



HAWAII 2050 SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE



Sen. Russell Kokubun,
Chair

Education Leaders
October 30, 2007
State Capitol, Room 414

Rep. Lyla Berg
Rep. Pono Chong
Ian Costa
Henry Eng
Sen. Mike Gabbard
David Goode
Marion M. Higa
Jeffrey Hunt
Dr. Karl Kim
Millie Kim
Keith Kurahashi
Brad Kurokawa
Sen. Ron Menor
Rep. Colleen Meyer
Keith Rollman
Dr. James Spencer
Jane Testa
Stacie Thorlakson
Beth Tokioka
Sen. Jill Tokuda
Michael Tresler
Pamela Tumpap
Rep. Ryan Yamane

Attendees

Senator Russell Kokubun, Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force chair
Marion Higa, State Auditor and Hawaii 2050 Task Force member
Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of the Hawaii State Department of Education
Fig Mitchell, Vice Principal at King Kaumalii Elementary School
Dominic Beralas, Vice Principal at Kapaa Elementary School
Julian Ako, School Principal at Kamehameha Schools
Alyssa Braffith, Character Education Eoordinator at Kamehameha Schools
Diane Anderson, Director of Instruction at Punahou School
Jennifer Higaki, Grants administrator at the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools
Gail Mukaihata Hannemann, CEO of the Girl Scouts of Hawaii
Barbara Blomgren, CPO of the Girl Scouts of Hawaii
Andrew Aoki, Executive Director of Kanu Hawaii
Bill Kaneko, President and CEO of the Hawaii Institute for Public Affairs (HIPA)
Jeanne Schultz Afuvai, HIPA staff
Patrick Williams, HIPA staff
Denise Hayashi, HIPA consultant

Purpose of Meeting

One of the strategic actions in the draft Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan is to instill the principles and practices of sustainability in Hawaii's youth. Therefore, The Task Force convened the meeting to determine how to get more youth involved with Hawaii 2050 and sustainability initiatives in the state.

Several of the educators shared what their institutions are doing to involve their students in sustainability. For example, Punahou School has projects and curriculum that inspires the students to take sustainability home and teach their parents. Kamehameha Schools commented that sustainability is among the Native Hawaiian values they teach students.

DOE superintended Patricia Hamamoto said that these are admirable, but in her experience, once children step off their campus, they don't see sustainability practiced by adults and in the community. To her, Hawaii 2050 must motivate adults, businesses, nonprofits as well as educators and youth.

Kamehameha Schools suggested that placing sustainability into economic terms, such as dollars saved through recycling, will be helpful.

Legislative Work Group

Marion Higa suggested that the proposed Legislative Work Group, which will draft the legislation based on the Hawaii 2050 Plan, should have representation from youth, perhaps in the form of a youth advisory group.

Marion Higa commented that an individual or organization needs to lead the effort to marshal student involvement.

Sustainability Day

The Girl Scouts suggested raising public awareness by organizing a Sustainability Day at the state Capitol. The event would be for legislators and schools, as well as the media.

Next Steps

HIPA will organize a follow up meeting.