

KAMAILE ACADEMY PCS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP): MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM DESIGN HO‘OKELE – POLYNESIAN VOYAGING CURRICULUM (SY 2024-25)

Objective

Kamaile Academy PCS invites proposals from qualified consultants to design and lead the development of a **grade 8 curriculum centered on Ho‘okele – Polynesian Voyaging**. This curriculum will provide haumāna with immersive opportunities to explore the **scientific, mathematical, historical, and cultural foundations of non-instrument navigation and Polynesian exploration** through the contextual lens of the Wai‘anae moku community and ‘āina.

While this RFP is specifically focused on Grade 8, Kamaile Academy PCS envisions this work as a potential first step toward a broader Grades 6–12 curriculum pathway. There is no guarantee of future phases at this time, but consultants should be aware that this project may inform or contribute to longer-term curriculum planning across middle and high school levels.

The curriculum development process will take place from **June 15 to August 15, 2025**. All proposals are due by **May 1, 2025, at 4:00 PM HST** via email to pkepka@kamaile.org.

School Background

Kamaile Academy PCS, a PreK–12 public charter school in Wai‘anae, prepares **self-directed, self-aware, college-ready learners**. Our mission emphasizes **‘ohana, community, and the pride of perseverance**. As a Hawaiian culture-based school, we are committed to designing programs that reflect the identities, histories, and aspirations of our community.

Scope of Work

Kamaile Academy PCS seeks a consultant who will:

- Lead school leadership, staff, and community stakeholders to **co-create a comprehensive, standards-aligned curriculum** that honors Kamaile’s mission, educational initiatives, and long-term goals. This process should **intentionally include key voices**—such as students, parents/caregivers, faculty, board members, community organizations, district schools, and cultural practitioners—to ensure the design is grounded in community perspectives.
- Integrate Hawaiian and Polynesian cultural history, environmental and ocean sciences, and traditional wayfinding practices with content standards in **science, mathematics, history, and language arts**, ensuring that the curriculum is both culturally grounded and academically rigorous. This must include the intentional use of **‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i, mele, oli,**

and protocol as foundational elements of instruction, cultural context, and student expression.

- Design the curriculum so that it can be taught by kumu with a range of backgrounds and experiences, including those who may have a limited contextual understanding of wa‘a or ho‘okele. The curriculum should include **clear lesson structures, supportive resources, and cultural context** that make it easy to understand, teach, and adapt—without requiring prior expertise in traditional navigation.
- Willingness to **provide initial training or orientation for kumu**, as needed, to support successful implementation of the curriculum—especially for those who may be new to wa‘a, ho‘okele, or the cultural practices embedded in the lessons. This may include model lessons, resource walkthroughs, and collaborative planning sessions.
- Additional training throughout SY 25-26 will be negotiated through a separate contract beyond the scope of this RFP.

The selected consultant will work with School Leadership to coordinate the development of the curriculum.

Key Inquiry Questions

- A. Proposals should address the following: What are the essential components of a curriculum on **Ho‘okele – Polynesian Voyaging**?
- B. How can this curriculum meaningfully **integrate ‘ike kūpuna (ancestral knowledge)** with modern educational standards and Kamaile’s instructional initiatives/expectations?
- C. How can the curriculum help **connect haumāna to contemporary ho‘okele practices**, including but not limited to the revival of E Ala and the ongoing work of the Polynesian Voyaging Society, in ways that affirm voyaging as a living tradition rather than something only of the past?
- D. What **instructional strategies, hands-on experiences, and assessments** will best support haumāna engagement and learning?
- E. How can this initiative **leverage partnerships** with local experts, cultural practitioners, and community organizations **rooted in the Wai‘anae moku** to strengthen place-based learning and cultural relevance?
- F. What **resources, facilities, and professional development** are needed for effective and sustainable implementation?

Proposal Requirements

Submit a high-level, conceptual, and data-driven proposal that includes the following:

1. **Consultant Information**
 - Name of firm/consultant

- Contact information
 - Resume and relevant qualifications
2. **Experience**
- Description of past projects and experience in curriculum development, Hawaiian culture-based education, and stakeholder engagement
 - At least **one reference** who can speak to your ability to deliver a high-quality project
3. **Timeline**
- June 15 – August 15, 2025
 - Include availability and all targeted deadlines/deliverables
4. **Budget**
- Cost projection with itemized **budget categories**, including hourly/project-based rates
5. **Recommended Scope of Work**
- High-level plan to execute deliverables
 - Clear articulation of how objectives will be met on time and within budget
6. **Stakeholder Engagement**
- Draft outline for how input will be gathered from all community sectors
 - Use of school leadership, staff, students, and family/community resources
7. **Optional Attachments**
- Samples, resources, or documents that provide additional value to the evaluation of your proposal

Note: The selected consultant will collaborate with Kamaile Academy PCS to refine the final scope of work post-selection.

Timeline

- **RFP Posting:** April 15, 2025
- **Proposal Submission Deadline:** May 1, 2025 by 4:00 PM HST
- **Review & Interview Period:** May 2025
- **Consultant Selection Notification:** May 5, 2025
- **Project Duration:** May 15 – July 15, 2025

- **Final Deliverables Due:** July 15, 2025

Submission Instructions

Send your completed proposal by **email** or **in-person delivery** by the submission deadline:

Kamaile Academy PCS

c/o Principal Paul Kepka

 pkepka@kamaile.org

Inquiries

For questions or clarifications, contact:

Paul Kepka, Principal

 pkepka@kamaile.org

To ensure equity, responses to all inquiries will be posted publicly on the Kamaile Academy PCS website.