

**Senator Michelle Kidani  
Thirtieth Hawaii State Legislature**

*(D) Senate District 18 - Serving Mililani Town, Waipio Gentry, Waikele, Village Park & Royal Kunia  
Ph: (808) 586-7100 Email: senkidani@capitol.hawaii.gov*

**Senate Vice President**



Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

Kung Hee Fat Choy! The Lunar New Year is a time to focus our intentions on goal-setting and an appreciation of cultural traditions. 2019 is the Year of the Pig, which in Chinese culture is a symbol of wealth. February highlighted the community’s myriad of talents and charitable organizations celebrating new achievements from Senate bills and business to education and community resources we are thrilled to share.

In the wake of tragic losses due to driving accidents and home invasions, we look to the community to unite and care for one another as we always do best, looking out for the safety and security of our neighbors as we do for ourselves. We know the power of the collective is our greatest strength and we look forward to continue growing together as we head into March and the excitement of our Education Week. This week-long, annual event is the culmination of the a year’s worth of work by brilliant educators, scholars and the thriving initiatives that are changing the landscape of education for future generations. We look forward to celebrating their local and national achievements with you in the coming weeks!

**CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION**



Senator Kidani celebrated Chinese New Year at the Hawaii State Capitol on Monday, February 11 with office manager Danicia Honda, Miss Chinatown Hawaii 2019. Honda was joined by other members of the Miss Chinatown Hawaii court as well as the Asian Lion Dance Team of Webling Elementary in Aiea who visited lawmakers to celebrate the Year of the Pig, and to bring good luck and prosperity in the new year.



Chair:  
Committee on  
Education

Vice Chair:  
Committee on  
Higher Education

Member:  
Committee on  
Ways and Means

Hawaii State Capitol  
Room 228  
(808) 586-7100



# CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



From top left: Lawmakers including Governor Ige gathered in the rotunda in celebration of the Lunar New Year; all smiles with young students after the traditional lion dance performance by the Asian Lion Dance Team of Webling Elementary in Aiea; Senator Kidani and office manager Danicia Honda greeting friends and neighbors; Senator Kidani welcoming the beloved lion with offerings to bless her Senate office. Photos by Danson Honda



# CHOOSE LOVE CONFERENCE



The second annual Choose Love Conference celebrated February as Social and Emotional Learning Awareness (SEL) month. Founded in honor of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting victim Jesse Lewis, the program aims to bring social and emotional learning opportunities to global classrooms, including 40 schools throughout Hawaii. Kanoelani Elementary School and Kaelepu Elementary School brought teachers and administrators together this month in celebration of education and to encourage safe, healthy and nurturing environments for all keiki. Mahalo nui Kanoelani Elementary School Principal Stacie Kunihiha and Kaleiopuu Elementary School Principal Alika Ahu!

# PEARL CONVENTION



Senator Kidani gave an encouraging introduction to elementary and middle school students on February 25 for the PEARL (Promoting Empathy Acceptance Respect and Love) Convention. Formerly known as the Student Anti-Bullying and Violence Convention, it addresses the severity of bullying and cyber-bullying amongst youth. The convention aims to raise awareness about the consequences of bullying and to inspire students to treat peers with respect, empathy, compassion, love and acceptance. Senator Kidani's message to students addressed those issues and reminded them to remember that they are loved, to be kind and to love each other before reciting the following pledge:

I \_\_\_\_, pledge that I will always strive every day to promote peace, acceptance, empathy, respect, and love, towards everyone.

