

September 22, 2021

Via Email  
Ms. Jarnett Lono  
Personnel Director  
State of Hawaii  
Department of Education  
Employee Relations Branch  
jarnett.lono@k12.hi.us

**Osa Tui, Jr.**  
President  
**Logan Okita**  
Vice President  
**Lisa Morrison**  
Secretary-Treasurer  
**Wilbert Holck**  
Executive Director

**Re: Request for Information Regarding Ventilation Metrics for SY21-22**

Dear Ms. Lono:

Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) appreciates the Hawaii Department of Education's (HIDOE) email dated September 16, 2021, regarding the aforementioned subject. Since March 2021, we have repeatedly asked for additional information regarding the ventilation reports including their metrics and standards.

When In-Person Learning for school year 2021-2022 was discussed prior to August 2021, we did not predict or anticipate the swift spread of the Delta variant in our community. With the understanding that ventilation is consistently mentioned as a key mitigation strategy, we feel an urgency to understand the metrics and methods implemented by schools to ensure the safety of our teachers and students. Outside of this list, and limited information regarding CO2 monitors, we have been informed of little else regarding the subject matter of ventilation. Based upon the metrics provided, we have the following requests for additional information:

- A detailed explanation of the "Ventilation Metrics".
- A detailed explanation of how the aforementioned metrics were collected.
- The collection dates for the data.
- Specific information regarding which metrics were not met in each classroom.
- The total number of classrooms and workspaces occupied by teachers in the State of Hawaii.
- Does this list represent an assessment of all classrooms and worksites not meeting the metrics statewide?
- Did all schools provide information for this collection?
- For classrooms not meeting the Ventilation Metrics, what corrective steps are being taken?
- Is the Bargaining Unit 05 (BU5) employee and the parents of students informed that their classroom did not meet the ventilation metrics?
- Is the Board of Education (BOE) provided this information?
- Is the BU5 employee offered an alternative classroom?
- What is the timeline to retrofit all classrooms to meet the ventilation metrics?

- Are additional layering strategies deployed in classrooms that do not meet the ventilation metrics? If so, what additional strategies are added and enforced?

HSTA appreciates the HDOE's continued efforts to consult with HSTA regarding COVID-19 and its impacts. HSTA also requests that the HDOE continue to update the HSTA on any modifications or changes via the consultation process. The HSTA continues to reserve its right to continue comment should there be further questions or concerns, with the understanding that it does not in any way negate the collective bargaining rights of bargaining unit 05 employees. The information can be transmitted via e-mail at [aeshelman@hsta.org](mailto:aeshelman@hsta.org) or regular US mail.

Sincerely,



Andrea Eshelman  
Deputy Executive Director

C: Keith Hayashi, Interim Superintendent  
Phyllis Unebasami, Deputy Superintendent  
Randall Tanaka, Assistant Superintendent, Office of Facilities and Operations  
Sean Bacon, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Office of Talent Management  
Laureen Ladao, Personnel Specialist  
Wilbert Holck, Executive Director, HSTA