DR. KISHIMOTO’S VISION AND ACTION PLAN FOR HIDOE

The COEAA Board members were honored to have Dr. Christina Kishimoto, Superintendent of the Hawai‘i Department of Education (HIDOE), at their January 29, 2019 Board meeting. Her presentation was informative and the Board members now have a better understanding and are cognizant of her vision and goals for her Department.

Dr. Kishimoto’s action plan was based upon reflection, over the past 18 months, on three high-impact strategies: school design, student voice and teacher collaboration. She shared this plan with her staff and others through visits with various educational organizations and through her article, “Equity, Excellence, and Innovation – Moving toward a 10-year HIDOE Action Plan.” Her plan focuses on three goals: student success, staff success and successful systems of support. According to her article, “A new calendar year is a time of both new beginnings and of continued work to improve the Hawai‘i DOE (HIDOE) – simultaneously reflecting and looking forward.” Dr. Kishimoto emphasizes the need to have teacher-lead planning and embracing teachers/educators as learners.

Dr. Kishimoto’s closing remarks were very clear. She emphasized collaboration among all parties involved–students, educators, community, and legislators–to achieve the goals for improved schools across the State of Hawai‘i.

GREETINGS from the College of Education Alumni Association

Dean’s Message 1
General Membership Meeting 1
2019 Milken Educator Award 2
2019 Scholarship Recipients 2
Honoring our 2019 Distinguished Alumna 3
COE Alumni Reunion 3
Dr. Kishimoto’s Vision 4

Inside this issue:

Dr. Glenn Medeiros, Keynote Speaker

The annual General Membership Meeting will be held on Friday, June 7, 2019, at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, Manoa Grand Ballroom from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The keynote speaker for this year’s event is Dr. Glenn Medeiros, best known for his rise to fame in the 1980s and 1990s for his hit song “Nothing’s Gonna Change My Love For You.” Since then, however, he elected to further his education to pursue a career in teaching and educational administration to make a difference in other’s lives. He has taught at various public and private schools throughout Oahu, i.e., Mililani Middle School, St. Joseph School, and Island Pacific Academy. He also was the Vice Principal of Maryknoll

continued, page 2
Membership Meeting (continued)

The cost for COEAA members and students is $37 per person and for guests the cost is $40 per person. The registration form may be found on the insert of this newsletter. Please remit the form together with your payment no later than Friday, May 24, 2019.

The COEAA leadership team and planning committee look forward to seeing you on June 7, 2019. The event includes a silent auction to fundraise for two (2) scholarships that are awarded annually to COE students. The auction items may be purchased with cash or checks only.

COEAA Fundraising Campaign

An Investment in Future Educators

The College of Education Alumni Association (COEAA) has been conducting a direct mail fundraising campaign since the second week of February 2019 by reaching out to the community, fellow alumni, friends of the College of Education and businesses. Please make a tax-deductible donation to the College in any amount to the COEAA if you can. Primarily, monies will go to support students enrolled in teacher preparation programs. The recipients of the 2019 scholarships are Kayla Ueshiro and Daniel Pavao. Kayla is a teacher candidate in the B.Ed. in Elementary Education program and Daniel is a candidate in the B.Ed. in Secondary Education (General Science) program. Congratulations Kayla and Daniel!

2019 Scholarship Recipients

Each year the COEAA awards two scholarships to COE students enrolled in teacher preparation programs. The recipients of the 2019 scholarships are Kayla Ueshiro and Daniel Pavao. Kayla is a teacher candidate in the B.Ed. in Elementary Education program and Daniel is a candidate in the B.Ed. in Secondary Education (General Science) program. Congratulations Kayla and Daniel!

Congratulations to the 2019 Milken Awardee

Sara King

Ala Wai Elementary School

Sara King, a Title I Coordinator at Ala Wai Elementary School, is the recipient of the 2019 Hawai‘i Milken Educator Award. She earned her B.Ed. in Elementary Education and M.Ed. in Curriculum Studies from the College of Education (COE). Sara is the only Milken educator selected from Hawai‘i this year and she is among 33 teachers nationwide selected for the premier teaching recognition, which comes with an unrestricted $25,000 cash prize.

She taught first grade and served as grade level chair before taking over as the title 1 Coordinator in August 2017. Sara embraced project-based learning, believing that all students can be leaders and can facilitate their own learning.

Ala Wai School Principal Michelle Debuesca states that “Mrs. King is an inspirational educator who inspires her students to believe in themselves and to dream big and work hard to make it happen. As a school leader, she is collaborative and supportive in developing school systems that are focused on student needs.” She further states that “Mrs. King is resourceful and innovative in her practices to challenge students to meet their fullest potential.”

Volume II, Issue 2

Honoring our 2019 Distinguished Alumna

Ms. Catherine Payne

2019 Distinguished Alumna

In 1991 she was the recipient of the National Association of Secondary School Principals' (NASSP) of the Year Award—a distinction that acknowledged her many years of service to the community, not only as outstanding administrator, but also as a valuable resource in understanding the at-risk youth population. Also, Catherine was a recipient of the prestigious Milken National Educator Award in 1995 and named a semifinalist for the Masayuki Tokioka Excellence in School Leadership Award in 2006.

Upon retirement as principal of Farrington High School, she served as Chair of the State Public Charter School Commission. Currently, she serves as Chairperson of the Board of Education and temporarily served as Interim Farrington -Kaiser-Kalani Complex Area Superintendent.

Catherine Payne has served on numerous education boards, including the Hawai‘i Teacher Standards Board, Education Institute of Hawai‘i, Adult Friends for Youth, and the State Public Charter School Commission as mentioned above. She also served as treasurer of the College of Education Alumni Association Board and was a mentor for doctoral students in the Ed.D. Program at UH Mānoa - College of Education. She is an active member of two honorary sororities for women educators: Beta Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and the Nu Chapter of the Alpha Delta Kappa Society International.

Catherine is known throughout Hawai‘i and among her colleagues as a steady and unflappable leader who works creatively to meet the challenges of implementing school goals. Her hallmarks are the vital and powerful qualities of warmth, sincerity, compassion, and vision. They manifest themselves in her ability to motivate others to take risks and to develop new programs which address the objectives of education.

Congratulations, Kayla!

Kayla Ueshiro, COE Student Association President and Representative to the COEAA Board, was recently selected as the 1st Princess of the 67th Cherry Blossom Festival Court. The Board is very proud of her and her academic accomplishments. Congratulations, Kayla, and thank you for being an active participant on the COEAA Board.

COE Neighbor Island Alumni Tour

On April 25, 2019, the UH Mānoa (UHM) College of Education (COE), together with the College of Education Alumni Association (COEAA), will hold a Neighbor Island Alumni Reception on Maui. As part of an appreciation and recruitment effort, the COE plans to visit at least one island each year.

With technology, the ‘where and how’ students learn is constantly evolving. Yet, it has been well established that many of our island students are coming to you. ‘O’ahu while others return to the neighbor islands to seek employment. "The COE is statewide, which means so much more than offering online or hybrid courses,” said Dean Nathan M. Murata. “We want to show our appreciation to all of our amazing alumni, retired teachers, current teachers, and even those considering a career in education. Regardless of where you learn or live, we are one, and we are coming to you.”

Wanted... Your Kokua

We are encouraging COEAA members to nominate candidates who are willing to serve on the COEAA Board. Please submit your nominations by May 10, 2019, for the Spring 2019 Board of Directors election to Kathleen Nishimura, Chair of the Nominations Committee. You may contact her at nishimurk001@hawaii.rr.com if you have any questions.