC SARA is not just for teacher candidates but also for any profession, such as doctors and nurses. The institutions should make the requirements clear and have their students sign an acknowledgment of them when enrolling in their program.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares thanked Board Chair Miyamae's suggestion and is in support of honoring the language that the Hawaiian Workgroup decided and asked if anyone wanted to make a motion and vote to revise the language.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares deferred to Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae.

Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae asked OHE Specialist Iwane whether someone with a Hawaiian Permit who went into a Westernized Hawai'i State Approved Teacher Education Program (SATEP) that does not teach Hawaiian or Immersion will be observed by a Westernized SATEP that does not know the Hawaiian Language? What safeguards are in place?

OHE Specialist Iwane stated the Kaiapuni program is 40 years old and the establishment of the Kaiapuni license is fairly new. She explained that the foundational leaders attended only an elementary or secondary program. She stated that most Hawaiian Permit holders are graduates of Kaiapuni and have 13 plus years of experience. She stated the proposed language in the NBI that non-Kaiapuni SATEP programs will be responsible in providing that support. OHE Specialist Iwane highlighted that teachers in the Kaiapuni program go through the EES process, and most Kaiapuni administrators do not speak Hawaiian and are building their language proficiency. She said there are supports in place to help teachers understand language while pursuing licensure in Elementary or Secondary. She stated that in the Hawaiian Workgroup discussions, the two Kaiapuni preparation programs do not have the

capacity to prepare for every certification, and some individuals may go to an English medium certification pathway. Or they may have an add a field option.

Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae asked for clarification again on how Hawaiian Permit holders would be observed if they are teaching 'ōlelo Hawai'i, to ensure safeguards are in place.

OHE Specialist Iwane stated that programs would need to seek out translators, and that teacher leaders in schools provide support for real-time or in-person translation.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares deferred to Committee Member Dukelow.

Committee Member Dukelow stated that the school is ensuring the teacher has language proficiency, Hawaiian and indigenous pedagogy, teacher candidates' degrees, and their backgrounds. She stated that there are some universal pedagogical and does not want to limit candidates to Kaiapuni programs.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares asked the Committee if there were any questions or discussion on NBI 25-22.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares moved to recommend NBI 25-22 Revised to the full Board.

ED Villalobos reminded Committee Chair Dr. Soares of the point of order and was still looking at the revision unless the motion maker had withdrawn the revision.

Ex Officio Committee Member Miyamae withdrew her motion to revise NBI 25-22.

No further discussion was made.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares called for a roll call vote on whether or not to recommend NBI 25-22 Revised, as written, to the Board at the general business meeting scheduled at 2:45 p.m.

AYE (7)	Soares, Matsuura, Dukelow, Mew, Okunaga, Miyamae, Ozaki
NAY (0)	
EXCUSED (1)	D'Olier

ACTION — The Teacher Standards Committee voted to recommend NBI 25-22 Revised, as written, to the Board.

E. NBI 25-43: Adoption of Elementary Education: Math Specialist K-6 Licensure Field

Committee Chair Dr. Soares reviewed NBI 25-43, highlighting the Rationale/Background, the focus on math and education and the need for math expertise and coaches within the department.

ED Villalobos explained that NBI 25-43 has become a national trend in math education. e. She highlighted the reasoning behind the two NBIs, which is to establish the licensure field and the Praxis test to be added to an active license. ED Villalobos explained having monthly meetings with ETS Praxis staff and learning about new tests or national trends.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares asked the Committee if there were any questions or discussion. There were no questions or discussions from the Committee.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares called for a roll call vote on whether or not to recommend NBI 25-43, as written, to the Board at the general business meeting scheduled at 2:45 p.m.

AYE (7)	Soares, Matsuura, Dukelow, Mew, Okunaga, Miyamae, Ozaki
NAY (0)	
EXCUSED (1)	D'Olier

ACTION — The Teacher Standards Committee voted to recommend NBI 25-44, as written, to the Board.

F. NBI 25-44: Adoption of Praxis Licensure Exam for Elementary Education: Math Specialist (5037)

Committee Chair Dr. Soares reviewed NBI 25-44, explained the previous NBI was for the license field and this NBI is for the license test.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares deferred to ED Villalobos.

ED Villalobos stated that the study companion is there for the public to view and hopefully teachers can use it for test prep.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares asked the Committee if there were any questions or discussion. There were no questions or discussions from the Committee.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares called for a roll call vote on whether or not to recommend NBI 25-44, as written, to the Board at the general business meeting scheduled at 2:45 p.m.

AYE (7)	Soares, Matsuura, Dukelow, Mew, Okunaga, Miyamae, Ozaki
NAY (0)	
EXCUSED (1)	D'Olier

ACTION — The Teacher Standards Committee voted to recommend NBI 25-44, as written, to the Board.

Committee Chair Dr. Soares explained that this was her last meeting. She thanked everyone for their hard work and their service to our kids, our community, and our whole education system in Hawai'i.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Dr. Soares adjourned the Teacher Standards Committee Meeting at 12:15 p.m.

UNAPPROVED

List of people who submitted written testimony before the April 24, 2026, meeting

<i>ON-TIME WRITTEN TESTIMONY for the 4/24/2026 Teacher Standards Committee Meeting</i>		
None		

<i>LATE WRITTEN TESTIMONY for the 4/24/2026 Teacher Standards Committee Meeting</i>		
NAME	ORGANIZATION	AGENDA ITEM
Dawn Kau'i Sang	Hawai'i Department of Education, Office of Hawaiian Education	III.D. NBI 25-22 Revised: Policy on Hawaiian Permit Requirements, Program Responsibilities, and Review

List of people who submitted written testimony for the cancelled March 13, 2026, meeting

<i>ON-TIME WRITTEN TESTIMONY for the <u>cancelled</u> 3/13/2026 Teacher Standards Committee Meeting</i>		
NAME	ORGANIZATION	3/13/2026 AGENDA ITEM
Robert Kai Irwin		III.C. NBI 25-22 Revised: Policy on Hawaiian Permit Requirements, Program Responsibilities, and Review
Faryn "Kalei" Oliver		III.C. NBI 25-22 Revised: Policy on Hawaiian Permit Requirements, Program Responsibilities, and Review
Pililuaikēkaiohilo M.Q. Keala, EdD	University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Hawai'inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge	III.C. NBI 25-22 Revised: Policy on Hawaiian Permit Requirements, Program Responsibilities, and Review
Kananinohea Māka'imoku		III.C. NBI 25-22 Revised: Policy on Hawaiian Permit Requirements, Program Responsibilities, and Review

<i>LATE WRITTEN TESTIMONY for the <u>cancelled</u> 3/13/2026 Teacher Standards Committee Meeting</i>		
NAME	ORGANIZATION	3/13/2026 AGENDA ITEM
Kanoe Kanaka'ole		III.C. NBI 25-22 Revised: Policy on Hawaiian Permit Requirements, Program Responsibilities, and Review
Kim Koga	Waiau Elementary School	III.C. NBI 25-22 Revised: Policy on Hawaiian Permit Requirements, Program Responsibilities, and Review