UNAPPROVED

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAIʻI TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD
TEACHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Remote Technology via Zoom

650 Iwilei Road, Suite 158
Honolulu, HI 96817

Friday, September 11, 2026

PRESENT IN-PERSON:

Dr. Jonathan Gillentine, Ex Officio Committee Member, Board Chair

PRESENT ONLINE:

Dr. Jamie Simpson Steele for Dr. Nathan Murata, Committee Chair
Logan Okita, Committee Vice Chair
Kahele Dukelow for Roy Takumi, Committee Member
Brad Kusunoki, Committee Member
Dale Matsuura, Ex Officio Committee Member, Board Vice Chair

EXCUSED:

Leah Aiwohi, Committee Member

STAFF:

Dr. Mitzie Higa, Interim Executive Director
Steven Harada, Licensing Specialist
Tracey Idica, NBCT, Licensing Specialist
Dr. Jennifer Padua, Licensing Specialist

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM

Committee Chair Dr. Jamie Simpson Steele called the Hawaiʻi Teacher Standards Board ("HTSB") Teacher Education Committee ("Committee") meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele confirmed that the recording had started. She called roll call and established quorum. Ex Officio Committee Member Dr. Gillentine was present in-person. Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele; Committee Vice Chair Logan Okita; Committee Members Kahele Dukelow and Brad Kusunoki; and Ex Officio Committee Member Dale Matsuura were present online. Committee Member Leah Aiwohi was excused due to being on Kauaʻi and impacted by Hurricane Lowell.

Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele shared information regarding procedures for virtual board meetings and non-public site disclosure. None of the Committee Members participating online had anyone present with them. Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele shared additional information regarding meeting protocols and procedures.

B. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS

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

Kahea Faria, former, K-12 Hawaiian immersion classroom Teacher, and current participant at the University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa ("UHM") Master of Education in Teaching program, testified online via Zoom in strong support of Agenda Item III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Review Process. She emphasized the strength of the MEdT program, the effort the MEdT program is making to address emergent teacher shortages, as well as to request modification for the MEdT program. The request is to modify the program to recognize grade bands K-6 and 6-12 separately within the current K-12 pathway for licensure approval. This is to meet the modernized needs of the community with the rising number of immersion teachers and declining number of K-12 settings. She noted that she is aware and wondering why this modification was not on the current meeting agenda.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele utilized this time to welcome all new Committee Members and to express gratitude for their time and for "their public service to supporting teacher quality across the state of Hawaiʻi."

D. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele called for the Committee to review the previous meeting minutes from the April 24, 2026, meeting, and confirmed that no corrections needed to be made. The minutes of the April 24, 2026, meeting were approved as written.

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS

No one else signed up for in-person or online public testimony.

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Review Process

Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele introduced NBI 25-32 Revised.

Ex Officio Committee Member Dr. Gillentine raised his hand and was permitted to establish his gratitude to "Board Member Kahele Dukelow for her sustained work on this particular NBI." He then offered the following questions, edits, and comments:

- "On page 3, under Educator Preparation programs, the third listing says Private Educator Preparation Program. Board Member Kahele Dukelow, would you kind of expand on that, who might be some eligible, institutions for that particular representation?"
    - Committee Member Dukelow stated that she could not recall all institutions, but she was thinking Kahoʻiwai, and agreed with Ex Officio Committee Member Dr. Gillentine that Chaminade would be another institution.
- "And the bullet above that, University of Hawaiʻi Community College Educator Preparation Program, that would, default to Leeward? I think they're the only ones that have Teacher Ed program. Is that your understanding?"
    - Committee Member Dukelow stated Leeward and Kapiʻolani, and the pathway that is shared across the community colleges as well.
- Edit suggestion: to replace "approves the following appointments for The Hawaiʻi Teacher Standards Board will establish" with "establishes."
- Edit suggestion: on page 3, insert Board to the line: "HTSB member with educator preparation/licensure expertise."
- Comment: While he did not think it needed to be stricken, he did want to make note that "typically the timeline would not be included in a rationale. It's, once everything is put together, then the staff will work with the workgroup itself to establish the timeline."

Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele thanked Ex Officio Committee Member Dr. Gillentine, and then opened for further discussion.

Committee Member Dukelow stated that this is a result of experience on the full board ("Board"), going through the process, listening to testimony, and wondering "whose kuleana is this particular thing, where the boundaries were, and what the criteria were." She then stated that these things were not clear to the programs or to her, and she thinks it is "good to review practice and create common understanding between programs and reviewers and HTSB." Finally, she stated that she had heard "the process is so arduous that we're not even going to apply;" which is one of the things that led to this process.

Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele then stated that she was informed that there was a second needed on Ex Officio Committee Member Dr. Gillentine's motion to amend NBI 25-32 Revised. Committee Vice Chair Okita offered a second to the amendments suggested by Ex Officio Committee Member Dr. Gillentine. Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele was then informed that there needed to be a vote on the amendments to NBI 25-32 Revised.

Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele called for a roll call vote on the amendments for NBI 25-32 Revised:

AYE (6)	Simpson Steele, Okita, Dukelow, Kusunoki, Gillentine, Matsuura,
NAY (0)	
EXCUSED (1)	Aiwohi

The Teacher Education Committee voted to amend NBI 25-32 Revised.

Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele focused the Committee back to the discussion.

Committee Vice Chair Okita showed gratitude by stating the following: “I want to thank the folks who put in the work to take in the feedback that was given throughout last year’s sessions and board meetings. The work that was put in not only in the body, but in the rationale shows the response to the concerns in the community and the feedback that was given to the board prior to me joining; and the written testimony that was submitted shows that their voices have been heard, and we’re on a good path to move forward, so thank you very much.”

Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele asked if there was any further discussion and then informed all members and non-members that only Board Members are able to contribute to the discussion of the New Business Item (“NBI”).

Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele called for a roll call vote on whether or not to recommend NBI 25-32 Revised, as amended, to the Board at the general business meeting scheduled at 1:00 p.m.:

AYE (6)	Simpson Steele, Okita, Dukelow, Kusunoki, Gillentine, Matsuura
NAY (0)	
EXCUSED (1)	Aiwohi

ACTION — The Teacher Education Committee voted to recommend NBI 25-32 Revised, as amended, to the Board.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Dr. Simpson Steele adjourned the Teacher Education Committee Meeting at 11:22 a.m.

UNAPPROVED

List of people who submitted written testimony before the meeting

ON-TIME WRITTEN TESTIMONY for Teacher Education Committee Meeting		
NAME	ORGANIZATION	AGENDA ITEM
Kahea Faria	University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa	III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
Kimo Cashman, PhD	University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa	III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
Cathy K Ikeda, EdD Stephanie H Kamai, EdD	University of Hawai‘i–West O‘ahu	III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
Hali Kanoelani Pacheco		III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
Brandi Cutler		III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
Hui Makua O Pū‘ōhala		III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
Sara Cook	University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa	III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
Rhonda S. Black	University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa	III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
A. Ku‘ulei Serna	University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa	III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
Tiffany L. Nerveza-Clark	State Kaiapuni Distance Learning Program	III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
Stephanie Furuta	University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa	III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
Dr. Larry L. Kimura	University of Hawai‘i at Hilo	III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
Dawn Kau‘i Sang	Hawai‘i Department of Education, Office of Hawaiian Education	III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
Kananinohea Māka‘imoku		III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process

LATE WRITTEN TESTIMONY for Teacher Education Committee Meeting		
NAME	ORGANIZATION	AGENDA ITEM
Hope Pualani McKeen		III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process
Andrea Eshelman	Hawai‘i State Teachers Association	III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process

Eōmailani Kukahiko	University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa	III.A. NBI 25-32 Revised: Establish Committee to Strengthen Program Revision Process