

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Report on the actions taken to establish a program that will facilitate the voluntary participation of high school students in community service, work experience, or service learning.

**REFERENCE:** HCR33, HD1, SD1, Requesting the Board of Education to Create a Program that Will Facilitate the Voluntary Participation of High School Students in Community Service, Work Experience, or Service Learning

### ACTION

**REQUESTED:** The Board of Education and the Department of Education are requested to submit a report to the Legislature regarding actions taken to create a program that will facilitate the voluntary participation of high school students in community service, work experience, or service learning.

### DOE REPORT:

***Submit a report to the Legislature regarding actions taken to create a program that will facilitate the voluntary participation of high school students in community service, work experience, or service learning.***

The Department of Education has strongly supported work experience, community service, and service-learning on two fronts: 1) The standards-based curriculum and 2) Voluntary programs such as Hawaii School-to-Work Program and Hawai'i Learn and Serve.

### Standards-Based Curriculum

The Hawaii Content and Performance Standards (HCPS) which guide our schools' curriculum and reform efforts explicitly reflect these positions. For example, our standards for high school students include the following references to work experience, community service, and service-learning:

#### Career and Life Skills:

Content Standard:

##### SKILLS FOR LIFE AND WORK -

Students develop skills and attributes that are critical to a person's ability to successfully navigate the world in and out of school, at work, and at home: thinking and reasoning skills, personal qualities, skills for managing resources, interpersonal skills, skills for managing information, and skills and knowledge related to systems.

Content Standard:

##### STRUCTURE OF ORGANIZATIONS AND WORK -

Students gain a degree of understanding of simple and complex organizations; engage in analysis or application of organizational concepts; develop effective leadership skills; and incorporate the perspectives of management, workers, volunteers, and the community in the study of organizational behavior.

Performance Standard:

Develops, reviews and maintains a career portfolio that includes a resume that focuses on the author's knowledge, skills, life, educational and work and experiences that relate to the selected career area/position.

Performance Standard: Demonstrates habits of mind in school, community and workplace i.e. persistence, think flexibly, apply knowledge, assume responsibility, question and pose problems.

#### Educational Technology:

Performance Standard:

Creates and continually monitor through the secondary school years a school service learning project that uses information technology tools that will have a positive impact on one's community

Health:

Content Standard:

ADVOCACY - Students advocate for personal, family, and community health.

Science:

Performance Standard:

Develops and implements an action plan which addresses the selected solution and provides documentation of implementation (e.g., photographs, letters from community and video).

Reflects and assesses the effects of the action plan on self, others, and the environment.

Communicates effectively the findings through various modalities (i.e., written/visual, oral).

Social Studies:

Content Standard:

CITIZENSHIP/PARTICIPATION - Students understand roles, rights (personal, economic, political) and responsibilities of American citizens and exercise them in civic action.

Benchmark: Debate positions on issues regarding rights and responsibilities, come to consensus on the issues, and take action to gain larger community involvement on the issues, e.g., a service-learning project.

It is the responsibility of the Department to teach students to enable them achieve all of the above standards as well as the remaining standards in the Hawaii Content and Performance Standards. In doing so, students will be given many opportunities within the regular curriculum to participate in work-experience, community service, and service-learning.

### **Voluntary Programs**

Hawai'i School-to-Work Program (website: <http://www.hcc.hawaii.edu/stw/frames/>)

Hawai'i School-to-Work System is a coalition of public-private partnerships that links education, the workplace, and the community, and empowers students to achieve their highest potential as informed, responsible, and productive members of our island, national, and global societies. It has been in our schools for seven years, first authorized by The School-to-Work Opportunities (STWO) Act P. L. 103-239 signed by President Bill Clinton on May 4, 1994. Schools volunteered to participate in this program and have received funding for their programs.

Briefly, the concept of Work-Based Learning, which is the basis of the Hawai'i School-to-Work System, is a planned program of job training and experiences, including skills to be mastered at progressively higher levels, that are built into a student's career major and lead to the award of a skill certificate which testifies to a student having achieved satisfactory participation in:

- work experience opportunities
- workplace mentoring
- instruction in general workplace competencies and
- broad instruction in a variety of elements of an industry.

The Department of Education is committed to providing more opportunities for high school students to participate in Work-based Learning throughout the state. The state coordinator is Aileen Ah Yat (Phone: 377-2459, e-mail: [aileen\\_ah\\_yat@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:aileen_ah_yat@notes.k12.hi.us))

Hawai'i Learn and Serve (website: <http://www.k12.hi.us/~svclearn/about.html>)

Hawai'i Learn and Serve is a federally-funded program for schools that volunteer to implement service-learning programs at their school sites. Service-learning is a teaching/learning method that connects meaningful community service with academic learning, personal growth, and civic

responsibility. Service-learning facilitates the involvement of children and adolescents in real-life settings where they can apply academic knowledge and previous experience to meet real community needs. Students learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized experiences that are authentic and genuine.

Hawai'i Learn and Serve has provided funding and training for schools since 1996 and continues for the 2001-2002 school year. The state coordinator is Colleen Murakami (Phone: 394-1348, e-mail: [colleen\\_murakami@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:colleen_murakami@notes.k12.hi.us))