

**Ka ‘Umeke Kā‘eo
Governing Board Meeting
Minutes**

Date: Thursday December 14, 2023

Location: Pa Hoaka, 1500 Kalanianaʻole Ave. Hilo, HI 96720

1.Meeting Opening:

1.1 Meeting was called to order by Director of Operations L. Lee at 4:40 p.m.

1.2 Attendance: Pōhai Kyota, Kelly Osorio, Ka‘aka Swain, Liliha Frederick, Nohea Nahale-a, Laura Acasio, Manaiakalani Kalua, Lima Naipo, Ka‘aka Swain, Ku‘uipo (Ipo) Kahele, and Uluwehi Ching. Nena Auld and Louisa Lee Director of Operations attending as board support.

1.3 Approve Agenda: APPROVED (*L. Naipo moved, L. Acasio second*)

1.4 Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items:

Board Members discussed their meetings with limahana the main conversation with limahana major focus areas were as follows:

- LUNCH: Unfavorable lunch options, major lunch waste, food items that no one eats especially the steamed veggies and the raisins in fruit, good options are the chili, corn dogs, taco salad, and chicken nuggets. Kumu are excited to get kids involved in what they are eating. Would like to see more connection to food through creating it, experiencing how it is grown.
- MUSIC: Kumu had a request for funding for a music program.
- ENROLLMENT: Kumu had positive feedback on interest in enrollment, we need to share enrollment opportunities in a focused way with the Keaukaha community, High school is a hard time for recruiting into immersion.
- FACILITIES: concerns about space challenges and making it hard for to do meetings or kuleana that are confidential or private.
- SPED: There was a discussion regarding SPED and how we might advocate for equity in services (DOE v. Charter). At current time the understanding is that everything under the office of OSSIs does not apply to charter schools.
- COLLABORATION: Discussion about students from other schools wanting to experience some of the programs that KUK offers, would we be open to exchange of students/kumu?

1.5 Haumāna Report: None

1.6 Minutes: [Gov Board minutes 10-17-2023](#) APPROVED(*L. Naipo moved, K. Swain second*)

1.7 Financials: Reviewed and Filed

- a. [October 2023](#)
- b. [September 2023](#)

2. Matters For Decision:

2.1 Approve Proposal from Geometricans for entitlement work on KS Land next to Pā Hoaka: APPROVED (*P. Kyota moved, K. Swain second*). We got a bid for \$5,000 to help with completion of the SMA Assessment Application and initial topography report. The initial EA work on the property raised concerns about the large amount of water on site. 📎 Proposal 2023 SMAA etc Ka Umeke GEO.pdf

📎 Preliminary Environmental Comparison Report Ka Umeke KS Lots 1 and 2.pdf

📎 Preliminary Environmental Report Summary

2.2 Approve Student/limahana Attendance communication: APPROVED (*K. Swain moved, L. Naipo second*) Admin discussed attendance concerns both for students and limahana. Proposed the following

two letters to be sent home as a reminder for all students and limahana. The DOE considers 15 days chronically absent no matter what the cause. We exclude sick days in our accounting of absenteeism. We also would like haumāna in school so that we can monitor their health and provide any support they may need. We did a count of absent days for our limahana and the results are: 301 days absent, 48% of our staff would be considered chronically absent. We have spent \$14,000 on substitute teachers so far this year. This amount is relatively the same as previous years, with an estimated \$30,000 by end of year.

Excessive Attendance Letter

Attendance Letter

Limahana Attendance Communication

3. Matters For Discussion

3.1 Discuss transfer of license for new 'āina to Hui Ho'oleimaluō:

Should we develop the 'āina next to Pā Hoaka through Ka 'Umeke or through Hui Ho'oleimaluō? The benefit of potentially having access to state facility funds may not be possible if we do it through Hui Ho'oleimaluō.

3.2 Kaumai Update: we are still waiting on plan approval, we need the drainage report from engineers to move forward. We are working with an engineer.

3.3 PreK program Report:

Day to day oversight is difficult with PreK being a stand alone campus, a possible future solution would be to move our Pre-K program to Hale Lamalama. Currently we have two classrooms with a combined total of 36 keiki. We are discussing ways to make the program cohesive with our papa mālaa'o, as well as have keiki be prepared for papa mālaa'o. There have been issues with keiki for the past three years, in regards to papa mālaa'o preparedness. This has not been where we would like it to be after seven years of PreK.

3.4 Review of Strategic plan: [DRAFT Ka 'Umeke Kā'eo Strategic Plan 2023-2033.pdf](#)

3.5 Mid-Cycle visit Draft Report: Midcycle visit in march. No draft yet. Our original accreditation team is no longer available. We don't know who the new accreditation team will be.

3.6 Visit with Senator Lorraine Inouye and GIA/CIP application for 2025 legislative session for facilities: Last week Monday we visited with the Senator.

3.7 Kūhiō Day celebration: March 16th, Kula Pae, 9-2p.m. (The first Saturday of Spring Break). We are planning this with Hui Ho'oleimaluo. This celebration will be the 100 years of Keaukaha celebration and will be a ho'olaule'a.

4. Reports:

4.1 [Po'okumu/Academic](#)

4.2 Operational/Financial

4.3 'Ohana

4.4 Community: a flyer was created to promote enrollment in Keaukaha, we are going to add information on how 'ōlelo Hawai'i supports jobs.

5. Meeting Closing:

5.1 Announcements

5.2 Next meeting: Feb 20, 2024

5.3 Adjournment 6:46 p.m.