



# HAWAI'I EDUCATIONAL POLICY CENTER

*Informing the Education Community*

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## Perspectives #3

### Weighted Student Formula (WSF) and Restructuring Schools

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*[Perspectives are quick takes on Reinventing Education (Act 51) issues that are in transition. These issues will be revisited periodically as new developments warrant.]*

If the proposed weighted student formula with a K-2 weight of .20, an ESLL weight of .19, a poverty weight of .10 and a small school adjustment were used to allocate money (using FY 04-05 appropriations) to the 24 schools currently undergoing restructuring, the results show 75% of these schools would lose money.

#### McKinley/Roosevelt Complex

##### Central Middle

Total enrollment:	516 (461 regular education students; 55 special education students)
Poverty Students:	75% of total enrollment
ESLL	32% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 7% funding</b>

#### Farrington/Kaiser Complex

##### Dole Middle

Total enrollment	782 (678 regular education students; 104 special education students)
Poverty Students	73% of total enrollment
ESLL	19% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 3% funding</b>

#### Kaimuki/Kalani Complex

##### Jarrett Middle

Total Enrollment	330 (266 regular education students; 64 special education students)
Poverty Students	63% of total enrollment
ESLL	18% of total enrollment
<b>Result</b>	<b>Loss of 24% funding</b>

#### Palolo Elementary

Total Enrollment	269 (252 regular education students; 17 special education students)
Poverty Students	95% of total enrollment
ESLL	43% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 2% funding</b>

### Aiea/Moanalua/Radford Complex

#### **Aiea Elementary**

Total Enrollment	413 (371 regular education students; 42 special education students)
Poverty Students	88% of total enrollment
ESLL	17% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 1% funding</b>

### Leilehua/Mililani/Waiialua Complex

#### **Wahiawa Middle**

Total Enrollment	979 (825 regular education students; 154 special education students)
Poverty Students	54% of total enrollment
ESLL	8% of total enrollment
<b>Result</b>	<b>Loss of 4% funding</b>

### Nanakuli/Pearl City/Waipahu Complex

#### **Nanaikapono Elementary**

Total Enrollment	976 (867 regular education students; 109 special education students)
Poverty Students	86% of total enrollment
ESLL	6% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Gain of 17% funding</b>

#### **Nanakuli High and Intermediate**

Total Enrollment	1343 (1082 regular education students; 261 special education students)
Poverty Students	71% of total enrollment
ESLL	4% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 11% funding</b>

#### **Waipahu Intermediate**

Total Enrollment	1361 (1228 regular education students; 133 special education students)
Poverty Students	58% of total enrollment
ESLL	15% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Gain of 2% funding</b>

### Campbell/Kapolei/Waianae Complex

#### **Waianae Intermediate**

Total Enrollment	1137 (940 regular education students; 197 special education students)
Poverty Students	69% of total enrollment
ESLL	4% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 9% funding</b>

### Castle/Kahuku Complex

#### **Haula Elementary**

Total Enrollment	271 (242 regular education students; 29 special education students)
Poverty Students	75% of total enrollment
ESLL	3% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 7% funding</b>

**Kahaluu Elementary**

Total Enrollment	202 (178 regular education students; 24 special education students)
Poverty Students	70% of total enrollment
ESLL	5% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 14% funding</b>

**Waiahole Elementary**

Total Enrollment	117 (93 regular education students; 24 special education students)
Poverty Students	68% of total enrollment
ESLL	5% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 30% funding</b>

**Hilo/Laupahoehoe/Waiakea Complex****Hilo Intermediate**

Total Enrollment	643 (542 regular education students; 201 special education students)
Poverty Students	60.2% of total enrollment
ESLL	3% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 14% funding</b>

**Kau/Keaau/Pahoa Complex****Keaau Middle**

Total Enrollment	594 (487 regular education students; 107 special education students)
Poverty Students	79% of total enrollment
ESLL	3% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 14% funding</b>

**Naalehu Elementary and Intermediate**

Total Enrollment	395 (332 regular education students; 63 special education students)
Poverty Students	78% of total enrollment
ESLL	18% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 9% funding</b>

**Pahoa High and Intermediate**

Total Enrollment	812 (640 regular education students; 172 special education students)
Poverty Students	71% of total enrollment
ESLL	45% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 13% funding</b>

**Honokaa/Kealakehe/Kohala/Konawaena Complex****Kealakehe Elementary**

Total Enrollment	978 (874 regular education students; 104 special education students)
Poverty Students	50% of total enrollment
ESLL	9% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Gain of 15% funding</b>

## Hana/Lahainaluna/Lanai/Molokai Complex

### **Hana High and Elementary**

Total Enrollment	384 (306 regular education students; 78 special education students)
Poverty Students	65% of total enrollment
ESLL	0%
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 27% funding</b>

### **Maunaloa Elementary**

Total Enrollment	69 (60 regular education students; 9 special education students)
Poverty Students	81% of total enrollment
ESLL	0%
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 27% funding</b>

### **Molokai High**

Total Enrollment	413 (324 regular education students; 89 special education students)
Poverty Students	34% of total enrollment
ESLL	2% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Loss of 38% funding</b>

### **Molokai Intermediate**

Total Enrollment	215 (180 regular education students; 35 special education students)
Poverty Students	67% of total enrollment
ESLL	0%
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Gain of 24% funding</b>

## Baldwin/Kekaulike/Maui Complex

### **Kahului Elementary**

Total Enrollment	850 (765 regular education students; 85 special education students)
Poverty Students	45% of total enrollment
ESLL	17% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Gain of 12% funding</b>

### **Paia Elementary**

Total Enrollment	212 (196 regular education students; 14 special education students)
Poverty Students	100%
ESLL	2% of total enrollment
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Gain of 2% funding</b>

Does it make sense that 75% of the restructuring schools are projected to lose money? Is there an explanation for the projected loss/gain under WSF?

The DOE suggests the possibility that schools losing money, even restructuring ones, have received more and more money (more accurately, FTE positions) over the years but have not leveraged their money/positions well. Another explanation is that the projected figures under WSF expose inequities from school to school that have been “cast in stone” over the years. The DOE weighted student

funding feasibility study submitted to the legislature in 2003 says: “Clerical and other office staffing is determined based on the level of staffing that has historically been established at each school. At different periods of time attempts to provide equity in this area have been made but the leveling up has never been fully completed. While it is beyond the scope of this study to determine the adequacy or fairness of these allocations, the wide disparity in classified office staffing among schools is conspicuous.”

Under a weighted student formula, the funding schools receive and the formula that determines the funding become transparent, and that’s good. Yet, the question remains. Does it make sense to expect “failing” schools to do more with less?