



September 28, 2006

DEPT. COMM. NO. 6

The Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 003
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. President:

I transmit to you a copy of our report, *Management Audit of Kailua High School*.

We found that the school's history of unsuccessful improvement efforts presents significant challenges in bringing school reform to every classroom. Although the school adopted the High Schools That Work (HSTW) program in 1996, school leaders have faced challenges in adopting the program's ten key practices. In addition, ineffective support from the Department of Education leaves the school scrambling to meet education improvement goals set by the Reinventing Education Act of 2004 (Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004). Finally, management of the school's business and athletics administration need improvement, especially as the school readies itself for more autonomy under Act 51.

We recommend that school community councils establish a process to monitor the school's commitment to and effectiveness in meeting its goals. To that end, we found that these councils would be more effective if the Legislature authorized them to recruit and select their membership on the basis of expertise rather than representation.

We hope that the report will assist you in reviewing the issues examined. We will place the report on our website, www.state.hi.us/auditor, and release it to the public and press, on Friday, September 29, 2006.

Sincerely,

Marion M. Higa
State Auditor

Enclosure

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c: Paul Kawaguchi, Senate Clerk