Dr. Lucy Miller

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September 7, 2019

Dr. Christine M. Kishimoto, Superintendent

Hawaii Department of Education

P.O. Box 2360

Honolulu, HI 96804

Re: Hawaii State School for the Deaf and the Blind (HSDB)

Dear Dr. Kishimoto,

I am concerned regarding the proposed change of principal of the Hawaii State school for the Deaf and Blind. I have known many of the students and faculty of this school for the past 30 years in various capacities, including educator and counselor, as well as serving on Hawaii's Disability and Community Access Board and on the Adjudication Panel for HSDB Claims Settlement a few years ago.

I was an honor graduate of the International Leadership Training Program in Deaf Educational Administration, well known for providing extremely specialized knowledge and skills in educational administration for programs serving deaf and multiply disabled students with special communication needs best met by American Sign Language, most of whom begin school without any linguistic capacities as well as cultural deprivation. Dr. Angel Ramos, the most recent principal, also graduated from the same Leadership Training Pprogram (in a different year).

In three short years, Dr. Ramos has done an excellent job of turning HSDB around from its nadir to its current rise toward excellence. Please do not interrupt this rise. HSDB must have a person with his specialized qualifications in deafness, ASL and leadership in deaf education.

Sincerely,

Lucy Miller, PhD Educational Psychology