

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

- SUBJECT:** FY 2009 Expenditure Report on the Department of Education's (DOE) Mentor and Para-Educator Programs.
- REFERENCE:** Section 76 of Act 213, SLH 2007, as amended by Act 158, SLH 2008
- ACTION REQUESTED:** Requires the DOE to prepare a detailed report identifying expenditures by the Recruitment and Retention Support Center to support the mentor and para-educator programs. The report is due to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2009 regular session.
- DOE. REPORT:** Act 213, SLH 2007, as amended by Act 158, SLH 2008, appropriates \$55,557,715 in general funds in FY 09 for EDN 300, State and Complex Area Administration. Section 76 of Act 213 identifies the sum of \$250,000 (out of the \$55.6 million appropriated for EDN 300) for the Recruitment and Retention Support Center to support the mentor and para-educator programs.

The Hawai'i Department of Education Induction and Mentoring Program is a comprehensive and sustained multi-year structure of support that is aligned with the Hawaii Teacher Standards, based on the Hawaii Continuum of Teacher Skills (the effective teacher focuses on students' long-term development into responsible and independent learners). The subject program provides structured activities and processes designed to develop the beginning teacher's skills and knowledge.

Supporting new teachers is complex and demanding work. Mentor teachers who mentor beginning colleagues need time, training, and ongoing support to develop new skills and understandings that will enable them to become effective mentors. The professional development for mentors consist of a series of comprehensive, sequential activities and processes that focus on building the knowledge, skills, and understandings critical for mentors of beginning teachers.

The Para-educator training program was developed to improve instruction and services to Hawaii's students through a comprehensive, competency-based, systematic, training program focusing on Educational Assistants (EA)

and other paraprofessionals in an instructional setting. Participants may choose the type of training that best meet their needs and future career goals.

Noncredit training is intended for EAs interested in tuition-free DOE training that can apply towards meeting the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requirements (for highly trained paraprofessionals in instructional settings) and the EA career ladder incentive program.

The credit option is intended for EAs interested in earning a college certificate or degree while also meeting training requirements of the NCLB Act and the DOE career ladder. A career path has also been outlined for individuals interested in eventually becoming teachers.

During the week of October 13-17, 2008, a ParaProfessional/Clerical Institute Day was held on each of the major islands. The event brought paraprofessionals and clerical personnel together for a day of both professional development and personal growth opportunities. Approximately 1,500 participants statewide enjoyed a day learning and working together.

Inasmuch as the fiscal year is on-going, substantive expenditure data is not currently available. Of the \$250,000 designated for the mentor and para-educator programs, the Teacher Mentor Program has been allocated \$187,500 and the Para-Educator Training Program has been allocated \$62,500. Less departmental restrictions (5% on 10/23/08 and 10% on 11/18/08), \$160,313 is available for the Teacher Mentor Program and \$53,437 is available for the Para-Educator Training Program.

The allocated funds are being used to cover costs for instruction (workshops, seminars, professional development), practicum, materials and other support expenses.

As of October 31, 2008, there have been \$21,272.57 in (Section 76) expenditures for the teacher mentor program and \$25,861.36 in (Section 76) expenditures for the para-educator program.

Teacher Mentor Program:

Personnel Related Expenses -  
Substitute Charges and Temp

Contract Employees (Instructors)	\$ 6,772.06
Books/Materials	\$ 3,498.28
Computer Supplies	\$ 33.51
Office/Workshop Supplies	\$ 729.61
Travel Expenses	<u>\$ 10,239.11</u>
<b>Sub TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 21,272.57</b>

Para-Educator Training Program:

Classroom Supplies	\$ 112.29
Sign Language Interpreter	\$ 406.13
Supplies	\$ 2,237.43
Travel Expenses	<u>\$ 6,042.51</u>
<b>Sub TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 25,861.36</b>

A significant portion of expenses for the Para-Educator Training Program this fiscal year is for the October 2008 ParaProfessional/Clerical Institute Day.

For Fiscal Year 2007-08, allocated funds for the Teacher Mentor and Para-Educator Training Programs were fully expended.

Teacher Mentor Program:

National Science Teachers Association	
Fees and Workshop Expenses	\$ 23,038.52
EMSS (Electronic Mentoring for Student Success) Stipends	\$ 22,650.00
Services for Cognitive Coaching, Evaluation of Professional Development Portfolios, Classes	\$ 50,022.22
Hawaii New Teacher Induction Conference	\$ 15,708.79
Travel Expenses for Workshops and Conference	\$ 19,464.93
Books/Materials/Supplies	\$ 21,803.07
Computer Expenses	\$ 34,293.47
Freight and Delivery Charges	<u>\$ 519.00</u>
<b>Sub TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$187,500.00</b>

Para-Educator Training Program:

ParaPro Online Test Codes and Training Materials (Assessment)	\$ 35,195.52
Travel Expenses	\$ 9,466.87
Video Conferencing Expenses	\$ 5,887.87
Computer Expenses	\$ 7,891.18
Conference Registration Fees	\$ 837.00

Office and Training Supplies            \$ 3,221.56

SubTOTAL:                                    \$ 62,500.00

**TOTAL:**                                      **\$250,000.00**

**FINDINGS:**

The DOE Recruitment and Retention Support Center helps teachers and paraprofessionals develop skills, knowledge and strategies that positively impact student learning. Designating funds (out of the EDN 300 appropriation) provide the necessary support to continue the Teacher Mentor and Para-Educator Training programs.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**    NA.