

Final Report

January 28, 2009

To: Mr. Ronn Nozoe
Complex Area Superintendent

From: Cary Miyashiro, Chair
Task force to study the consolidation of Wailupe Valley and Aina Haina
Elementary Schools

Subject: Task force report on consolidation study
Wailupe Valley-Aina Haina Elementary Schools

This is the report of the task force you appointed pursuant to Chapter 8-38, Hawaii Administrative Rules, to study the possible consolidation of Wailupe Valley and Aina Haina Elementary Schools. We looked at closing Wailupe Valley and transferring the students and needed staff to Aina Haina. As provided by Chapter 8-38, your task force considered the following:

- (1) The advantages and disadvantages of consolidation in respect to efficient school administration and providing equal educational opportunity;
- (2) The adequacy of facilities, equipment, programs, transportation service, and other support services at the school which may be closed and the school to which students may be transferred;
- (3) Social impact on the children, schools, community and those involved in the consolidation;
- (4) The net financial savings that may be realized from consolidation, including projections of additional expenditures at the school which may receive transferred students;
- (5) Potential new residential developments, projected changes in enrollment, and other relevant demographic considerations;
- (6) Suitability of using portions of the school facilities to accommodate space requirements of other department or state activities; and
- (7) A suggested timetable for implementation if consolidation is recommended.
- (8) Other issues not specifically addressed in Chapter 8-38.

Your task force met on the following dates:

Tuesday, December 23, 2008 from 9 to 11:50 a.m. at Wailupe Valley
Thursday, January 8, 2009 from 11 a.m. to 1:10 p.m. at Aina Haina
Tuesday, January 20, 2009 from 4 to 5:50 p.m. at Wailupe Valley

These meetings were conducted in accordance with Chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes (the "Sunshine Law").

Our findings follow, in the order listed above:

(1) The advantages and disadvantages of consolidation in respect to efficient school administration and providing equal educational opportunity.

Advantages of consolidation	Disadvantages of consolidation
<p><u>Efficient school administration:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the two schools were consolidated, the combined school would be less costly to operate than the two schools separately. • Larger schools have fewer non-teaching positions per student • Larger schools receive more money, which enables them to hire more employees to service students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There may be more traffic congestion and a more crowded cafeteria at Aina Haina, both of which require increased administrative attention.
<p><u>Providing equal educational opportunity:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall student achievement, as indicated by Hawaii State Assessment test scores in reading and math, are higher at Aina Haina. Wailupe Valley students transferring to Aina Haina would benefit from the Aina Haina culture and climate, which emphasizes high student achievement. Data is in the table below. • Aina Haina offers more educational programs. • Aina Haina offers more extra-curricular options. • The greater variety of students at Aina Haina brings diverse experiences to their fellow students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students at Wailupe Valley receive more individualized attention because of the smaller class sizes. • The feeling of “family” is stronger at Wailupe Valley and may be diminished for students transferring to Aina Haina. • Because it is small, Wailupe Valley offers more opportunities for individual students to participate.

Research indicates that the optimal elementary class size is 17 to 22 students. Wailupe Valley class sizes range from 8 to 14; Aina Haina class sizes are generally within the 17-22 range. Teacher quality is more important than class size, however. A larger school has a greater opportunity to create individual classes that are heterogeneous.

Student achievement at the two schools is shown in the tables below. Because the number of students per grade at Wailupe Valley is too low to have the results by grade publicly released, only the combined results for all grade levels tested is shown.

Reading – percent of students proficient or better

	Spring 2004	Spring 2005	Spring 2006	Spring 2007	Spring 2008
Aina Haina	74	80	79	88	86
Wailupe Valley	47	58	56	77	n/a
All elementary schools	45	47	47	60	

Mathematics – percent of students proficient or better

	Spring 2004	Spring 2005	Spring 2006	Spring 2007	Spring 2008
Aina Haina	59	59	52	77	76
Wailupe Valley	24	31	39	54	n/a
All elementary schools	23	23	27	39	

The reason for n/a for Wailupe Valley in the Spring 2008 results above is that there were too few students in the grade levels tested (grades 3-5) to release the data publicly, for privacy reason.

The status of both schools under the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) has been in “good standing – unconditional” for as long as NCLB has been applicable to these schools (school year 2002-03).

(2) The adequacy of facilities, equipment, programs, transportation service, and other support services at Wailupe Valley Elementary School and at Aina Haina Elementary School.

Wailupe Valley students could be accommodated at Aina Haina.

The two schools have the following facilities:

	Wailupe Valley		Aina Haina	
	number	sq. ft	number	sq. ft.
classrooms:				
classroom use	10.5	10,752	30.5	29,744
charter sch use	2.0	1,916		
office use	1.0	922		
cafeteria use	1.0	1,142		
other (describe)				
A Plus	1.0	1,034		
Couns/Health/PCNC/SSC/Speech	1.5	1,467	0.5	524
PreSchool (private at Wailupe)	1.0	958	2.0	1,814
OT/PT, SBBH			2.5	1,748
total classrms	18.0	18,191	35.0	33,830
administration			1.0	2,525
cafeteria/kitchen			1.0	6,951
other (describe)				
Library	1.0	2,584	1.0	5,586
total non-classrooms	1.0	2,584	3.0	15,062
total all buildings		20,775		48,892

DOE's criteria for determining the number of classrooms needed for instructional purposes are:

- * one classroom for each special education teacher
- * one classroom for every 20 students grades K-2
- * one classroom for every 25 students grades 3-5.

Based on these criteria, the number of classrooms needed if the Wailupe Valley student population (as of January 1, 2009) were transferred to Aina Haina would be:

	Wailupe Valley		Aina Haina		combined		
	no. of students	no. of teachers	no. of students	no. of teachers	no. of students	no. of teachers	no. of classrooms
special ed – pre K			1	1	1	1	1
special ed – K-5	7	1	30	4	37	4	4
regular ed							
K	15	1	111	5	126	6	6
grade 1	9	1	85	4	94	5	5
grade 2	12	1	85	4	97	5	5
grade 3	13	1	97	4	110	5	5
grade 4	15	1	67	3	82	4	4
grade 5	8	1	68	3	76	3	3
total reg. ed	72	6	513	23	585	28	28
total	79	7	544	28	623	33	33

If the Wailupe Valley students were transferred to Aina Haina, the furniture and equipment at Wailupe Valley would be more than sufficient to fulfill any additional furniture and equipment needed at Aina Haina to accommodate the students from Wailupe Valley.

The following programs and support services are now available at the two schools:

Wailupe Valley School	Aina Haina School
Part-time Art teacher	Part-time Art teacher
Part-time Music teacher	Half-time Music teacher
Part-time Hawaiian Studies teacher	Part-time Hawaiian Studies teachers
Part-time Technology teacher	Full-time Technology teacher
Half-time Library Assistant	Full-time Librarian
Part-time Reading Tutor	After-school Reading/Math Tutors for Gr. 3-5
Volunteer Reading Tutors	Volunteer Reading Tutors
Gifted and Talented program provided by Learning Center Coordinator	Full-time Gifted and Talented teacher
After-school Lego Robotics	After-school Lego Robotics
Speech Festival	Speech Festival
Hawaii Theatre for Youth program (1-yr grant)	Opera production w/ Hawaii Opera Theatre
Navigating Change for Gr. 4-5 (1-yr grant)	Geography Bee
Taiko drumming lessons	Chorus
After-school Mandarin class (pvt)	After-school Mandarin class (pvt)
After-school Japanese class (pvt)	Half-time Japanese teacher
English for Second Language Learners services provided by reading tutor	Part-time English for Second Language Learner teachers
Grade 5 Graduation	Grade 5 Graduation
Drug Abuse Resistance Education for Grade 5	Drug Abuse Resistance Education for Grade 5
Student Council	Student Council
Nike Fun Run	Nike Fun Run
Recycling program	Recycling program
Monthly Awards Assemblies	End of the year Awards Assembly
Food Drive	Food Drive
Book Fair	Book Fairs
Field Day	Field Day
May Day program	May Day program
Room Parents	Room Parents
Accelerated Reader program	Accelerated Reader/literacy program
Fun Fest	Haunted House
Intramural Basketball	Jump Rope for Heart

JPO program	Volunteer traffic monitors
Lion's Quest character education program	Positive Behavior Supports character ed program
A+ after-school care	A+ early morning and after-school care
Monthly Birthday lunch with the principal	
	Primary School Adjustment Program
	Yearbook class
	Closed circuit TV program by students
	Part-time Dance teacher
	Grade 5 Camp
	Grade 4 Bike Ed
	Peer Mediators
	Family Chess Night
	Special Olympics
	Jaguar Jog
	Student library aides
	Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts
	Parks and Recreation Summer Fun program on site
	School Based Behavioral Health/speech therapist/physical therapist/occupational therapist on-site

Transportation is not now provided to students, except certain students with special needs, at either school. If Wailupe Valley students were transferred to Aina Haina, Wailupe Valley students living within the Wailupe Valley attendance area will be required to travel farther to school, even though the two schools are only 1.14 miles (and 3 minutes drive time) apart (source: MapQuest). It is likely that many parents of younger Wailupe Valley students living within the Wailupe Valley attendance area will not want their children to walk to Aina Haina. Most Wailupe Valley students living outside the Wailupe Valley attendance will have a shorter commute to Aina Haina than their present commute to Wailupe Valley.

The DOE does not now provide transportation to any special education students at Wailupe Valley. Therefore, it is unlikely any of them would need transportation to Aina Haina if Wailupe Valley students were transferred to Aina Haina.

(3) Social impact on the children, schools, community, and those involved in the consolidation.

If Wailupe Valley were closed, it would eliminate one choice for parents who want their child to attend a small school.

Parents, staff, and students at Wailupe Valley would feel a sense of loss of family if Wailupe Valley were to close. Some parents would be concerned that their children

would “fall through the cracks” and be “lost in the crowd,” to their social and academic detriment at the larger Aina Haina School, and that parents would have fewer opportunities to confer with and receive support from teachers, because of the higher student load per teacher at Aina Haina.

Wailupe Valley has traditions that would not be exactly duplicated at Aina Haina.

In very small schools with only one class per grade, students are more likely to be given an identity by other students and school staff that is difficult to change. This can be hard for a child with an identity he/she does not like. Larger schools offer students a larger pool from which to form friendships, give school administrators the opportunity to place students who have personality conflicts in different classes, and give school administrators the opportunity to match student learning styles with teacher teaching styles.

As noted in item #1 above, the smaller Wailupe Valley offers individual students more opportunity for leadership roles.

If the Wailupe Valley students were transferred to Aina Haina, there would be increased traffic congestion at Aina Haina and reduced parking opportunities for parents coming to visit Aina Haina. There would be a decrease in traffic in the vicinity of Wailupe Valley. Independent of any decision to transfer Wailupe Valley students to Aina Haina, Aina Haina administrators have requested that the paved parking area be expanded to accommodate the current demand for parent parking at school events. Overflow parking demand is now accommodated on an unpaved portion of the campus.

School quality surveys at the two schools taken in the spring of 2008 show that a significantly higher percentage of the teacher respondents at Aina Haina, compared with Wailupe Valley, agree or strongly agree that staff at the school treat each other with respect (61% vs 17%).

The same surveys show that a significantly higher percentage of the student respondents at Aina Haina, compared with Wailupe Valley, agree that most of the students follow the rules (60% vs 28%).

Additional survey data is available in Appendix A – the spring 2008 school quality surveys at the two schools.

A number of teachers and other staff at Wailupe Valley are uncertain about their employment options, indicating that if a decision is made to close Wailupe Valley, this uncertainty will be addressed sooner if the decision is made quickly rather than extended over a long time period. If the decision is not made quickly, parents of current and prospective Wailupe Valley students may elect to apply their children to Aina Haina or other schools, thus reducing the Wailupe Valley enrollment further to the detriment of students remaining at Wailupe Valley.

DOE guidelines for staff reductions for teachers are set forth in the DOE's School Code for Certificated Personnel on pages 5700-19 through 33 (amended December 2005). In summary, and at the risk of oversimplification, if Wailupe Valley were closed and the students transferred to Aina Haina the following would apply and may be subject to further discussion between DOE and HSTA:

(a) Teachers from Wailupe Valley would have first priority to move with students to Aina Haina, provided vacancies at Aina Haina were available. If a Wailupe Valley teacher chose not to move to Aina Haina, the teacher would be placed in a pool of unassigned staff reduced teachers.

(b) Wailupe Valley teachers who transfer to Aina Haina would carry their Wailupe Valley school seniority to Aina Haina.

(c) Wailupe Valley teachers who are placed in a pool of unassigned staff reduced teachers would not carry over their Wailupe Valley school seniority to a new assignment.

(d) Staff reduced teachers would be reassigned by the complex area superintendent within the Honolulu district. If reassignment within the Honolulu district were not possible, the staff reduced teachers would be considered for placement in other districts.

(e) Wailupe Valley teachers with tenure and appropriate preparation for licensure may replace Aina Haina teachers without tenure or permanent assignment.

(f) Staff reduced teachers may, within seven days of the decision by the BOE to close Wailupe Valley, submit to the personnel regional officer a preferred list of not more than three schools, three geographic areas within the Honolulu district and/or three districts. This teacher will have priority for a vacant position in his/her area of certification over less senior tenured teachers in similar situations. If preference of placement is in another district, the teacher is to be considered after all unassigned tenured teachers in that district have been placed. If the teacher fails to accept any bona fide offer made by the DOE by May 1, the DOE may assign the teacher to an appropriate vacancy.

(4) The net financial savings that may be realized from consolidation, including projections of additional expenditures at Aina Haina Elementary School.

The current staffing of Wailupe Valley Elementary School, and its full SY 2008-09 cost (including fringe benefits), is in the table below. Position costs are DOE statewide averages and do not necessarily represent the actual figures for Wailupe Valley.

Position title	No. of positions	Incl. in WSF	Avg full cost per position	Total avg full cost
Principal	1	yes	\$142,825	\$ 142,825
Teacher	7	yes	70,836	495,852
Teacher – special education	1	no	70,836	70,836
Counselor	1	yes	70,836	70,836
Student services coordinator (12-mo position)	0.5	yes	85,004	42,502
Library assistant	0.5	yes	39,157	19,578
Educational assistant	0.75	no	34,221	25,666
Custodian	1.5	yes	41,727	41,727
School administrative services assistant	1	yes	56,149	56,149
School health aide (10/12 of Step F SR-09 + 36.46% fringe)	0.75	no	37,871	28,403
Total	15.75			\$ 994,374

The weighted student formula allocation to Wailupe Valley for FY 2008-09 is \$954,274, or \$12,079 per student (79 students). The weighted student formula allocation to Aina Haina for FY 2008-09 is \$ 2,790,999, or \$5,140 per student (543 students, excluding 1 pre-K student).

The total of the annual costs Wailupe Valley that are known and shown below is \$1,234,567. There are additional categorical expenses in the school's academic and financial plan that are minor, totaling less than \$10,000, that are assumed in this analysis would be expended at Aina Haina if the Wailupe Valley students were transferred to Aina Haina.

	Annual cost	Basis of calculation
WSF allocation	\$ 954,274	2008-09 actual allocation
Special ed teacher	70,836	Average cost of a teacher in 2008-09
Educational assistant	25,666	Average cost of a 0.75-time EA in 2008-09
School health aide	37,871	See assumption above
Electricity	26,592	Dec 2007 – Nov 2008
Water	1,226	Annualized based on July-Nov 2008 actual
Gas	993	Annualized based on July-Nov 2008 actual
Sewer	3,166	FY 2008-08 actual
Contracts for:		
Grease trap maint	none	
coconut/palm tree trim.	585	FY 2007-08 actual
all other tree trimming	1,575	FY 2007-08 actual
air cond. maint	1,453	FY 2007-08 actual
elevator maint	none	
armored car service		
Student transportation	none	
School food service	50,300	See below
Lawn mowing		
Building repair/maint.	60,000	See below
Total	\$1,234,567	

The school food service cost of \$50,300 is the cost to deliver the meals from Aina Haina to Wailupe Valley (driver, van, part-time cafeteria helper). The cost of the meal itself is not included in this amount.

Annual facility maintenance costs at Wailupe Valley are estimated at \$60,000, based on \$2.90 per sq.ft. of building area x 25,510 sq.ft. of building (excluding the 1,916 sq.ft. of space used by Halau Ku Mana). The total DOE cost to maintain school facilities is \$105 million (see below) and the total DOE building area is 44.6 million sq.ft., so the cost of facility maintenance is about \$2.35 per sq.ft.

The total DOE building repair and maintenance cost is:

	Annual cost	Basis of calculation
Repair/maintenance lump sum	\$ 75,000,000	Amount needed to maintain backlog at a constant amount
Asbestos survey every three years	125,000	1/3 of most recent contract
Cash R&M projects (FDB)	4,000,000	2008-09 allocation from prog ID 37995
Work order repairs (FMB)	4,607,986	2008-09 allocation from prog ID 37995
Staff contracts (Aux Svc Branch)	5,914,312	2008-09 amount in prog ID 37995
U-fund payments to DAGS	1,000,000	2008-09 amount in prog ID 37995
DAGS 807	4,813,844	2008-09 appropriation
FMB	9,255,739	2008-09 amount in prog ID 37711
	\$104,716,881	

Wailupe Valley's repair and maintenance and capital improvement program backlogs are:

Project Number	Project Name	Type	Status	Total Estimated Cost
E0102363	O2 RPR WKWY & CURB	R&M	Backlog	\$14,000
E0106721	A RENOVATE R/RM	R&M	Backlog	\$180,000
E0106722	B RENOVATE R/RM	R&M	Backlog	\$240,000
E0106728	CAMPUS RPL WATER LNS	R&M	Backlog	\$130,000
C0002164	Electrical Upgrade	CIP	Backlog	\$400,000
C0002398	ADA Transition Accessibility	CIP	Backlog	\$375,000
C0002487	Administration Building	CIP	Backlog	\$6,000,000
C0002574	Air Condition School	CIP	Backlog	\$2,500,000
	Building C Library Acoustical Wall Finish Asbestos Removal	CIP	Backlog	\$0

TOTAL				\$9,719,000
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Current facility projects are:

<u>Project Number</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Total Estimated Cost</u>
E0105319	C RPR RAILINGS	R&M		\$6,000
E0120734	C DRAINAGE IMPVMNTS	R&M	Construction	\$0
E0121047	B Replace Sliding Doors	R&M	Bid	\$90,000
X0000210	REPLACE GREASE TRAP		Construction	\$0
Y2601207	Renovate and Paint Various Buildings		Bid	\$0
X2680208	Telecommunication Upgrade		Appropriated-Unallocated	\$670,000
TOTAL				\$766,000

The savings to the DOE that are likely to be realized if Wailupe Valley is closed and its students sent to Aina Haina are approximately \$800,000:

	Annual amount	Basis of calculation
Reduction of WSF allocation	548,181	Difference between per-student amount for Wailupe Valley and Aina Haina, (\$6,939) multiplied by 79 Wailupe Valley students
Elimination of Wailupe Valley special ed teacher and EA	70,836	Wailupe Valley special ed students can be accommodated by current Aina Haina staff
Elimination of Wailupe Valley school health aide	28,403	Wailupe Valley students can be accommodated by current Aina Haina school health aide
Elimination of utility costs	31,977	Current year's estimate
Elimination of contract costs		
Elimination of food delivery costs	50,000	Van + 0.5 FTE cafeteria helper
Elimination of lawn mowing costs		
Elimination of building repair & maintenance costs	74,000	
Total	803,397	

In 2008-09 the weighted student formula provides an additional allocation to elementary schools with enrollment below 650. This formula provided additional funds for Aina Haina in 2008-09 which would not have been provided if the 2008-09 Aina Haina enrollment had included the Wailupe Valley students. For 2009-10, the maximum size

for a small school extra allocation will be reduced to 500, so Aina Haina would not be eligible for this extra allocation next year in any event.

Whether the approximately \$800,000 savings shown above would be reflected in a reduction in the DOE's total budget, or whether they are reallocated to other schools, is a determination that will be ultimately made by the Board of Education and the Legislature.

(5) Potential new residential developments, projected changes in enrollment, and other relevant demographic considerations.

There are no significant new developments planned or projected for the Wailupe Valley or Aina Haina school attendance areas, which encompass the Aina Haina, Niu, and Kuliouou neighborhoods. These neighborhoods are older, stable single-family residential neighborhoods, having been largely developed in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s.

Enrollment per grade was higher in the 1990s than in the 1980s or the first half of the current decade, as shown in the 25-year history of "official" enrollment in the two schools in the table below. Note that in SY 2006-07 the two schools changed from serving grades K-6 to serving grades K-5. However, total "official" enrollment for the 2008-09 school year of 628 includes 151 students from outside the Wailupe Valley/Aina Haina attendance areas and 477 students living within the attendance areas of the two schools. The significant increase in the current year is largely due to the enrollment of students from outside the two schools' attendance area. The number of students per grade living within the two schools' attendance area is 68, a lower number than in any of the past 25 years.

School year	K-6 students		No. of grades (includes K)	No. of students per grade (avg. 2 school total/grade)	No. of pre-K students	
	Wailupe Valley	Aina Haina			Wailupe Valley	Aina Haina
1983-84	114	416	7	76	0	7
1984-85	134	462	7	85	0	4
1985-86	137	435	7	82	0	0
1986-87	158	439	7	85	0	4
1987-88	153	441	7	85	0	1
1988-89	161	477	7	91	0	3
1989-90	187	481	7	95	0	2
1990-91	184	479	7	95	0	5
1991-92	185	468	7	93	0	4
1992-93	173	481	7	93	0	5
1993-94	170	482	7	93	0	3
1994-95	175	486	7	94	0	3
1995-96	173	469	7	92	0	9
1996-97	215	448	7	95	0	4
1997-98	222	442	7	95	0	5
1998-99	207	421	7	90	0	1
1999-00	201	386	7	84	0	4
2000-01	203	371	7	82	0	8
2001-02	210	354	7	81	0	2
2002-03	200	367	7	81	0	3
2003-04	185	399	7	83	0	6
2004-05	172	414	7	84	0	9
2005-06	161	458	7	88	0	9
2006-07	114	441	6	93	0	3
2007-08	90	484	6	96	0	5
2008-09	79	549	6	105	0	2

The aggregate geographic exception data for the current year is:

	Wailupe Valley		Aina Haina	
	from Aina Haina	from other schools	from Wailupe Valley	from other schools
2008-09	4	39	17	112

The number of students living in the Wailupe Valley attendance area or are currently (January 2009) attending Wailupe Valley who have applied to other schools during the most recent six-year period has been:

	No. of students
2003-04	5
2004-05	10
2005-06	8
2006-07	35
2007-08	20
2008-09	14

The current year's geographic exception data are:

G.E.s '08-'09	Wailupe Valley		Aina Haina	
	total enroll.	GE	total enroll.	GE
pre-K	0		26	
K	15	9	112	18
grade 1	9	6	87	9
grade 2	13	7	87	30
grade 3	13	8	100	29
grade 4	15	10	68	24
grade 5	9	6	69	19
Total	74	46	549	129

Enrollment projections for the current year and upcoming six years are for stable enrollment at Wailupe and declining enrollment at Aina Haina:

	No. of K-5 students		No. of pre-K students	
	Wailupe Valley	Aina Haina	Wailupe Valley	Aina Haina
2008-09 (projected last yr)	87	512	n/a	n/a
2009-10	86	502	"	"
2010-11	83	500	"	"
2011-12	85	495	"	"
2012-13	89	490	"	"
2013-14	91	480	"	"
2014-15	n/a	n/a	"	"

Enrollment projections are imprecise because of the unpredictable nature of the number of students enrolled on a geographic exception.

(6) Suitability of using portions of the school facilities to accommodate space requirements of other department or state activities.

Two of the Wailupe Valley classrooms are currently being used by Halau Ku Mana, a charter schools for students in grades 7-12. Halau Ku Mana is not interested in using some or all of the campus on a long-term basis and intends to surrender by June 30, 2009 the two classrooms it is currently using..

The land underlying Wailupe Valley Elementary School is owned by the City & County of Honolulu. There is no provision for its reversion to the City & County if its use as a school is discontinued.

An alternative for the Wailupe Valley school community to consider is converting to a charter school.

A start-up Montessori school has expressed interest in using the Wailupe Valley facilities if the existing school is closed.

(7) A suggested timetable and transition plan for implementation.

The task force will make a recommendation on the future of Wailupe Valley Elementary School after it receives input from a public hearing, to be called if and when you instruct the task force to hold a public hearing pursuant to Chapter 8-38.

The task force has discussed two possibilities, if the recommendation is to close the school.

One is to recommend its closure at the end of the current school year; the other is to recommend its closure at the end of the 2009-10 school year. A discussion of the pros and cons are in the “social impact” section of this report above.

(8) Other issues not specifically addressed in Chapter 8-38.

A question was raised as to why the DOE did not consider adjusting the Wailupe Valley and Aina Haina school attendance areas, to increase the student population at Wailupe Valley. As a practical matter, Aina Haina has been accepting geographic exception applications from students living in the Wailupe Valley attendance area, so enlarging the Wailupe Valley attendance area would not necessarily reduce number of excess classrooms in the two schools. If the Wailupe Valley enrollment were to increase as a result of enlarging the attendance area, there may be fewer excess classrooms at Wailupe Valley but it would create other excess classrooms elsewhere.