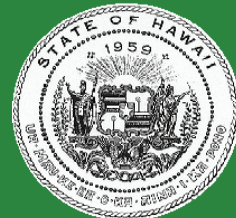




Ko'olau Konnections



From the Office of State Senator Jill N. Tokuda

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 10

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Senate District 24 (Kaneohe and Kailua)

Chair of Senate Education Committee
Member of the Agriculture;
Water, Land and Housing;
and Ways and Means Committees
Majority Whip

ON THE MOVE...

On September 5th, Senator Tokuda was a judge in Kalaheo High School's Homecoming Building Competition.

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Senator Tokuda attended a pre-construction meeting for Castle High School's athletic field on September 15th.

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On September 15th, Senator Tokuda participated in PBS' Island Insights program as a panel member discussing early education.

...

Kaneohe Elementary 3rd graders visited Senator Tokuda and the State Capitol on September 20th.

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On September 23rd, Senator Tokuda was a homecoming assembly judge at Castle High School.

...

Senator Tokuda attended the 4th Annual Adopt-A-School Day Kick Off Rally on September 24th where she "adopted" Kailua and Castle High Schools.

...

Senator Tokuda attended Kapunahala Elementary School's Fun Fair on September 30th.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Maunawili Community Meeting

Our office has received calls from residents in the Maunawili area inquiring about the various projects that are ongoing in the valley. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, State of Hawaii Department of Agriculture and Hawaiian Electric Company will be attending our meeting on **Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at 6:30pm at Trinity Church** to update the community on the status of their projects and providing answers to any questions they may have.

Adopt-A-School Day

Senator Tokuda is participating as a sponsor in the 4th Annual Adopt-a-School Day. She and Representative Chong have adopted Kailua and Castle High Schools. Their focus in adopting these schools will be positive reinforcement of students who make honor roll and have good and/or perfect attendance after the completion of this first quarter. They are working on a culminating prize at the end of the year for those students who achieve the set standards for all 4 quarters.

Keapuka Coffee Hour

After a year long discussion with the City and County of Honolulu and residents in the Keapuka neighborhood, the City is ready to move forward in implementing a proposed plan to slow down and ease traffic and speeding concerns through the neighborhood. We will be hosting another Keapuka Coffee Hour on **Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at 6:30pm at Kapunahala Elementary Library** to hear the results of our survey and what next steps and timeline the City has set before us.

Charter School Governance Task Force

The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for October 12th. At our last meeting in September, we received national support from two organizations providing recommendations for changes in both policy and practices and insight into what other states are doing. We look forward to exploring their recommendations and implementing new ideas to help our charter schools succeed. More information can be found at www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

DISTRICT EVENTS

- * Adopt-A-School Day, Sunday, October 9, 2011 @ various schools around the state. For more information visit: www.adoptaschoolday.org
- * Maunawili Community Meeting re: ongoing projects
Tuesday, October 11, 2011 6:30-8:00pm @ Trinity Church
- * Ho'olaulima Community Meeting re: Kawainui Marsh
Thursday, October 20, 2011 7:00-8:30PM @ St. John Vianney
- * Keapuka Coffee Hour
Tuesday, October 25, 2011 6:30-8:00pm @ Kapunahala Elementary Library
- * Ho'olaulima Community Meeting re: Kawainui Marsh
Thursday, October 27, 2011 7:00-8:30PM @ Lanikai Park
- * He'eia Elementary Harvest Fest
Friday, October 28, 2011 3:00-8:00pm @ Heeia Elementary School
- * Windward Nazarene Fall Festival
Monday, October 31, 2011 6:00-8:00pm @ Windward Nazarene



Senator Tokuda and Representative Ito speak with third grade students from Kaneohe Elementary as they spent a day visiting the Capitol. The eager and inquisitive students asked questions about the building, their school, and legislative jobs.



Senator Tokuda was recognized by the Hawaii Chamber of Commerce and the Hawaii Department of Education with a 2011 Partnership in Education Award for her support and participation as a mentor for students working on their BOE Senior Project.



4th Annual Adopt-A-School Day Rally at Ala Moana Center on Sunday, September 25, 2011. For more information, or to adopt a school, visit www.adoptaschoolday.org



The Charter School Governance Task Force last met on September 21st for their fourth meeting. At the meeting, Greg Richmond, CEO of National Alliance for Charter School Authorizers, shared their findings and research about ways that Hawaii can strengthen the laws for our Charter Schools, pertaining to governance, accountability and authority. The National Governors Association was also in attendance and providing their input for what types of systems have worked in other states. Hawaii was awarded grants to have both of these national organizations help us.

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