

HO'OKĀKO'O
SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, May 27, 2025, 2:30 PM – 5:00 PM
KUALAPU'U SCHOOL

MINUTES

Present: Jon Ching, Chair; Susan Maddox, Vice Chair; Kumau Pineda-Akiona, Secretary (remote); Ivan Takushi, Treasurer (remote); Pualani Akaka; Mary Komomua (remote)

Excused: Kealoha Fox

Staff: David Y. Gibson, Executive Director; Lydia Trinidad, KUU Principal; Ka'ala Camara, KUU Vice Principal; Janice English, WMS Principal (remote); Paul Kepka, KA Principal (remote)

Guests: Noelani Lee, KUU Parent (remote); Jaime Cruz, KA Learning Director (remote)

AGENDA ITEM	PURPOSE	DECISION MAKING	FOLLOW UP	ATTACHMENTS
I. Welcome (J. Ching)	- The meeting was called to order at 2:39 pm. P. Akaka offered the Pule. - A quorum was established. N. Lee was introduced.			
II. Acceptance of Governing Board Meeting Minutes (J. Ching)	The board accepted the draft, February 25, 2025, Governing Board Meeting Minutes into the record.	Action Taken: Acceptance of the draft, February 25, 2025, Governing Board Minutes into the record. (P, Akaka/S. Maddox) The motion passed unanimously.		HC Governing Board Feb 25 2025 MINUTES - DRAFT
III. Committee of the Whole Reports (<i>Committee reports related to school governance</i>)				
A. Executive (J. Ching)	- Board Recruitment - Nominations to the board were taken up in Executive Session - The board ratified the May 23, 2025, Board email vote on the motion to approve Paul Kepka's Employment Agreement as Principal of Kamaile Academy for the period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028, pursuant to	Action Taken: The board ratified the May 23, 2025, Board email vote approving		

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	Article IV, Section 2(I) of the Ho'okāko'o bylaws. Result: The Mat 23, 2025, motion was passed by a majority of the board members. 3. Update on the Principal 2024-2025 EOY Evaluation and 2025-2026 Goal Setting - Principals are completing their self-assessments by the end of May - The Executive Committee will schedule an evaluation meeting with each Principal in June 2025. Dates TBD. 4. Education Officer Retention Bonuses (BU06) was taken up in Executive Session 5. D. Gibson gave an update on the Ho'okāko'o Schools' facilities MOAs being approved as to form by the charter school AG. WMS has submitted a corrected facilities inventory to the DOE Facilities Branch and is awaiting a response.	Paul Kepka's Employment Agreement as Principal of Kamaile Academy for the period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028. (S. Maddox/K. Pineda-Akiona) The motion passed unanimously.		BOE, DOE & HGEA EO BU06 Retention Bonus MOA 1-3-2025
B. Budget & Finance / Development (I. Takushi/S. Maddox)	The board ratified the April 25, 2025, Budget & Finance/Development Committee's email vote on the motion to approve HC Schools' 2024-2025 Third Quarter Financial Statements and their submission to the Commission, conducted pursuant to Article IV, Section 2(I) of the Ho'okāko'o bylaws. Result: The April 25, 2025, motion was passed by a majority of the Budget & Finance/Development	Action Taken: The board ratified the April 25, 2025, Budget & Finance/Development Committee's email vote to approve HC Schools' 2024-2025 Third Quarter Financial Statements and their submission to the Commission. (I. Takushi/K. Pineda-Akiona) The motion passed unanimously.		KA SY 24-25 3rd Quarter Financials rev KUU SY 24-25 3rd Quarter Financials rev WMS SY 24-25 3rd Quarter Financials Revised

	Committee Members: I. Takushi, S. Maddox, K. Pineda-Akiona, P. Akaka, and M. Komomua			
C. Education	J. Ching reported that board member K. Fox has a new job and is unable to continue as chair of the Education Committee. The board will select a new chair. Ho'okāko'o Schools have submitted their 2025-2026 Title I Comprehensive Academic Plans to the board for review and signature.			Kamaile 2025-2026 Title I CAP Kualapu'u 2025-2026 Title I CAP Waimea 2025-2026 Title I CAP
D. External Relations	No Report			
IV. School Reports				
A. Kualapu'u School (L. Trinidad)	The board presented L. Trinidad with a lei in recognition of her retirement at the end of this school year. L. Trinidad thanked the board and HC for their support. L. Trinidad presented her written Principal's Report with the following highlights. - Academics - seeing growth through 23-24. Science is a vulnerable area with lower scores and will be a focus going forward. Discussed integrating science more into their planning of cross-content materials and cultural learning. - SEL was discussed, and the impact of behavioral interventions on teaching & learning.			Kualapu'u Principal's Report

	• Projected 25-26 enrollment continues to be low. 287 K-6 students and 20 Pre-K students are anticipated. • Budgeting for 25-26 will see a reduction of 1 principal and the loss of 4 teachers of which 2 will be replaced. Not hiring otherwise. Expecting a deficit budget for 25-26 unless enrollment increases. • Grants are reviewed regularly with new opportunities being considered for funding. • Facilities – funding for CIP projects is expected including a kitchen renovation to be completed by August. • There are no safety concerns to report.			
B. Kamaile Academy (P. Kepka)	P. Kapka presented his written Principal's Report with the following highlights. • Culturally relevant Assessments - The school is looking @ learning through CRA & beyond other standard measures. • Kamaile's Campus Master Planning is being reviewed. The DOE is supportive & collaborative. • P. Kepka expressed appreciation for the support of many community organizations. • Enrollment is projected to be at 960 for 25-26 • The academic report prepared by Jamie Cruz was reviewed. J. Ching asked for an update on the school's CSI status. P. Kepka noted preliminary data indicates Kamaile is expected to exit CSI. • The school is currently having difficulty hiring due to a lack of applicants.			Kamaile Principal's Report

	- WASC visit is expected next spring. The school is preparing to conduct an external CNA. - Charter renewal will begin with the renewal application due this fall. Contract ends June 2026. - The 25-26 budget is in development. Expecting funding cuts and an increase in SPD students. He is working with HC to address increased HR needs.			
C. Waimea Middle School (J. English)	J. English presented her written Principal's Report with the following highlights. - Fundraising targets are being met and exceeded. J. English reviewed SBA and HAS academic data. - Operations – new buses have been ordered and are expected to arrive before school resumes at the end of the summer. - Enrollment is down for 25-26 with 191 students expected. - Vacancies are expected in Social Studies and 6th-grade math. - The Harm to Student Registry was discussed (Act 156).			Waimea Principal's Report
V. Other Business (J. Ching)	There was no other business.			
VI. Executive Session (J. Ching)	<i>The board convened an Executive Session to deliberate on personnel and other legal matters.</i> The board reaffirmed its practice of a 1-year cooling-off period before a schoolteacher, vendor, or parent can join the board.			

	The board discussed the DOE MOA for the Education Officer Retention Bonuses (BU06) and the impact it would have on the schools' budgets.	Action Taken: The board approved the Education Officer Retention Bonuses for HC Schools EOs effective immediately and recognized in the 2025-2026 fiscal year. (S. Maddox/M. Komomua) The motion passed unanimously.		
VII. Adjourn (J. Ching)	Next Meeting: August 26, 2025	Action Taken: The board adjourned the meeting at 4:52 PM. (J. Ching/I. Takushi) The motion passed unanimously.		

Ho'okāko'o's Schools and its Governing Board represent communities from across the islands. The Governing Board conducts virtual and hybrid meetings to ensure community participation with reasonable measures to allow public participation consistent with social distancing practices. Written testimony or requests to provide oral testimony must be received prior to the start of the Governing Board Meeting. Please contact your school for virtual access or to participate in person. For more information: (808) 983-3835, ext. 103 or info@hookakoo.org.

Minutes approved August 26, 2025.