

Parent for Public Schools Hawai'i SCC Awareness Survey 2021

Report prepared by Vanessa Ott

January 18, 2021

TOTAL # RESPONSES: 121

Known Contacts (# Respondents in Mailchimp*): 81

Unknown Contacts (# Respondents not in Mailchimp*): 18

of duplicate responses (=TOTAL-Known-Unknown): 22

* The current definition of a PPS-HI "member" is someone in the Mailchimp "Audience" (1,461 contacts of which 1,267 are "Subscribers" who receive mailings, and 194 are unsubscribed (still part of the audience and could potentially be restored, but are currently not receiving mailings and have asked not to).

Question 1: What's your current, PRIMARY relationship to your local DOE school? If with charter or private school, choose last option. DOE employees who are also parents should select their DOE position type. Those w/o children in school select "Community Member."	% of TOTAL
DOE Parent / Legal Guardian	76.0%
DOE Student	4.1%
DOE Community Member	7.4%
DOE Teacher	6.6%
DOE Classified	3.3%
DOE Administrator	0.8%
No relationship with a State of Hawai'i DOE school.	1.7%
# unanswered:	0.0%
Question 2: Do you know what a School Community Council (SCC) is?	% of TOTAL
Yes, I know a lot.	17.4%
Yes, I know a little.	38.8%
No, but I've heard of it.	17.4%
No, I've never heard of it.	25.6%
# unanswered:	0.8%
Question 3: Have you ever received notices from your SCC or school about SCC activities?	% of TOTAL
Yes	38.8%
No	35.5%
Not Sure	25.6%
# unanswered:	0.0%
Question 4: Are the SCC meetings posted on the school web site?	% of TOTAL
Yes	23.1%
No	14.9%
Not Sure	62.0%
# unanswered:	0.0%
Question 5: Have you ever attended an SCC meeting?	% of TOTAL
Yes	37.2%
No	62.8%
# unanswered:	0.0%

Question 6: What DOE public school do you have a relationship with or have you had a relationship with in the past four years? Name and rate your satisfaction for each

TOTAL # OF RESPONSES = 180 Note: Some of the 121 respondents had ratings for two or three schools.	% of Total Responses	% of Complex Area Responses Satisfied	% of Complex Area Responses Unsatisfied	% of Complex Area Not Sure	% of Complex Area Unanswered
Aiea-Moanalua-Radford	6.7%	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	0.0%
Baldwin-Kekaulike-Maui	8.3%	13.3%	13.3%	73.3%	0.0%
Campbell-Kapolei	6.1%	45.5%	9.1%	45.5%	0.0%
Castle-Kahuku	4.4%	75.0%	0.0%	12.5%	12.5%
Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani	11.1%	55.0%	10.0%	35.0%	0.0%
Hana-Lahainaluna-Lanai-Molokai	2.2%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%
Hilo-Waiakea	3.3%	16.7%	16.7%	66.7%	0.0%
Honokaa-Kealakehe-Kohala-Konawaena	6.7%	41.7%	50.0%	8.3%	0.0%
Kailua-Kalaheo	9.4%	52.9%	17.6%	29.4%	0.0%
Kaimuki-McKinley-Roosevelt	8.3%	20.0%	26.7%	53.3%	0.0%
Kapaa-Kauai-Waimea	2.8%	60.0%	20.0%	20.0%	0.0%
Kau-Keaau-Pahoa	2.8%	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%	0.0%
Leilehua-Mililani-Waiialua	5.6%	50.0%	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%
Nanakuli-Waianae	8.3%	33.3%	26.7%	40.0%	0.0%
PCS - Public Charter School	5.0%	33.3%	22.2%	44.4%	0.0%
Pearl City-Waipahu	8.9%	6.3%	25.0%	68.8%	0.0%
		TOTAL% Satisfied	TOTAL% Unsatisfied	TOTAL% Not Sure	TOTAL% Unanswered
		35.6%	20.6%	43.3%	0.6%

Question 7: Please share any other comments you have about DOE School Community Councils. (1,000 character limit)

As a parent, I would like to receive information about what a SCC is and does in my district/school.

Do charter schools need to provide or public only?

Doe is a joke only thinking of themselves and not the kids. Teachers need to love their jobs not just do it for a pay check because that type of teachers are very fast to strike and think of themselves and not the kids that would be affected they are the future. I'm really talking about this teachers from Teach America.

Heeia is one of the best that my children have been so far. They really do help so much with families that are struggling. Support, and care a great deal about their students. My children still talks about how they miss that school. We weren't there long, but if there was any community we would want to be in. Would be that school

How would someone let the school know that they would like more information about their SCC?

I am only aware that we have one because of minutes posted on the school bulletin board. But I don't know if any parent actually participates in it and/or solicits input from parents.

I am part of our school's PTSA and one of our board members sits on the SCC. She provides updates, as needed, to us at PTSA meetings. I do not feel like I would have any information from the SCC other than through this member.

I am the Chair of the Kamiloiki SCC and a member of the Kaiser SCC. I have served in the past as a member of Waialae School SCC and Kalani HS SCC. I do believe these councils serve an important role as they provide a communication tool to improve education. The key in assuring that a council is effective is having a principal willing to participate and listen. Thank you!

I am the Parent Community Network Coordinator for Kealakehe Elementary School on Hawai'i island. I am currently recruiting more parent and community participation for our schools SCC. This function is part of my required job description. I have been with Kealakehe Elementary School for 8 years. I have finally been able to recruit (2) grade 1 parents to join us. I have been majorly successful in recruiting community. Mahalo!!

I don't know much about the SCC in the schools so I don't feel qualified to evaluate them.

I DONT KNOW WHAT SCC DOES? OR WHO IT IS? ALL I KNOW IS THAT MY CHILDREN ARE FAILING AND FORGETTING ACADEMICS! THIS IS SAD FOR THE STATE, WHERE HAS VERY FEW CASES! TO CONTINUE TO DO THIS TO THE CHILDREN!!
GIVE ME THE MONEY FOR MY KIDS, NOT THE SCHOOL, WHO DOES NOTHING AND DO NOT DESERVE THE MONEY FROM OUR TAX PAYERS!
"GIVE ME THE MONEY FOR MY KIDS, SO I CAN SPEND IT ON A PRIVATE SCHOOL THAT IS OPEN FIVE DAYS A WEEK!"
DOE SCHOOLS ARE A FAILURE AND MY KIDS WILL NEVER RETURN TO DOE!
SHAME ON YOU!!! ALL OF YOU!!!
IGE, CHRISTINE K., COREY ROSENLEE (A JOKE).

Question 7: Please share any other comments you have about DOE School Community Councils. (1,000 character limit)

I don't know what the SCC does or who is on it. It sounds like the PTSA. We're pretty involved at Hahaione.

I have NEVER heard of an SCC and I've been on island with three (3) kids in public schools on Kaua'i since 2018, with a long term of service in PTA prior to that.

I never heard of School Community Councils. What do they do and how does it affect me? I'm a student in high school with special needs.

I sit on approx 6 SCCs in Central District (as a parent and community member) and they are all facilitated well with all role groups represented. It's great to hear from the students especially.

I think the SCC serves an important role for the school and community. Student, Community, Staff and Parental involvement is crucial.

I think there is a disconnect between SCC activities, current members and community. CV19 impact, teacher members not active enough.

I was a community member over 10 years ago (maybe things have changed and each school is different) but I felt like the SCC really didn't have any influence to change anything at the school. I remember making suggestions to the AcFin and asking questions, but nothing really changed (how PPTs were used - if the goal was to support ELA, then shouldn't the PPTs be required to work during the ELA blocks or something like that). I guess the principal has the final say for decisions anyway. After serving for a few years, I felt the SCC was just a DOE formality, and I haven't been involved since then. I did however make sure the agenda and minutes were posted on some DOE website (Arch?), but it wasn't the school website. We did vote on switching the bell schedule for Weds/Friday or something like that.

I was on the SCC committee at ELES but that was ~7 years ago. Will never be on another one since some teachers did not appreciate parents input. It was interesting to see where the school \$ was spent and how little the schools received from the DOE. The DOE really needs to have transparency on the funds. They're an education institution that cannot explain their own numbers. Seems fishy.

I wish more parents knew about SCC and got involved to bridge the gap between home and school. I also would love more info about our school's SCC since it doesn't seem to be very active or good about letting new families/community know about the school's SCC or meetings.

It would be helpful to know what topics are discussed and what topics can be discussed during the SCC meetings.

Knows about student council but not aware of ones for parents or adults

Moanalua Elementary School - didn't realize it existed. school web site has info about it, and is in a slightly logical place for it - Community - SCC.

Moanalua High School - never knew it existed. school web site does not easily list it, and searching for it brings up old documents.

My husband is a teacher and I try to keep up with my kids schools, but no idea what these are...

NA

Question 7: Please share any other comments you have about DOE School Community Councils. (1,000 character limit)

Nanakuli High & Inter. totally awesome all for the students, so much support and positive everything all around..

Nanaikapono Elementary School needs better everything all negative only selective teachers are awesome and very supportive towards students.. some administration needs to be changed..

Never heard of this!

No comment

Not liking distant learning. Poor kids:(

Not sure what SCC is. Heard about it but not sure what it's role is or what they are responsible and what decision making authority they have

online meetings can be helpful

Only announced in the school calendar and no background or information is provided for those who are new parents or just happen to be paying attention now parents. Very small turn out around 6 people total including the principal, school's special programs person, PTSA board members.

Only learned about it from PS a month ago and my children have been in public schools for 6 years and I talk to principal often and used to be VP for Ohana. Weird that I don't know more about it.

Please publicize the purpose and goals and give an example of a really successful one so we can imagine ways to be involved and how it can help us all.

SCCs should be required to: (1) meet at a time when most parents and community members can attend; (2) offer virtual meeting participation so parents without child care can participate; (3) meet a minimum of once a month (virtually if necessary); follow Sunshine Laws regarding meetings notices, agendas, and posting of minutes and bylaws; (4) conduct ethical and democratic elections for all five elected positions; (5) understand that an SCC is not an appointed board but a place for all parents and community members to gather -- and for the sake of expediency and practicality, six stakeholders (elected and ex-officio SCC members) have the final decision-making voting power. The Principal should be required to send an announcement about the next SCC meeting to all parents at least one week before the meeting.

Seems like the school only wants the parents to fundraise and are not very friendly or open to a partnership with parents, although if they were more open to a partnership the school may see an increase of donations since many families have ties to small businesses and other professional organizations that would be a wonderful resource for the school.

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Served on Noelani Elementary SCC as a parent member a long while back and served on Lincoln SCC as a faculty member also, prior to the last 4 years. The SCC is a good idea in theory, but in my experience, has not fulfilled its promise of stakeholder collaboration and working together for school improvement. Because the manner in which DOE operates (many different, sometimes conflicting initiatives for schools and not enough investment in terms of priority or commitment in the SCC), often the SCC ended up being a rubber stamp for required approvals of paperwork in order to help the school meet deadlines. I also was involved at the time of the decision of having Noelani lose its 6th grade and was disappointed with the DOE's lack of transparency and forthrightness in the process. In these times of COVID-19, where schools' decisions have more far reaching impact on communities as well, it is also sad that more processes for considering community voices are not better used and welcomed.

Teachers & parents concerns are not being brought up. SCC members at Hokulani had conflict of interest which did not benefit teachers, students or school.

The Jarrett Middle School Community Council was different from the SCC's of the other two schools because a high percentage of the student population (nearly half) are from the housing (Palolo Valley Homes). The SCC was very innovative by holding several meetings every year at the housing's community center, which was a great way for them to reach families of students from those communities and help families of students from outside communities to become more familiar. It's a great way to build bridges and highly beneficial to increase relationships and improve linkages.

The SCC meets once a month with the principal taking the lead of conducting the meetings. Everything is thoroughly explained to the members who attend the SCC meeting, but it would be good to have more of this information be more transparent for all parents, teachers and community members to hear about the school. I know that all meetings are open to the public, but I still think it would make sense to also have a formal letter sent out to families as well.

The SCC's are great and they work best when the parents who join have the goal of supporting the school administrators, teachers, and students in what they want for the school. Anything they support will naturally be good for the parents too.

They are not used enough.

they don't do what they should,

We need to get kids back in school! Are the teachers nit essential but crowded costco's, walmarts are? Tuition to parents would be at better option for this yr! They arent learning anything. But bad computer habits