

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

SUBJECT: School-Level Minor Repairs and Maintenance Account

REFERENCE: Section 302A-1504, Hawaii Revised Statutes

ACTION REQUESTED: A report to the Director of Finance ninety days after the close of each fiscal year which identifies the total amount of funds that shall carry over to the next fiscal year and expenditures made for each school.

DOE REPORT:

Introduction: Section 302A-1504.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), establishes a school-level minor repairs and maintenance special fund to provide additional moneys for school-level minor repairs and maintenance (R&M) projects. This special fund is funded through donations made by taxpayers who allocate \$2 to the Department of Education (DOE) Repair and Maintenance program on their state tax form. In fiscal year (FY) 2007-2008, the fund received \$138,219 for use by DOE.

FINDINGS: The amount of \$138,219 was allocated to DOE's restroom restoration and maintenance program. Schools that were interested in receiving these moneys were asked to submit an application that specified the work to be done with the funds. The review committee awarded funds based on merit and sought to equitably distribute funds among the districts.

FY 2008 School Level Minor R&M Special Fund	
Restroom Restoration Program	\$138,219

Restroom Restoration Program

The restroom restoration program required each participating school to professionally clean and restore a multiple-stall boys restroom and a multiple-stall girls restroom. The professional cleaning company contracts were to include training of custodial staff on the proper techniques and use of the cleaning solutions. Additional funds were allocated to the schools to purchase supplies for custodians to replicate the restroom restoration on the remaining restrooms. There were 12 schools that applied and received funding for the restroom restoration project.

School	Amount Funded FY 2008	Expended	Carryover	Reverted Back to Special Fund
Ala Wai Elementary	\$8,000	\$8,000	0	0
Baldwin High	\$20,000	\$20,000	0	0
Farrington High	\$22,000	\$22,000	0	0
Kapiolani Elementary	\$10,000	\$10,000	0	0
Kapunahala Elementary	\$7,750	\$7,675	\$75	\$75
Kipapa Elementary	\$7,750	\$7,750	0	0
Lincoln Elementary	\$8,000	\$8,000	0	0
Mali Elementary	\$8,500	\$8,500	0	0
Pearl City Elementary	\$8,000	\$7,964	\$36	\$36
Puohala Elementary	\$7,856	\$7,848	\$8	\$8
Waiakea High	\$21,613	\$21,609	\$4	\$4
Waimalu Elementary	\$8,750	\$8,750	0	0
Total:	\$138,219	\$138,096	\$123	\$123

All eight schools have completed the restroom restoration with a professional cleaning company. Some schools have opted to retain the professional cleaning company to restore other restrooms on campus with the supplies fund instead of purchasing cleaning supplies. Almost the entire amount allotted for the restroom restoration program has been spent, except approximately \$186 that was not encumbered by the end of the fiscal year, and \$353.46 which remains in encumbrance awaiting invoices.

The program has successfully addressed needed restroom maintenance projects at schools that may not have otherwise received funding. Clean and sanitary restrooms are a priority with the Department of Education and the Board of Education. Through this special funding, selected schools are able to restore their restroom facilities to "almost new" condition, train their custodians on deep cleaning techniques, and raise the awareness of the school community as a whole on the value of maintaining clean restrooms.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The DOE recommends continuing the use of these special funds held in the school-level minor repairs and maintenance account for the restroom restoration program. A survey of schools that were previously funded showed that most schools who participated in the restroom restoration program were able to sustain clean and sanitary restrooms.

§302A-1504 School-level minor repair and maintenance account. (a) The department shall establish a school-level minor repair and maintenance account for the use by each public school that shall not exceed \$25,000 each per school. The account shall be comprised of funds appropriated out of the school-level minor repairs and maintenance special fund pursuant to section 302A-1504.5 for school-level minor repairs and maintenance and shall not be used for any other purpose, nor shall any other funds be deposited into the account.

(b) Funds in the account shall be expended at the direction of the school principal to contract for minor repairs and maintenance. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, special funds appropriated for this purpose that are unencumbered at the close of each fiscal year in the account shall not lapse until June 30 of the first fiscal year of the next fiscal biennium. The department shall submit:

- (1) A report to the director of finance, ninety days after the close of each fiscal year, which shall be prepared in the form prescribed by the director of finance and shall identify the total amount of funds in the account that shall carry over to the next fiscal year; and
- (2) A copy of this report to the legislature at least twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session of the legislature. [L 1996, c 89, pt of §2; am L 2001, c 311, §4 and c 316, §3(2); am L 2002, c 16, §22; am L 2006, c 245, §2]

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