



DEPT. COMM. NO. 134

STATE OF HAWAII
Executive Office on Early Learning
2759 South King Street
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826

December 22, 2021

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President
and Members of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker
and Members of the House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

For your information and consideration, I am transmitting a copy of the report on State-funded prekindergarten program and private partnership-funded prekindergarten programs in public schools, except special education and Title I-funded prekindergarten programs, pursuant to Act 276, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019. In accordance with Section 93-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, I am also informing you that the report may be viewed electronically at: <https://earlylearning.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Report-to-the-2022-Legislature.pdf>

Very truly yours,


Coleen Momohara
Temporarily Assigned Director

CM:JF
Enclosure

c: Legislative Reference Bureau
Office of the Governor
Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Department of Budget and Finance
Legislative Auditor



Executive Office on Early Learning

Report to the 2022 Legislature: December 22, 2021

History

The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) was established by Act 178, Regular Session of 2012, and signed into law in June 2012. On July 1, 2015, EOEL was transferred from the Office of the Governor to become attached to the Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE) for administrative purposes only.

EOEL is charged with developing an early learning system that shall ensure a spectrum of high-quality, developmentally appropriate early learning opportunities for Hawaii's children throughout the state, from prenatal care until the time they enter kindergarten.

Act 122, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, appropriated \$3 million for the establishment of Hawaii's first State-funded prekindergarten program as a part of that system. EOEL launched the EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program (Program), through a partnership with HIDOE, at 18 department schools and 20 classrooms across the state starting the 2014-15 school year. The Program was statutorily established by Act 109, Regular Session of 2015.

Act 276, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019 (Act 276), placed private partnership-funded classrooms in the public schools under administrative authority of EOEL and required the following classrooms to be incorporated into the EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program:

- Charter school prekindergarten classrooms that were previously funded through the federal Preschool Development Grant;
- Weighted student formula-funded prekindergarten classrooms (HIDOE has identified only 2 such classrooms since 2019; and
- Prekindergarten classrooms to provide general education settings for children whose individualized education programs require such placement (HIDOE has identified no such classrooms since 2019).

Act 046, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, placed charter school prekindergarten classrooms under the administrative authority of the Hawaii Public Charter School Commission (HPCSC).

Context

In School Year 2020-2021:

- The EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program consisted of 34 classrooms at 31 department and charter schools, across 6 islands.
 - Ten new classrooms opened in School Year 2020-2021 with funding provided through Act 276.
 - Three schools were unable to open their classrooms due to uncertainties in funding at the outset of the school year.
- There were 4 private partnership-funded prekindergarten classrooms at 4 department schools that EOEL was informed about.

This report provides the following information on the aforementioned classrooms for School Year 2020-2021, as of December 22 2021:

1. The number and location of classrooms;
2. Numbers of students served and aggregated by birth month as of the date on which the official enrollment count is taken;
3. Sources of funding for each classroom;
4. Quality teacher-child interactions relating to social-emotional support, classroom organization and structure, and the quality of learning experiences, as assessed using a formative assessment tool selected by the office; and
5. Child outcomes relating to all areas of childhood development and learning, including cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional approaches to learning and health and physical development as assessed using a formative assessment tool selected by the office.

EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program: Quality Teacher-Child Interactions

Due to circumstances arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, the EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program was unable to collect reliable and valid data on the quality of teacher-child interactions relating to social emotional support, classroom structure, and quality of learning experiences for the 2020-2021 school year. An interisland travel ban, changing school protocols and schedules, and varying opportunities for in-person learning limited access to evidence of interactions.

EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program – in the Department Schools

Table 1. EOEL Public Pre-K Program Classrooms in Department Schools, School Year 2020-2021

ISLAND	SCHOOL	# CLASSROOMS	FUNDING SOURCE
HAWAI‘I	Chiefess Kapi‘olani Elementary	1	general funds
	Hilo Union Elementary	1	general funds
	Honaunau Elementary	1	general funds
	Kea‘au Elementary	1	general funds
	Keonepoko Elementary	1	general funds
	Kohala Elementary	1	general funds
	Konawaena Elementary	1	general funds
	Mountain View Elementary	1	general funds
	Nā‘ālehu Elementary	2	general funds
	Pāhoa Elementary	1	general funds
KAUA‘I	‘Ele‘ele Elementary	1	general funds
	Kekaha Elementary	1	general funds
LĀNA‘I	Lāna‘i Elementary	1	general funds
MAUI	Kula Elementary	1	general funds
	Pukalani Elementary	1	general funds
MOLOKA‘I	Kaunakakai Elementary	1	general funds
	Kilohana Elementary	1	general funds
O‘AHU	Aiea Elementary	1	general funds
	Haleiwa Elementary	1	general funds
	Kailua Elementary	1	general funds
	Kalihi Uka Elementary	1	general funds
	Keolu Elementary	1	general funds
	Likelike Elementary	1	general funds
	Linapuni Elementary	2	general funds
	Nānāikapono Elementary	1	general funds
	Nānākuli Elementary	1	general funds
	Palolo Elementary	1	general funds
	Waiāhole Elementary	1	general funds
	Waialua Elementary	2	general funds
	Waianae Elementary	1	general funds
	Waimanalo Elementary	1	general funds
		34	

Table 2. Students Served by Birth Month, EOEL Public Pre-K Program Classrooms in Department Schools, School Year 2020-2021

BIRTH MONTH	SCHOOL YEAR 2020-21 (QUARTER 4)
JANUARY	34
FEBRUARY	31
MARCH	22
APRIL	15
MAY	26
JUNE	28
JULY	24
AUGUST	23
SEPTEMBER	28
OCTOBER	30
NOVEMBER	21
DECEMBER	20
TOTAL	302

Note:

- *The Program requires that children be 4 years old on or before July 31 to be eligible for the upcoming school year.*

Table 3. Child Outcomes (Teaching Strategies GOLD™ Percentages), EOEL Public Pre-K Program Classrooms in Department Schools, Winter Checkpoint, School Year 2020-2021

CATEGORY	PERCENT MEETING OR EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS
SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL	95
PHYSICAL	97
LANGUAGE	93
COGNITIVE	97
LITERACY	93
MATHEMATICS	90
AVERAGE	94.2

Private Partnership-Funded Prekindergarten Classrooms in the Public Schools

Table 4. Private Partnership-Funded Pre-K Classrooms in Public Schools, School Year 2020-2021

ISLAND	SCHOOL	# CLASSROOMS	FUNDING SOURCE
HAWAII	Waimea Elementary	1	Kamehameha Schools
MAUI	Hāna High & Elementary	1	Kamehameha Schools
O'AHU	Nānākuli Elementary	1	Kamehameha Schools
	Pu'uhale Elementary	1	Kamehameha Schools
		4	

Table 5. Students Served by Birth Month, Private Partnership-Funded Prekindergarten Classrooms in the Public Schools, School Year 2020-2021

BIRTH MONTH	SCHOOL YEAR 2020-21 (QUARTER 4)
JANUARY	4
FEBRUARY	2
MARCH	5
APRIL	2
MAY	4
JUNE	5
JULY	3
AUGUST	3
SEPTEMBER	5
OCTOBER	4
NOVEMBER	2
DECEMBER	3
TOTAL	42

Please note that HDOE was unable to provide information for these classrooms regarding:

- Quality of teacher-child interactions; and
- Child outcomes relating to all areas of childhood development and learning.