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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY –  
STATUS REPORT ON ARRA FUNDS**

The Charter School Administrative Office (CSAO) is pleased to present this memorandum to the legislative federal economic stimulus program oversight commission to update the commission on the status of the stimulus funding provided to the charter schools. Attached is a spreadsheet detailing the allotments and expenditures of the State Fiscal Stabilization Funds for the charter schools. The charter schools received ARRA funding through two funds, the education fund and the government services fund. Under the government services fund, the Governor approved four initiatives for funding for the charter schools. The status of these four initiatives and the Education Fund are updated below.

**A. EDUCATION FUND (Part A)**

In fiscal year 2010, \$4,088,212 was allotted to the charter schools. All of these funds were expended last year to reimburse the salaries of employees at the school level. The funds were distributed on a pro rata share to each school according to their enrollment.

For fiscal year 2011, \$2,835,696 was allotted to the charter schools. Like last year, these funds will be distributed to the schools on a per-pupil basis to reimburse the salaries of employees. The charter schools official enrollment count is made on October 15. After the count is complete, we will calculate each school's share and distribute based on salary reimbursements accordingly. We have and continue to document all reimbursements via payroll certifications.

**B. GOVERNMENT SERVICES FUND (Part B) –  
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE MANAGER (ERM) INITIATIVE**

This initiative funds an educational resource manager (ERM) position at each charter school. This allotment was made for the entire biennium. The ERM will be responsible for ensuring each student has access to appropriate, available resources so that they can optimize their learning. The ERM will also coordinate

student assessment, and track and report results for ARRA-funded initiatives at the school.

The ERM's duties may vary at each charter school, but every ERM will have the following core responsibilities:

- Ensuring that their school provides a robust educational program, consistent with its unique mission and vision, that leads to excellent student outcomes on challenging state assessments;
- Identifying students with special needs and ensuring that these students receive required services and support (i.e., FAPE);
- Identifying ELL students and ensuring that these students receive the required services and support;
- Acting as the test coordinator for the state's standardized achievement tests (i.e., H.S.A. and H.A.P.A.) at the school level; and
- Leading accountability initiatives such as tracking and reporting on ARRA-funded programs and expenditures.

### **ERM INITIATIVE STATUS**

To date, we have drawn down 2 amounts - \$1,008,540.98 in May, 2010, and \$786,693.91 in September, 2010 - to reimburse the schools for salaries paid for their designated ERM positions.

There is a total of \$1,299,404.11 remaining for the ERM funding requested by the schools. We anticipate all funding for ERM will be exhausted within the current fiscal year.

### **C. GOVERNMENT SERVICES FUND (PART B) – ACCREDITATION INITIATIVE**

The original purpose of accreditation in the United States was designed to encourage the standardization of secondary school programs, primarily to ensure colleges and universities that graduating students had mastered a particular body of knowledge. However, today the process, as developed by the Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), involves a dual purpose. Those purposes continue the expectation that schools must be worthy of the trust placed in them to provide high quality learning opportunities, and clearly demonstrate that they are about the critical business of continual self-improvement.

Ultimately, the accreditation process is all about fostering excellence in all education programs. The fundamental cause involves helping schools create the highest quality learning experience they can envision for all of their students.

The capacity of any organization to improve is directly related to its ability to recognize, acknowledge, and act on its identified strengths and limitations. The accreditation process is a vehicle that enables schools to improve student learning and school performance based on an analysis of those strengths and limitations. Schools participating in the accreditation process must meet rigorous, research-based standards, and demonstrate that they are engaged in and have the capacity to provide continuous school improvement.

The accreditation initiative serves to provide funding for activities that enable schools to improve in preparation for seeking accreditation, in seeking accreditation, and to continue to improve to maintaining accreditation.

### **ACCREDITATION INITIATIVE STATUS**

To date, 28 Accreditation activities have been approved totaling \$584,036.61, and an additional 19 activities totaling \$799,711.33 are pending approval.

We have spent \$111,428.79 for Accreditation reimbursements at 4 schools, Hawaii Academy of Arts & Science, Innovations, Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau Laboratory, and Myron B. Thompson Academy.

#### **D. GOVERNMENT SERVICES FUND (PART B) – HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS & INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF (HETIS) INITIATIVE**

This initiative aims to develop a highly qualified corps of charter school teachers, who are expert at delivering their school's unique educational program and facilitating student learning. This is mainly accomplished by providing teachers with training, materials, and collaboration time with experts and other teachers.

In addition to underwriting materials and trainer's fees, this initiative will fund stipends for all instructional staff (including teachers, education assistants, and administrators) for attending trainings as long as they would not otherwise be compensated for their time.

### **HETIS STATUS**

To date, for HETIS, 54 activities totaling \$954,742.39 have been reviewed and approved, and a further 49 activities totaling \$611,500.45 are pending approval. We have spent \$278,772.00 for HETIS funding for 11 schools, as follows:

Connections  
Hakipu'u Learning Center  
Halau Ku Mana  
Innovations  
Kanu o ka 'Aina  
Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha Learning Center  
Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau Laboratory  
Kualapu'u Elementary  
Volcano School of Arts & Science  
Wai'alaie Elementary  
Waimea Middle Public Conversion

**E. GOVERNMENT SERVICES FUND (PART B) –  
FURLOUGH RESTORATION INITIATIVE**

For fiscal year 2011, the Governor allocated \$2,255,500 to the charter schools to reimburse instructional staff salaries to ensure that furlough Fridays would be avoided for schools. This fund will be distributed on a per pupil basis similar to the Education Fund (Part A). Like that fund, distribution will be made after the October 15 official enrollment count and used to reimburse instructional staff salaries. As with the Education Fund (Part A), we will document all reimbursements via payroll certifications.

ARRA SFSF *		FY10	FY11	Total Allotted		Balance to be expended	Expended in FY2010	Expended September 28, 2010	Expended October 7, 2010	Expended to date	Percent expended
Education Fund - Part A		\$4,088,212	\$2,835,696	\$6,923,908		\$2,835,696	\$4,088,212			\$4,088,212.00	59.04%
Government Services Fund- Part B											
	Highly Effective Teachers and Instructional Staff Work Plan	\$3,270,000	\$0	\$3,270,000	allotted for entire biennium	\$2,999,491			\$270,508.83	\$270,508.83	8.27%
	Educational Resources Manager Plan	\$3,269,616		\$3,269,616	allotted for entire biennium	\$1,474,381	\$1,008,540.98	\$786,693.91		\$1,795,234.89	54.91%
	Accreditation Plan	\$3,142,809	\$0	\$3,142,809	allotted for entire biennium	\$3,031,380			\$111,428.79	\$111,428.79	3.55%
	Furlough Restoration		\$2,255,500	\$2,255,500		\$2,255,500				\$0.00	0.00%
<b>Subtotal of B funds</b>				<b>\$11,937,925</b>		<b>\$9,760,752</b>				<b>\$2,177,172.51</b>	<b>18.24%</b>
<b>Total to Date</b>				<b>\$18,861,833</b>		<b>\$12,596,448</b>				<b>\$6,265,384.51</b>	<b>33.22%</b>