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To: [Quinones, Natasha A](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Testimony 2/2/22 Agenda Item IV
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From: Kalima Kinney <director@volcanoschool.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 10:45 AM
To: DBEDT LUC <dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony 2/2/22 Agenda Item IV

Aloha,

Attached please find testimony for:

State Land Use Commission Hearing
February 2, 2022
Agenda item IV Adoption of Order SP21-413 Connections New Century Public
Charter School / Community Based Education Support Services

Mahalo.

Kalima

Kalima Kinney
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Kūlia. 'Ohana. Aloha.

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February 1, 2022

State Land Use Commission Hearing, February 2, 2022
Agenda item IV Adoption of Order SP21-413 Connections New Century Public
Charter School / Community Based Education Support Services

Aloha Members of the State Land Use Commission,

With this testimony on behalf of our school community, we wish to convey our support and request for your consideration to approve the plan for Connections Public Charter School for the property in Kaumana off Edita Road. TMK: 2-5-006-410.

Connections Public Charter School (Connections PCS) provides a quality school of choice for families in East Hawai'i. Connections PCS has served East Hawai'i communities since 2000 and has a long track record of student success and academic achievement. The school has demonstrated its capacity to meet the educational needs of its students as well as its commitment to environmental stewardship.

The Kaumana site will provide a much-needed locale to enable the school to improve and expand its facilities. Connections PCS serves a population of students that typically do not as well in a traditional setting. In addition to pathways for college/career pursuits, the school has a track record for fostering students to become prosocial, community contributors. Given the numerous socio-economic and community health challenges that we are facing in East Hawai'i, schools like Connections PCS need to be supported for the critical educational and community resources they provide if we are to address the challenges and develop thriving communities.

We ask your consideration to approve the land use request for Connections PCS to support greater access to quality education for our keiki while maintaining a careful balance of stewardship for the 'āina of Kaumana.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Kalima Kinney
Principal