

Please accept this letter as Testimony Regards to opening up Kulanihakoi Highschool. THANK YOU for your time and consideration.

Very Respectfully,

Mitsue Okamura Eldredge Cell: 808-707-4669 Email: <u>tylerslearningcoach@gmail.com</u> Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 532538, Kihei, HI 96753 Aloha Chair Giovanni and Members of the Commission,

I am Mitsue Okamura Eldredge, a parent of a freshman at Kūlanihāko'i High School in Kihei. I appreciate you taking the time to reconsider the issue of the improvement condition imposed by your Commission in 2013.

I made the decision to send my child to Kūlanihākoʻi High School because it's important for us to support our community and I want my child to be part of creating this important legacy. Having this high school means that children from South Maui will be able to attend a neighborhood high school instead of having to be transported all the way to Kahului. This school also represents something that will bring our community together in a very special way. While I appreciate Lokelani Intermediate School hosting the students, it is time for KHS to move to the brand new campus buildings now that they are completed. As a parent and a taxpayer, I want our money to be used effectively. To me, that means using these completed buildings in the way they are intended.

Much of the public seems unaware that our school is already operating, that our students understand the importance of safety, and that my child has pledged not to cross the highway on foot, but to use the transportation provided by the school and me. You have received plenty of testimony from adults who believe they know what our students will do and how, but I implore you to listen to the students themselves and the adults who work closely with them.

Please note that Students will be utilizing the KHS "shuttle buses" to bring our children to and from campus, so my son nor any Students will not be crossing the Highway to get to school.

Please consider those most affected by your decision and amend the 2013 Condition to allow us to safely use our campus while the grade-separated crossing is being completed.

Mitsue Okamura Eldredge Kūlanihāko'i High School Parent