

SEAC Membership Committee Report

5/10/24

By Steven Vannatta

1. Member Vacancies

The attached grid shows our prospective membership for the 2024-25 school year and how each member fits into the stakeholder designations required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and by our SEAC bylaws. IDEA requires that SEAC maintain a membership with a majority of members who are parents of children with disabilities aged 26 or younger or persons with disabilities.

Parent and/or Persons with a Disabilities Vacancies

During this school year, two parent members—**Lisa Garcia** and **Melissa Harper Osai**--who were representing Leeward District resigned. Our Kauai parent representative, **Shana Cruz**, has been unable to attend meetings this school year, so we are seeking a new representative from Kauai who is either a parent or a person with a disability.

Departmental Vacancies

There is one current vacancy for a representative of incarcerated adults 18 through 21 who are eligible for services under IDEA. It has been difficult maintaining representatives from the Department of Public Safety, so the Membership Committee would appreciate any suggestions from our membership and partners in filling this position.

2. Nomination of SEAC Membership applicants

The Membership committee presents three candidates for membership. The first two are parents of students with disabilities: **Herbert Taitingfong** whose son with autism attends James Campbell High School has already shown his commitment to SEAC by attending meetings for the last several months and offering thoughtful suggestions for addressing issues presented to the Council. He served on the Campbell School Community Council for two years. **Patricia “Trish” Moniz** has two teenagers with disabilities, one with ADHD and the other diagnosed with autism. She is a past Co-Chair with the East Oahu Community Children’s Council, an effective advocate in requiring HMSA to pay for her son’s Speech for Autism, and well versed in IDEA having attended numerous trainings over the years. The Committee is also asking for your support in nominating **Will Carlson**, the District Educational Specialist from the Molokai Complex who has been contributing to SEAC’s Maui updates. Will is filling a vacancy left by **Debbie Cheeseman**, a longtime SEAC member representing teachers whose schedule no longer allows her to attend meeting.

Action: Members voted to submit these three member candidates to Superintendent Hayashi for consideration of appointment to SEAC for SY 24-25.

3. Nomination and Election of SEAC Officers for SY 24-25

The Committee has been grateful for the steady leadership provided by our current officers, **Martha Guinan**, Chair and **Susan Wood**, Vice Chair who are willing to serve another one-year term. Steven asked if there are any members present at the meeting who would like to be considered for a leadership position. No one came forward, so a poll was conducted to vote on Martha as Chair for SY 24-25 and Susan Wood as Vice Chair.

Action: Martha and Susan were affirmed by a unanimous vote to serve another term.

23-24 Prospective SEAC Membership Designations

Source	SEAC Stakeholder Group	2022-23 SEAC Members
IDEA	Parents of children with disabilities (CWD) aged birth through age 26	Virginia Beringer, Annette Cooper, Mark Disher, Lisa Garcia , Mai Hall, Melissa Harper Osai , Melissa Johnson, Tina King, Jennifer Leoiki-Drino, Kaili Murbach, Kiele Pennington, Kau'i Rezentes, Herbert Taitingfong , Tricia Moniz , Kauai parent
IDEA	Persons with disabilities (PWD)	Martha Guinan, Jasmine Williams
	Total parents/persons with disabilities	14
IDEA	Teachers	Dale Matsuura
IDEA	Teacher preparation program rep	Dr. Paul Meng/Nancy Gorman, Designée, UH SPED Department
IDEA	State and local education officials	(Helen Kaniho), Will Carlson, DES
IDEA	Homeless children & youth rep	Siena Molina , Kailua/Kalaheo homeless liaison
IDEA	State agency reps who finance or deliver related services to CWD	Dr. Scott Shimabukuro, CAMHD Christopher Pelayo, EIS
IDEA	Administrators of programs for CWD	Mary Brogan/Debora Uyeda, Designée, Developmental Dis. Division
IDEA	Private school rep	(Jennifer Leoiki-Drino)
IDEA	Charter school rep	(Mark Disher), Innovations
IDEA	Vocational/transition services rep	Cheryl Matthews, DVR
IDEA	Child welfare/foster children rep	Kathie Awaya, EPIC
IDEA	Adult corrections rep	DPS
IDEA	Juvenile corrections rep	Lisa Vegas
Bylaws	Community rep	Steven Vannatta, CCCO and Susan Wood, Hilopa'a
Bylaws	Parent Training & Information Program	Rosie Rowe, LDAH & Pacific Island PTI
	Total professionals (who are not parents)	13

NOTE: Parentheses indicate that the member was counted in another category.

KEY: **Red** – unfilled vacancies

Purple – resignations/term expired during the SY 23-24

Blue – proposed new member

Non-Voting Liaisons

IDEA	Liaison to the Superintendent	Helen Kaniho
Bylaws	Liaison to the Military	Wendy Nakasone-Kalani

STAFF: Susan Rocco and Amanda Kaahanui, SPIN/DCAB

As of 5/10/24