



NATIVE HAWAIIAN  
EDUCATION COUNCIL

# Kaua`i Native Hawaiian Education Summit 2015 Summit Recap

# Outcomes of the Summit

- ▶ Exposed the NHEC to a broader Kauaʻi community
- ▶ Established and developed relationships with leaders within key educational institutions on Kauai (e.g., Kauai Community College, Kauai Department of Education, Kamehameha Schools, Kauaʻi Chamber of Commerce, Junior Achievement, Kauai Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, Kauai Community College's (KCC) Makaloa Council, Mayor of Kauai)
- ▶ Included a diverse representation of participants (Students from elementary to post-secondary, faculty, administrators, parents, kupuna, and concerned community members)
- ▶ Provided direct feedback from community regarding Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats along the educational continuum
- ▶ Provided an opportunity for attendees to receive information from various community service providers
- ▶ Provided a post-high venue at KCC for students, families and communities to experience
- ▶ Provided presenters who shared relevant information with attendees.

# S.W.O.T. Summaries

- ▶ The five sessions focused upon distinct segments within the education pipeline and were broken down as follows:
  1. Pre-K
  2. Elementary Education
  3. Middle School
  4. High School
  5. Post-Secondary Education

# S.W.O.T. Summaries Cont`

- ▶ Common strengths included strong community support, resilient community, access to natural resources, and culturally-focused resources.
- ▶ Common weaknesses included lack of scale for resources due to size of population being served, lack of strong voice for advocacy, and pressure on a few to do the work of many.
- ▶ Common threats came in the form of loss of funding for services supported by grants, federal mandates negatively impacting teaching and learning, and loss of access to programs, services, and classes due to low enrollment due to population size.
- ▶ The strong community support is the major common opportunity identified as service organizations and the private sector can be integrated into helping students and faculty on all levels.
- ▶ Overall, participants in the SWOT sessions provided great *mana`o* (insight) as we look to create a picture of the present situation facing learners of all ages on Kauai. They also provided ways that we can shape the future based not only on the current needs, but through collaborations and partnerships with programs and services in both the non-profit and private sectors.



# Takeaways from 2015

- ▶ Attendees represented the full spectrum of learners within our community.
- ▶ Hawaiians continue to improve their performance and standing within our educational institutions, but there are still gaps that need to be closed.
- ▶ The Hawai`i DOE and UH Kaua`i Community College are implementing strategies to improve the performance of Hawaiians (i.e. Project Wai`ale`ale)
- ▶ We need to be vigilant and aware of policy that is presented at the local, state, and federal levels.
- ▶ We have a rich supply of supportive resources that can nurture and inspire learners of all ages.