Wednesday, August 22nd

Whitney Tilson  
Special Guest

Jill Baldemor  
Executive Director

Mitch D’Olier  
Board Chair

Alex Teece  
Director, External Affairs

A snapshot of the local achievement gap, Teach For America’s place in reforming education, and how to apply national examples of success to Hawai‘i
The local achievement gap
Our nation aspires to be a place of equal opportunity. Yet, still today, where a child is born determines his or her educational prospects.

- 1 in 4 eighth graders in Hawai‘i are proficient in reading.
- 13% of Hawaiian/Pacific Islander students are on grade level by the 8th grade.
- 11 of Hawai‘i’s 41 public high schools have been labeled as *Dropout factories* (freshmen class shrinks by 40% or more by graduation).
Quantifying the Achievement Gap

$1.5 Billion  life-time income lost from the expected 6,000 dropouts in 2013

15%  of single race Native Hawaiians hold a bachelor’s degree or higher

-$10,254  Wage gap between median household income of Native Hawaiians / Asia Pacific Islanders and the State of Hawai‘i

9.3%  Unemployment rate among Native Hawaiians (8.2% Nationally)

Hawai‘i not only trails the US in most categories, but Native Hawaiian and Asia Pacific Islander individuals are at a significant disadvantage throughout the state.
Where does Hawai‘i fall?

Hawai‘i ranks 28th in overall academic achievement, but NAEP scores (4th & 8th grade) paint a much bleaker picture:

- 40th in 4th grade reading
- 44th in 8th grade reading
- 38th in 8th grade math
- 46th in HS AP test scores (46th in change in AP test scores...stagnant)

Only 13% of Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander 8th graders are proficient in reading.
Where does Hawai‘i fall?

Highlights:

- Overall grade of C+, above national C average
- Standards/assessment-aligned curriculum
- Above average pre-school enrollment rate

Hot Spots:

- D+ Grade for K-12 Achievement with chance for success dipping in school years
- Ranked in bottom quartile for elementary reading, MS Math, & HS Graduation
- National achievement gap widening based on NAEP scores (math especially)
Historically

8th grade NAEP Reading Assessment
Over the past 13 years, little progress has been made in terms of closing the reading achievement gap between Hawai’i and the national average.

4th grade NAEP Reading Assessment
While growth is evident, only 40% of fourth graders scored proficient in math and the achievement gap widens from then on through their academic years.
Progress?

Percent of Title I schools meeting (not meeting) AYP over the past 8 years

Charter schools (below) are even worse off… 4/19 met AYP in 2010-2011
Progress, yes… but let us take a look in terms of relativity and versus increasing benchmarks.

- **Trends**: leveling off/declining for reading, incredibly low math proficiency
There is a very dramatic gap between Asian/Pacific Islander students and white students – AP Islander students also fall below all students in general.
2010 HSA Data has 47% of the 180 students tested “well below” proficiency for reading and 72% of students “well below” for math.

81% of Nanakuli is at least part Native Hawaiian.
Native Hawaiian Achievement Gap

**Reading proficiency rates for grade 8 Native Hawaiian and non-Native Hawaiian students on the Hawaii State Assessment, 2003/04–2008/09**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>Non-Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>Non-Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>Non-Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>Non-Native Hawaiian</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Math proficiency rates for grade 8 Native Hawaiian and non-Native Hawaiian students on the Hawaii State Assessment, 2003/04–2008/09**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>Non-Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>Non-Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>Non-Native Hawaiian</td>
<td>Native Hawaiian</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note:* Proficiency rates include the meets proficiency and exceeds proficiency levels. Performance standards changed in 2004; the assessment based on the new standards changed in school year 2006/07.

*Source:* Authors’ analysis of Hawaii Department of Education data.
Native Hawaiian Achievement Gap

English/Language Arts Proficiency by Race/Ethnicity

Source: DOE Hawaii State Assessment Data
Native Hawaiian Achievement Gap

Mathematics Proficiency by Race/Ethnicity

Source: DOE Hawaii State Assessment Data
National examples & areas of reform
Application in Hawai’i

- Charter Schools
- Exemplar Schools
- Innovation Zone

- Pipelines & Partnerships
- NAI

- RTTT
- Transparency & Advocacy

- Reform

- Private Sector

- Cooperation
- Replication
- GDP
From within the Education System

High Powered Charter Schools
National examples such as KIPP, Harlem Village Academies, and Rocketship have proven that it is possible to defy the odds and close the achievement gap.

Systematic Change
Over 60% of public schools in New Orleans are charter schools; New York City has decentralized power and is embracing transparency and accountability.

New Leadership
Organizations such as Building Excellent Schools, the Ryan Fellowship, New Leaders, and the Broad Residency are offering innovative approaches to leading and reforming schools.
From within Teach For America

Chicago
TFA Chicago has partnered with Harvard and the Chicago Public School System to create the Principal Leadership Pipeline

Native Achievement Initiative
New focus on tailoring approach to diverse populations and preparing individuals for community leadership

National Principal Satisfaction
In 2011, 90% of 1,824 principals nationwide said that TFA teachers were as effective as veteran teachers (in some cases more effective)
Education Reform on a National Level

Race To The Top (RTTT)
This program was built upon innovation and reform, and action is now in the spotlight

New York City Teacher Ratings
The ratings and effectiveness of over 18,000 teachers were released on the front page of the Wall Street Journal and New York Times earlier this year

Momentum
Education reform as a movement is gaining traction and momentum with media releases, transparent studies, and a change in conversation around the status quo
Exposure
The New York City region holds “Breakfast Discussion Series” in which it invites leaders from various sectors to speak and participate in TFA sponsored events.

Partnerships
Deferral programs, summer internships, and co-ops highlight the opportunity for private sector businesses to pull from a 5,000 person talent pool each year.

Non-profit Venture Capital
The Charter School Growth Fund raised $300 million from private investors and invests in a portfolio of 29 schools of which 95% are outperforming district schools with 90% of graduates heading to college.