

APPLICANT INFORMATION SHEET

I. Applicant Summary

Proposed School	
Name:	Namahana School
School Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Start-Up Charter School <input type="checkbox"/> Conversion Charter School, Name of DOE school to be converted: []
Geographic Location:	Kalihiwai, Kauai
Grades Served Year 1 (SY 2025-2026):	7th and 8th grades
Grades Served at Capacity:	7-12th grades
Commission's Priority Need(s) the proposed school will address, if applicable: [<p>Namahana School will address the Commission's top priorities by increasing middle and high school capacity in the underserved North Shore communities of Kaua'i. Currently, the North Shore of Kaua'i, which includes the moku (districts) of Halele'a and Ko'olau, lacks any geographically situated DOE middle and high school to support its growing population of young working families. Middle and high school students ride the bus about two hours per school day, 10 hours a week, between the North Shore and Kapa'a to access a public school. Namahana School will provide students graduating from the two North Shore public K-6th grade elementary schools with a local, tuition-free middle and high school option.</p> <p>Additionally, Namahana School's innovative model provides Kaua'i with an alternative post-elementary education option in a community where existing schools, according to 2020-21 Strive HI data, produce the following student proficiencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kapa'a Middle School: 17% Math Proficiency; 39% Language Arts; 18% Science Proficiency • Kapa'a High School: 20% Math Proficiency; 59% Language Arts; 16% Science proficiency <p>Namahana School will improve on these outcomes by utilizing 'Āina-based Learning, a dynamic approach to education where learners deepen their relationship with the land, cultivate connections within their communities, and build critical skills that can be applied to real-world issues and the needs of the community. As part of this model, students will engage in project-based learning tied to the 'āina. They will work in small learning groups called advisories, develop personal learning plans that reflect their interests and needs, and gain real-world learning experiences through mentorships, internships and ulu'āina (field studies). Ulu'āina will integrate core subject areas into projects based in their community and in collaboration with local organizations and partners. Internships will be organized so each student can work with an expert in their field of interest. Students will also prepare multiple Exhibitions each year to present and discuss their learning growth with staff, parents, peers, and mentors. All of this work will be tracked in student Portfolios so educators can monitor academic performance, career readiness, and social progress.</p> <p>In addition to meeting the Hawai'i state standards of assessment, Namahana will provide Individual Learning Plans for every student. These plans will be reviewed by staff, parents, and the principal quarterly and updated weekly, so parents and caregivers have an alternative method of following student progress and growth.</p>	

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This dynamic educational model meets the needs of many different types of learners. When students become drivers of their learning, education becomes authentic, relevant and engaging. A school with this 'Āina-based learning model will greatly benefit the students of the North Shore of Kaua'i and ground their education in 'āina and community.]

(If not addressing a Priority Need) Other significant, documented educational need the proposed school will address:

[N/A]

Mission Statement (limit 100 words):

[Namahana School's mission is to serve the communities of Halele'a and Ko'olau with rigorous 'āina-based education through cultivating relationships with 'āina, kanaka, and ao. Namahana School will prepare students for professional and personal fulfillment, with skills that empower them to actively contribute to a resilient future on Kaua'i.

Our mission is founded and driven by these three community-determined values:

Aloha 'Āina (to practice a shared understanding of our kuleana for 'āina),

Aloha Kanaka (to respect and mālama our community, our families, and ourselves), and

Aloha i ke Ao (to perpetuate pono practices to navigate cultures of the world).]

Enrollment Preferences or Priorities, if any (consistent with HRS §302D-34):

[To support a consistent educational environment for all of the children of each family that joins Namahana school's community, in alignment with HRS §302D-34, enrollment priority will be as follows:

1. Current students (i.e., students currently enrolled at Namahana)
2. Children of Namahana staff*
3. Children of Founding Governing Board members**
4. Siblings*** of currently enrolled students
5. Siblings*** of newly admitted students
6. All other Hawai'i students.

*If the staff member is employed less than half time, enrollment priority is not given until the second year of employment.

**Founding Governing Board members are those who were listed on the charter application approved by the Hawaii Public Charter School commission on June 24, 2022.

***Siblings are defined as having one or more parents or legal guardians in common].

Primary Contact Information

Name: [Kapua Chandler]

Current Employer and Position/Title: [Self-employed/consultant, School Leader Consultant]

Expected Role with the Proposed School: [Executive Director]

Phone: _____

Email: _____

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Proposed School Description		
School Model/Focus (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Alternative <input type="checkbox"/> Arts <input type="checkbox"/> Blended Learning <input type="checkbox"/> Career and Technical Education <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Focus (specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Disability (specify):	<input type="checkbox"/> Language Immersion (specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Montessori <input type="checkbox"/> STEM <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Learning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): 'Āina-Based Learning

(If identified) Provide information below about the proposed School Director, and include in Attachment A1 the individual's professional biography and full resume (including contact information).

Proposed School Director (if identified)
Name: Kapua Chandler
Current Employer and Position/Title: Self-employed, School Leader Consultant

Below, list the members of the Applicant Governing Board and the relevant expertise they bring to the board. In Attachment A2, include professional biographies and full resumes (including contact information) for each member of the Applicant Governing Board. Applicant Governing Boards must meet the requirements of HRS §302D-12. At a minimum, the Applicant Governing Board must possess expertise in academic and financial management and oversight, best practices in nonprofit governance, human resources, and fundraising. Other recommended areas of expertise for the board include legal expertise, community relations, and facilities development. (Add lines to table as needed)

Applicant Governing Board Members		
Name	Current Employer & Position/Title:	Relevant Expertise for the Board
[Helen Cox]	[Retired, former Chancellor of Kaua'i Community College]	[Education Administration, Academic, Community, Nonprofit & Financial]
[Mehana Vaughan]	[UH Manoa, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Natural Resources & Environmental Management]	['Āina-based Education, Indigenous and Natural Resource Management]
[Mālia 'Alohilani Rogers]	[Kawaikini NCPCS Cultural Education Specialist; 'Aha Pūnana Leo Board Member]	[Hawaiian Language & Cultural Education, Charter School Administration]
[Tahara'a Stein]	[Vice Principal, Chiefess Kamakahahei Middle School]	[School Administration, Academic, and Community]
[Marion Paul]	[Former President & CEO, Kaua'i Planning & Action Alliance sponsor of the Keiki to Career Initiative]	[Youth Development, Nonprofit Governance, Fundraising & Financial]

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Pam Murphy	Former General Manager of Mammoth Ski Resort	Financial, Public Relations, Business Management, Facilities Development
Lindsay Leipuaahilehuaokalani Wann	Executive Director, Limahuli Garden & Preserve	Āina-based Education, Hawaiian Cultural Education
Adam Roversi	Director of the County of Kaua'i Housing Agency	Legal, Nonprofit Governance, Facilities Development
Jonathan McRoberts	Retired, Financial Analyst and Teacher	Financial Management, Education, Nonprofit Governance
Melanie Mitsue Parker	Nonprofit consultant, former USDA funded Nutrition Education Program Supervisor	Education Administration, Farm to School, Nonprofit Governance, Fundraising
Angela Bresnahan	Freelance Grant Writer & Nonprofit Consultant; Former Attorney	Legal, Nonprofit Fundraising and Grant-Writing
Jennifer Luck	Director of Program Development & Community Engagement, Common Ground	Nonprofit Governance, Community Relations, Land Use & Conservation, Business Development, Fundraising
Kapua Chandler (EX OFFICIO)	Self-employed, School Leader Consultant	Āina-based Education, School Administration, Nonprofit Governance

If the applicant is planning to contract or partner with a Service Provider, fill out the table below.

Service Provider Information (if applicable)	
Education Service Provider (includes existing charter school operators)	Name: <input type="text"/> Primary Contact: <input type="text"/> Mailing Address: <input type="text"/> Phone: <input type="text"/> Email: <input type="text"/>

Does the applicant currently operate charter schools in Hawaii or any other state?

Yes (if so, complete this table, adding lines as needed) No

State	Authorizer	School Name	Grades Served	Opening Date
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Does the applicant, any members of the Applicant Governing Board, or any Service Providers of the applicant have charter school applications under consideration by any other authorizer(s) in the U.S.?

Yes (if so, complete this table, adding lines as needed) No

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State	Authorizer	Proposed School Name	Application Due Date	Decision Date
[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]
[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]

Does the applicant, any members of the Applicant Governing Board, or any Service Providers of the applicant have any new schools scheduled to open in the U.S. in the next five years?

Yes (if so, complete this table, adding lines as needed) No

State	Authorizer	Proposed School Name	Grades Served	Opening Date
[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]
[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]	[Click or tap here to enter text.]