

From: [Rebecca Hill](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kulanihako'i High School
Date: Monday, February 6, 2023 7:13:30 PM



To: Maui Land Use Commission

My name is Rebecca Hill. I live in Kihei and am a mother of four children. I am writing to plead with you to please allow a temporary exception to open the new Kulanihako'i High School. I understand the DOE has been negligent in fulfilling its promise to build a grade-separated over or underpass. However, the new high school is already operating, with a full staff of teachers, counselors, and administrators, all waiting for their new campus. To delay allowing students and teachers to occupy the existing buildings is to put politics above the needs of children and local families.

I have spent hundreds of hours driving my three oldest children to and from choir, cross-country, and other events at Maui High. Our Maui High students who live in Kihei wake up extremely early each morning to catch buses leaving Kihei at 6:15am, so they can get to Maui High by 7 and sit for one hour waiting for school to start. My daughter currently waits 45 minutes each afternoon for the school bus to depart Maui High, and then doesn't return until an hour and a half after school has ended. That is a total of three hours and fifteen minutes each day waiting for and riding buses from Kihei to Kahului. **We need an operating high school in Kihei now!** Please allow this new school to open immediately so that my youngest son can attend school here in Kihei without the hassle of extended travel times.

I understand that many well-intentioned citizens want to hold the DOE's feet to the fire and continue to delay opening the school. **This political battle between adults is shameful.** Our keiki should be of foremost importance in these decisions. The new high school has already purchased buses they will use to transport their students across the highway. Students will not be crossing the highway! Please note that those most vocal against opening the school do not have school-aged children attending public schools. You will notice that it is us working families in Kihei with school-aged children who support the immediate opening of Kulanihako'i High School.

Mahalo for your consideration,

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