

*(Continued from page 5)*

"A really good curriculum is one that connects to the child," Hare said. "And if curriculum is organized in a way where students can look out the window and see things that relate to their science experiment or social studies project, it's going to make learning more relevant and more interesting, and it's going to make the connection a stronger one."

Once content and performance standards are established system-wide – a planning process which may take up to two years to accomplish – Hare has an ultimate wish for the students of Kamehameha Schools.

"Our primary goal is to have every youngster challenged, working hard, enjoying what they're doing, loving learning and achieving at the highest level that they possibly can. That's what we want to have them do."

Hare also wants Kamehameha graduates to be skilled in the art of human relations, and not just reading, writing and arithmetic. "Young people need to go out there knowing how to read, write and compute – that needs to be the bedrock," he said. "But they also need to know how to work effectively with other people, to relate and work as part of a team. There are very few jobs that you can accomplish well if you don't know how to do that."

"I also hope that every Kamehameha student would leave, if not with a passion for some particular academic or curriculum area, maybe at least begin to lean toward a passion. I think all of our lives are enriched if there's something, that as we move into adulthood, we really enjoy or love or we just can't learn enough about, whether it's history or photography or genetics. I would hope the seed for that passion can be established at Kamehameha."

As a career educator, Hare respects the fact that Kamehameha Schools is expanding its preschool and extension education services.

"Spending on early childhood education is probably the best invested education dollar there is," he said. "As more research is done on the human brain and the learning process, we're learning more about the fact that the most critical time for learning takes place from birth to age 5."

"I'm really proud of what Kamehameha has done with more than 30 preschools serving more than 1,000 students. Those aren't huge numbers statewide, but it's a very fine program that's growing and will continue to grow."

"Spending on early childhood education is probably the best invested education dollar there is."



"I've spent 35 years in this business and seen education in a lot of different settings, and there is no place in the world quite like Kamehameha Schools."

– DR. DUDLEY "SKIP" HARE JR.



“What do we really want our students to know?”



“As for extension services, we’re still kind of regrouping on that. We had really wonderful extension services back in the mid-90s. Now, with our new dean, Dr. Juvenna Chang, we’re going full steam ahead. We’re going back once again to the Strategic Plan and its commitment to the community. We’re looking at extending services to adults so that they can have access to course work in their communities.”

And Kamehameha has plans to do more. Much more.

With the recent approval of Phase II of the Strategic Implementation Plan, Hare said he expects to play a large role in Kamehameha’s efforts to extend its reach to more Hawaiians.

“Our preschools and three campuses provide services to about 5,000 of the 75,000 eligible Hawaiians and we are looking for new ways to build these numbers up significantly in the next few years,” he said.

Hare said that by collaborating with other entities, such as the state Department of Education (DOE), foundations and universities, Kamehameha can provide educational services to Hawaiians without the huge expense of funding new building construction.

“We’re exploring ways that we can work with selected DOE schools to bring some of the educational quality associated with Kamehameha to those DOE students,” Hare said.

“We’re also looking for ways to deliver more services to preschool youngsters by providing support to existing accredited non-KS early childhood centers so that they can deliver higher quality services to more students.”

Hare said he’s come to Kamehameha because its uniqueness and complexity offer a great challenge for him.

“I’ve spent 35 years in this business and seen education in a lot of different settings, and there is no place in the world quite like Kamehameha Schools. It is truly a unique educational setting that brings together some incredibly interesting things.

“The commitment to Hawaiian culture, tradition, history and language is just a wonderful thing to see. The resources that are available here are significant, and with wise decisions and careful planning can really have a strong impact on children’s lives.”