

MAR 08 2024

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ADOPT A POLICY RELATING TO
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS TO GUIDE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, every child should be given the opportunity to
2 obtain a high-quality education; and

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4 WHEREAS, community schools provide comprehensive programs
5 and services to meet the unique needs of students and families,
6 including a lack of stable housing, inadequate medical and
7 dental care, persistent hunger, trauma, and exposure to
8 violence; and

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10 WHEREAS, according to a report from the Learning Policy
11 Institute, the four key pillars of a community-schools approach
12 to education are integrated student supports, expanded and
13 enriched learning time and opportunities, active family
14 engagement, and collaborative leadership; and

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16 WHEREAS, according to the national Coalition for Community
17 Schools, best practice shows that having a dedicated, full-time
18 Community School Coordinator who facilitates the alignment of
19 school, family, and community resources is a core element of a
20 successful community school; and

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22 WHEREAS, the community school strategy aligns with the
23 Department of Education's Nā Hopena A'ō Framework, strengthening
24 the sense of belonging, responsibility, excellence, aloha, and
25 total well-being; and

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27 WHEREAS, practices embodied in community schools promote
28 conditions found in high-quality schools nationwide, especially
29 with regard to overcoming out-of-school barriers to learning;
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WHEREAS, research shows that community-school interventions can result in improvements to a variety of student outcomes, including attendance, academic achievement, and graduation rates; and

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

WHEREAS, community schools programs are already operating in many parts of the State, especially in remote, rural, and economically disadvantaged areas and more students and their families could benefit from an expansion of community schools; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Education is requested to adopt a policy relating to community schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is urged to use the policy adopted by the Board of Education to guide the expansion of community schools programs to additional campuses; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Education and Superintendent of Education.

OFFERED BY: 

