
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
SUPPORT AND IMPLEMENT COMMUNITY SCHOOLS AS A STRATEGY FOR
INCREASING ACCESS TO A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION.

1 WHEREAS, article X, section 1, of the Hawaii State
2 Constitution provides for the establishment of a statewide
3 system of public schools; and
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5 WHEREAS, every child should be given the opportunity to
6 obtain a high-quality education; and
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8 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Education, during
9 the 2019-2020 school year, forty-seven percent of public-school
10 students were considered economically challenged and 84,993
11 students qualified for the Department's free and reduced-price
12 lunch program; and
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14 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic will likely increase the
15 number of students considered economically challenged and has
16 contributed to significant learning loss due to limited in-
17 person instruction; and
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19 WHEREAS, community schools provide comprehensive programs
20 and services to meet the unique needs of students and families,
21 such as a lack of stable housing, inadequate medical and dental
22 care, persistent hunger, trauma, and exposure to violence; and
23

24 WHEREAS, according to a report from the Learning Policy
25 Institute, the four key pillars of a community-schools approach
26 to education are integrated student supports, expanded and
27 enriched learning time and opportunities, active family
28 engagement, and collaborative leadership; and
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30 WHEREAS, according to the national Coalition for Community
31 Schools, best practice shows that having a dedicated, full-time



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1 Community School Coordinator who facilitates the alignment of
2 school, family, and community resources is a core element of a
3 successful community school; and

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5 WHEREAS, the community school strategy aligns with the
6 Department of Education's Na Hopena Ao Framework, strengthening
7 the sense of belonging, responsibility, excellence, aloha, total
8 well-being; and

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10 WHEREAS, practices embodied in community schools promote
11 conditions found in high-quality schools nationwide, especially
12 with regard to overcoming out-of-school barriers to learning;
13 and

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15 WHEREAS, research shows that community-school interventions
16 can result in improvements to a variety of student outcomes,
17 including attendance, academic achievement, and graduation
18 rates; and

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20 WHEREAS, federal funding sources such as Title I, Part A,
21 Full Service Community Schools, and the Nita M. Lowey 21st
22 Century Community Learning Centers can be used to implement
23 community schools through the Every Student Succeeds Act, under
24 which the community-schools model of school support qualifies as
25 an evidence-based strategy for assisting schools identified for
26 comprehensive and targeted support and intervention; and

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28 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Consolidated State Plan under the Every
29 Student Succeeds Act includes community schools as a
30 research-based strategy for school improvement that emphasizes
31 high-quality teaching, culturally relevant curricula, wraparound
32 student supports, positive disciplinary practices and
33 restorative justice, parent and community engagement, and
34 inclusive school leadership; now, therefore,

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36 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
37 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
38 of 2021, that the Board of Education and Department of Education
39 are urged to support and implement community schools as an
40 equity strategy for increasing access to a high-quality
41 education and addressing COVID-19 learning loss; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
3 Chairperson of the Board of Education, and Superintendent of
4 Education.

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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeanine Spohn", is written over a horizontal line.

JAN 22 2021

