

Legislative Federal Economic Stimulus Program Oversight Commission
10/12/10

I. Meeting called to order- 10:02 AM

Members present-

Kate Stanley- appointee of the Speaker of the House
Mark Anderson- appointee of the Governor
Ed Kemp- appointee of Senator Hemmings
Jennifer Sabas- appointee of Senator Inouye
Aaron Johanson- appointee of the House Minority Leader
Michael Kitamura- appointee of Senator Akaka

Members not present-

Senator Shan Tsutsui- Senate member
Representative Michael Magaoay- House of Representatives member
Kyle Chock- appointee of the Senate President
Kehau Yap- appointee of Congresswoman Hirono

Others present- Keira Kamiya- office of Senator Tsutsui; Judy Fomin- office of Representative Magaoay; Ted Baker- Legislative Reference Bureau; members of the public

II. Adoption of Minutes

Adoption of minutes was deferred

III. General Business

- A. The Charter Schools and the Governor's Office will be invited to make a further presentation before the Commission in May 2011 and perhaps also the Department of Education and the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism because of the large amount of ARRA funds those departments are administering
- B. The presentation by the Governor's Office scheduled for today has been rescheduled to 10/26 because the representative is not available

IV. Overview of Federal Stimulus Funds

- A. Presentation of the Department of Education (DOE) by Kathryn Matayoshi, Superintendent, and Bob Campbell, Executive Assistant
 1. Highlights
 - Using the slide presentation to be posted on the Commission's webpage and answers to the Commission's questionnaire already posted, DOE updated the presentation it made on 12/22/09

- The State has received a \$75 million Race to the Top Award to be expended over 4 years comprised of \$6.9 million for alignment and performance monitoring of organizational functions, \$8.4 million for high quality standards and assessments, \$9.8 million for data collection and information reporting, \$31.2 million for effective teaching and leading, and \$18.7 million for targeted support to struggling schools and teachers
- The State has also just been awarded \$11 million under the School Improvement Grant (SIG) program; the funds were obtained after a lengthy application process and will be used over 3 years in concert with Race to the Top funding for the DOE's "Zones" concept for struggling schools

2. Discussion

- The State Fiscal Stabilization Fund Part B is to be expended at the discretion of the Governor and the Governor's Office will be able to explain how it is being allocated
- No ARRA funds are being used to increase teacher salaries; salaries are established pursuant to the collective bargaining agreement
- The Race to the Top Funding was finalized at the end of 9/10 and a work plan is due to the US DoE by 11/22/10, to be followed up with progress reports (monthly conference calls)
- Much of ARRA educational funding has been focused on underperforming schools (for example, Leeward District and the School for the Deaf/Blind) and channeled through existing programs and is distributed to districts statewide and then to schools by formula
- Although there may be a "cliff effect" attributable to the exhaustion of ARRA funds, Title I and IDEA funds are never guaranteed in any event because they are not necessarily ongoing sources of funding and there is no expectation that they will become so
- Computers that were replaced with ARRA-funded purchases had been on lease and were returned when the lease expired
- The \$158 thousand allocation for private school partners needing funds is mandatory
- SIG funding relates to Race to the Top to the extent that many of the same schools are serviced, 6 of them having been identified so far

- The federal Education Jobs Fund support may ease the "cliff effect" on teacher funding that was temporarily avoided via ARRA SFSF Part A funding
- Education jobs supported by the federal Education Jobs Fund are subject to Section 1412 reporting requirements

B. Presentation of the Charter Schools Administrative Office by Roger McKeague, Deputy Administrator

1. Highlights

- Using the Executive Summary and spread sheet posted on the Commission's webpage, DOE updated the presentation it made on 12/1/09
- \$2.8 million in SFSF Part A funds has been allocated to the Charter Schools, will be distributed to the schools on a per-pupil basis to reimburse employee salaries once the official enrollment count is complete on 10/15, and will be expended by the end of 11/10
- \$1.8 million in SFSF Part B funds has been expended in 2010 to reimburse schools for the salaries of Educational Resource Managers leaving a \$1.3 million balance that will be expended in FY 2011
- \$584 thousand in SFSF Part B funds has been approved for 28 Accreditation Initiative activities, an additional 19 activities totaling \$800 thousand are pending approval, and \$111 thousand has been spent for accreditation reimbursements at 4 schools
- \$955 thousand in SFSF Part B funds has been approved for 54 Highly Effective Teachers & Instructional Staff (HETIS) Initiative activities, an additional 49 activities totaling \$612 thousand are pending approval, and \$279 thousand has been spent for HETIS for 11 schools
- \$2.3 million in SFSF Part B funds has been allocated to the charter schools by the Governor for FY 2011 to reimburse instructional staff salaries and thereby avoid furlough Fridays at charter schools; funding will be distributed on per-pupil basis like Part A funds after the official enrollment count is complete on 10/15

2. Discussion

- The accreditation plan was suggested by the Governor and involves individual schools seeking accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges with assistance and guidance from the Charter Schools Administrative Office

- Charter schools will be required to do "outcome" reports with regard to their accreditation efforts
- The Charter Schools Administrative Office is working with Kamehameha Schools on the Accreditation Initiative
- More accreditation will permit the establishment of more charter schools under recently enacted legislation
- Charter schools are taking advantage of the Race to the Top reform initiatives and participating in the Longitudinal Data Study to further data-based decision making

V. Public Comments

There were no comments or questions from members of the public present at the meeting.

VI. Adjournment

With a reminder that the next meeting would be held on October 26, 2010, with presentations from the Department of Transportation, the Office of the Governor, and Commission member Mark Anderson, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.