

August 12, 2015

STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: The IMAG Academy
From: Sheila Buyukacar, Founding Member

This testimony is in support of The IMAG Academy. I would like to respectfully recommend that you approve our charter in this application cycle. An approval will allow us to focus our energies on making this much needed educational opportunity in the central leeward area a reality. **There are no show-stoppers for the founding board and over 373 supporters of The IMAG Academy.**

As a reminder, our vision is to become a community resource raising generations of innovative, mindful, accepting, and giving citizens grounded in their knowledge and capabilities to create and sustain successful and peace-filled communities.

Although, we are not able to change the wheels on a bus while it is moving, as with every existing bus, it has to stop for maintenance and re-adjustments. In actuality, buses stop every evening to refuel and in all cases, are regularly scheduled for improvements and maintenance. We are no different. The application before you is definitely a “bus” and a sound and safe one for that matter. In fact, its planned plumbing is designed for as much water our community desires and may need. In fact, the learning environment, teaching community, and school organization that has been designed and waiting to be implemented will actually help our community to better prepare the water in some places needing help and assistance.

The following pages of testimony are a more detailed review of our “maintenance plan” at this point. It provides you with evidence of our continued strategy to show you our capacity to reflect, act, and solve our apparent weak links. In this maintenance/adjustment plan, we will use a 4-prong strategy and provide evidence on our sustainable budget, community leadership support, a funds/grant game plan, and community impact.

1. BUDGET – The table below presents a budget that uncovers evaluation errors that have **led all of us** to believe our per seat revenue/salary ratio is out of line. But in fact since the reimbursed revenue is not added, this ratio is much lower when reimbursable SPED positions are not part of the salary expense.

In addition, we would like to point out; the lease rents in Waipahu are much lower and also provides for a better ratio as well, therefore allowing us to provide those extra professional development positions we would like to establish from the beginning vs after maturing.

2. Community Support – We would like to emphasize our continued outreach within our community and through these efforts have increased from 87 members presented at your last meeting to 373 community members representing 207 students. We continue to work with the community leaders, but not being a “real” or “approved” charter has been quite challenging.

3. Community Impact – As the only face-to-face charter school in the area we will become a community and educational resource for the entire central leeward area. We will be the only tuition-free small

school option for our families. Our community centered project based learning will foster win-win community partnerships, as well as be a positive model of teacher wrap-around professional development support and parent engagement.

4. Funds/Grants Strategy – In response to the Application Committee’s concerns regarding funding, we have started to develop a Funds Focus Group made up of experts with experience, knowledge, and insight regarding funds and grant opportunities. We have put together more detailed goals and associated timelines that coincide with our funds requirements during our startup year. A summary is presented below and includes a simple cash flow table for your review of the timing of our cash requirements.

In fact, our first community service will be a fundraiser set to take place this December 2015; The IMAG Academy’s Art & Product School. We’ve included a Summary Description below that includes organization and business partners we have already started fostering relationships in preparation for our approved charter.

Thank you for your time and serious consideration to approve our charter request this application cycle. It would allow us to get to the important part of this work; becoming a K-12 public charter school that provides a small, family-like environment to prepare mindful citizens capable in excelling in college, career and life through creating a continuum of experiences where the strengths and potential of the individual and community can flourish.

Sincerely,

Signed-
Sheila Buyukacar
Founding Member

Attachments:

1. The IMAG Academy’s Art & Product Show - Summary
2. Readjusted Budget
3. The IMAG Academy’s Funds Focus Group – Summary and Cash Flow Estimates

The IMAG Academy's Art & Product Show Summary

Goal: To highlight and focus on student works created through project base learning, providing a view into the possibilities and the opportunities of project base learning.

Objective:

1. Provide public and private school students across the central leeward area an authentic venue to display and auction their work.
2. Provide community business mentor and partnership opportunities with schools and teachers.
3. Provide teacher support through project base learning framework and possible strategies.

Venue: An Art & New Product Opening Night

Place: TBD

Participants: Leeward area students, all grades-possible focus on middle and high school

Invitees: Local business and community leaders, government officials, parents, teachers, students

Invited Initial members

1. Devleague – Russel Cheng & Jason Sewell
2. HDTC – Innovate Hawaii – Thelma Alane
3. Enterprise Honolulu – Pono Shim

Possible other members

1. Green Path – Dana Akasaki
2. Malama Learning Center – Pauline Sato
3. Oceanit – Ian Kitjima
4. Plantation Market
5. FILCOM Center – Donnie Juan
6. The Geek Meet – Ryan Ozawa
7. Hawaii Venture Capital Association (HVCA) – Mele James
8. ThinkTech – Jay Fidell

The IMAG Academy – Budget with Adjusted Ratios – Realistic Funding								
	Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	Capacity
\$6200 PER *	Per seat REVENUE	1,302,000	2,139,000	2,976,000	3,813,000	4,743,000	5,208,000	5,673,000
SEAT with SW	Total salary	1,061,529	1,711,063	2,360,275	2,905,642	3,356,848	3,556,045	3,755,242
	% Salary/Rev	0.82	0.80	0.79	0.76	0.71	0.68	0.66
	Facilities	231,000	357,000	504,000	651,000	777,000	840,000	945,000
	% Facilities/Rev	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.17
\$6200 PER**	Per seat REVENUE	1,302,000	2,139,000	2,976,000	3,813,000	4,743,000	5,208,000	5,673,000
SEAT w/o SW	Total salary	1,014,129	1,639,963	2,265,475	2,810,842	3,262,048	3,461,245	3,660,442
	% Salary/Rev	0.78	0.77	0.76	0.74	0.69	0.66	0.65
	Facilities	231,000	357,000	504,000	651,000	777,000	840,000	945,000
	% Facilities/Rev	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.17
\$6500 PER***	Per seat REVENUE	1,365,000	2,242,500	3,120,000	3,997,500	4,972,500	5,460,000	5,947,500
SEAT w/o SW	Total salary	1,014,129	1,639,963	2,265,475	2,810,842	3,262,048	3,461,245	3,660,442
	% Salary/Rev	0.74	0.73	0.73	0.70	0.66	0.63	0.62
	Facilities	231,000	357,000	504,000	651,000	777,000	840,000	945,000
	% Facilities /Rev	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.16

Important note: Title 1 and ELL funding not included within budget income

*Budget with Salary of SPED (SW-Budget Line Item #251) teachers included, but reimbursements (revenue) not, inflating ratios

**Reimbursable positions removed

***More realistic per seat funding based on historical per seat funding

1. Facilities within the Waipahu area are much more reasonable than other areas. We feel a 20% ratio would be appropriate
2. Professional Development – Salary costs include our teacher support personnel; resource teacher(s), educational assistant for each grade, and a project coordinator. In addition, if necessary, the project coordinator can be removed for Year 1.

The IMAG Academy's Funds Focus Group Summary

Goal: To obtain grants/funds for Year 0 startup - \$140K

Provisional Milestone: Secure \$50K by Jan 1, 2016

Final Milestone: Secure \$90K by Apr 1, 2016

Objective: Through the use of member's experience, knowledge and insight, provide concrete leads of funds and grant opportunities

Initial Timeline: August 2015 – January 2016 – Goal \$50K

Final Timeline: January – June 2016 – Goal \$90K

Members will engage in a collaborative group effort to assist The IMAG Academy grant writer and school director in focusing on obtaining funding for our Year 0 startup requirements. Two milestone targets will be followed.

Invited Members:

1. Marina Piscalish (MAPping)
2. Kay Fukuda (PALS/PLACES)
3. La Vonne Richardson (HTI)
4. Noela Napoleon (Patsy T. Mink Center-YWCA)
5. Lynn Fujioka (HI Fusion ED)
6. Thelma Alane (HDTC)
7. Patricia Halagao (UH-Manoa-College of Ed)
8. Deborah Bond-Upson (Learning Bond)
8. Deb Ramirez (Grant Writer)
9. Sheila Buyukacar (School Director)

Cash Flow Estimates

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	
Salary Personnel						9,500	9,500	9,500	9,500	9,500	9,500	\$57,000
Contracts						5000	1300					\$6,300
Facilities										16,750	16,750	\$33,500
Curriculum									20,000			\$20,000
IT Expenses										10,500		\$10,500
PD			1,000			1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	2,500	2,500	\$10,000
Renovations									15,000	15,000		\$15,000
Misc			250	250						2,500	2,500	\$5,500
Total Expenses	0	0	1,250	250	0	15,500	11,800	10,500	30,500	56,750	31250	\$157,800
Accumulated Total	0	0	1,250	1,500	1,500	17,000	28,800	39,300	69,800	126,550	157,800	
Fundraisers-In Kind Donation			-2,500			-2,500		-5,000			-11,000	
Cash/month	0	0	-1,250	250	0	13,000	11,800	5,500	30,500	56,750	20,250	\$136,800
Accumulated Cash		0	-1,250	-1,000	-1,000	12,000	23,800	29,300	59,800	126,550	136,800	

To: The Hawaii Public Charter School Commission

From: Shirley Ames

Ref: In Support of The IMAG Academy

Date: August 12, 2015

Meeting date: August 13, 2015

Aloha Commission Members

As a strong supporter of the proposed public charter school; The IMAG Academy, I would like to take this opportunity to provide the following names of our school's supporters.

These 373 plus names represent parents, family and community members of approximately 207 prospective students. As we've continued to get the word out about the educational opportunity The IMAG Academy will provide students and their families, the number of names has grown from 87 supporters and 50 prospective students. This is just a small sample of supporters out there. With over 40K students within the central leeward area, we look forward to providing more evidence that a public charter school like The IMAG Academy is a much needed and welcomed opportunity for the families in the central leeward area.

Mahalo for making these names a part of the official record of The IMAG Academy's community of supporters.

Shirley Ames
Parent of Two Prospective Students

The Supporters of The IMAG Academy
Updated August 13, 2015

Total List Count	First name	Last Name
1	Rey & Mae	Ibarra
2	Byllie	Valdez
3	Michelle	Acosta
4	Joanne	Carvalho
5	Brittney	White
6	Cristina	Wallace
7	Cherina & Geoff	Oamilda
8	Vaneza	Agustin
9	Chuck	Wheatley
10	Marietta	Cadiente
11	Christina	Guevara
12	Jill	Smith
13	Chrisler	Imig
14	Raul	Navasa
15	Arlene	Boay
16	Cheryl	Cudiamat
17	Keoni	Inciong
18	Martha	Nahale
19	Joseph	Evans
20	Tom	Mitrano
21	Pono	Shim
22	Stacie	Gandauli
23	Mary	Ancheta
24	Jonathan	Gillentine
25	Ashlei	DiLorenzo
26	Allison	Mikuni
27	Cherie	Yamashiroya
28	Ning	Chung
29	Kerry	Lum
30	Kevin	Yoshino
31	Shannon	Chang
32	Jolene	Fetterman
33	Joanne	Jeremiah
34	Elaine	Yamashita
35	Melody	Duncan
36	Hanlan	Bowler
37	Neil	Scott
38	Candice	Galicia
39	Sheri	Fuiava

40	Dori	Alagao
41	Ainahau	Bajet
42	Vieng	Oudom
43	Shirley	Ames
44	Jod	Oudom
45	Elizabeth	Oudom
46	Randall	Kobayashi
47	Andres	Pak
48	Dail	Ader
49	Kevin	Kelly
50	Sonia	Walters
51	Hailey	Mozo
52	Matt	Strong
53	Kimberly	McCollum
54	PJ	Oellien
55	Meyan	Small
56	Kim	Harding
57	Jamee	Blackdron
58	Ben	Wainwright
59	Susan	Salvio
60	Frances	Leigh
61	Danielle	Delise
62	Teresa	Fitzmayer
63	Jenny	Yagodish
64	Jennifer	Purcell
65	Norman	Brown
66	Barbara	Brown
67	Taeshin	Yi
68	Melissa & Donald	Perpignan
69	Red & Virgil	Abille
70	Garrett	Reed
71	Julia	Trogden
72	Anthony	Witt
73	Amanda	Lindley
74	Candus	Jefferson
75	Melodie	Seabert
76	Phil	Acosta
77	Amberosia	
78	Saint Anthony	Clements
79	Kehaulani	Kupihea
80	Vini	Sakai
81	Brittany	Cameron
82	Joanne	Williamson
83	Grace & Magnus	Magnusson
84	Heather	Castellano
85	Sheila	Buyukacar
86	Lynelle	
87	Deanna	Castro

88	Aileen	Acosta
89	Carmen	Mier
90	Elizabeth	Watanabe
91	Liz	Rays
92	Julia	Schnetzler
93	Michelle	
94	Bill	Griffin
95	Jim	Switzer
96	Jennifer	Sebilla
97	Margot	Mesinas
98	Jessica	Rahman
99	Nathan	Miller
100	James	Gauer
101	Anne	Gamache
102	Bianca	Brazel
103	Andrew	Wary
104	Megan	Hansen
105	Marci	Womack
106	Verdis	Womack
107	Summer	Kapana
108	Jessica	Unknown
109	Krystyl	Fenton
110	Toshiko	Redding
111	Lesia	Cisneros
112	Francine	Chun
113	Elisabeth	Baugess
114	Kim	Rivera
115	Lana K.	Heick
116	Naoko	Toma
117	Amanda	Heeneman
118	Charlene	Nishida
119	Farvardin	Jahansooz
120	Ginger	Loa-Callia
121	Paul	Foreman
122	Robert	Tani
123	Adriane	Gariya
124	Charise	Joneidi
125	Sabre	Perry
126	Jeff	Boyd
127	Melissa	Hawkins
128	Deborah	Ramirez
129	Sharmaine	Enos
130	Ray	Goodrich
131	CR	Gualdarama
132	Vanessa	Belen
133	Lucricia	Amaral
134	Ariana	Smith
135	Melissa	Rodrigues

136	Lani	Simonsen
137	Allison	Herschel
138	Kristy	Ryan
139	G	Sanqui
140	Ria	Baldevia
141	Cartoon	Bunming
142	Robyn	Rife
143	Gregory	Grigaitis
144	Hiilei	Colburn
145	Shawn	Louis
146	Deborah	Stokes
147	Paul	Pricketson
148	Linda	Hayakawa
149	K. Scott	Wells
150	Tasha	Kalaola
151	Dione	Kalaola
152	Maria	Wells
153	Mona	Pacheco
154	Leihua	Savini
155	MJ	Caldwell
156	Wendy	Villanueva
157	Jenna	Canaday
158	Stephanie	Rodriguez
159	Desiree	Kekuna
160	Rae	Bonilla
161	Arianne	Zamora
162	Khazirae	Fears
163	Charlyn	Loria
164	Bryant	Loria
165	Robert	Brown
166	Clayton	Tom
167	Roman	Druker
168	Kaimiloa	Chandler
169	Jenny	Francisco
170	Asia	Engle
171	Arbine	Villanueva-Hoapili
172	Palakiko	Chandler
173	Kris	Rupert
174	Anelalani	Livingston-Sturge
175	Jenerry	Politini
176	Desmond	Politini
177	Ben	Wilson
178	Leah	Ortman
179	Amber	Householder
180	Renea	Ruark
181	Donna	Sinclair
182	Daniel	Sinclair
183	James	Orlando

184	Paul	Jackson
185	Desmond	Hutchinson
186	Mary	Rister
187	Caley	Unknown
188	Mitsuko	Hayakawa
189	Ryan	Ozawa
190	Bob	Matcuk
191	Lynette	Horinouchi
192	Diana	Simkus
193	Baolan	Messinger
194	Brian	Shiro
195	Spencer	Wang
196	Mike	Wieneke
197	Johnathan	Rubon
198	Anisa	Ayala-Espinosa
199	Heidi	Needham
200	McKay	Davis
201	Amy	Eggers
202	Erica	Desai
203	Jeff	Ruddy
204	Meeta	Vu
205	Don	Unknown
206	Lily-Ann	
207	Terina	Duncan
208	Thomas	Tanaka
209	Shy	Helm
210	Kukunaokala	Yoshimoto
211	Chanelle	Lucero
212	Terilyn	Nishimura
213	David	Manzollillo
214	Ken	Cole
215	Danielle	Crawford
216	Sheila	Nolasco
217	Harrison	Kuranishi
218	Nathan	Sterling
219	Amy	Villegas
220	Kari	Delude
221	Vanessa	Yasuda
222	Tiffany	Doucette
223	Sunshine	Deveki
224	Sharonnieka-Mae	Hill-Lino
225	Leslie Nollie	Hernandez
226	Lili	Weber
227	Starleah	Santiago
228	Sheryl	Cunningham
229	Hazel	Stott
230	Randy	Chun
231	Luanne	Chun

232	Rodney	Aquino
233	Pauline	Sato
234	Rhoda	Kealoha-Spencer
235	Chelsey	Jay
236	Aaron	Heluninger
237	Barbara	Owens
238	Keenan	Williams
239	Alisa-Marie	Nelson
240	Chez	Texiber
241	Noah	Keuma
242	Iwalani	Cummings
243	Deon	Leatman
244	Dasia	Peterson
245	Herbert	Swope
246	Shanell	Cardano
247	Eteline	Paselio
248	Cheresa	Botelho
249	Joseph	Alpuro
250	Anastasia	Afalava
251	John	Paselio
252	Volkan	Buyukacar
253	Katie	Steven
254	Ionie	Youngstrom
255	Lani	Robinson
256	Anu	Nakai
257	LaVonne	Richardson
258	Donna	Smith
259	Elisha	Manuel
260	Kekapa	Delo-Santos
261	Ed	Lopez
262	Jennifer	Lopez
263	Kahiapo	Nakai
264	Dorothy	Merrill
265	Kathryn	Pajela
266	Brooke-Lynn	Asino
267	Kiani	Iava
268	Carlene	Magas
269	Nichole	Tomas
270	Angela	Pablo
271	Angelina	Inong
272	Angielyn	Lameg
273	Michelle	Calamasa
274	Carol	Groff
275	Ramona	Mataveo
276	Carnation	Inong
277	Mary Grace	Ceria
278	Chad	Ballesteros
279	Lancechelle	Miranda-Kaaina

280	Alet	Clement
281	Courtney	Inong
282	Catherine	Morales
283	Roland	Dagan
284	Bernardia	Perlas
285	Donna	Roldan
286	Lenelle	Leong
287	Andrea	Duro
288	Elaine	Bowler
289	Elena	Elizarde
290	Faith	Rickson
291	Mark	Ferido
292	Sheri	Ohira
293	Fe	Agtunong
294	Galen	Agril
295	Greg	Gorgonio
296	Joselyn	Agosto
297	Jocelyn	Candelario
298	Jennifer	Barit
299	Jeffrey	Roldan
300	Josephine	Pascua
301	Joyce	Adams
302	Karen	Bala
303	Lorena	Lacar
304	Novelyn	Agcaoili
305	Lasia	Cordero
306	Fatima Lae	Medrano
307	Amanda	Tavanvu
308	Maricel	Estavillo
309	Mark Antonie	Barit
310	Maybel	Calamasa
311	Fraina	Cera
312	Thalia	Galvadores
313	Ron Regine	Supnet
314	Juliet	Bautista
315	Neven	Bowler
316	Niko	Groff
317	Jessica	Tantameo
318	Cassanra	Crews
319	Pete	Benito
320	Yolanda	Langkiee
321	Rohnelyne	Yoro
322	Rowena	Juan
323	Gail	Saguibo
324	Lugust	Enos
325	Sarah-Jane	Perlas
326	Sharon	Soliven
327	Atiana	Groff

328	Melody	Ramos
329	Zenaida	Rufo
330	Todd	Ohira
331	Danilo	Perlas
332	Dela	Parscual
333	Cameron	Ohira
334	Mya	Acido
335	LourBrito	Granelista
336	Lillyna	Manuel
337	Misery	Rickson
338	Persie	Singson
339	Sheila	Reyes
340	Aiden	Enosara
341	Maricel	Islao
342	Marites	Galvador
343	Meavelyn	Cabuvenas
344	Aleth	Rumbaoa
345	Daniella	Prozas
346	Jennie	Martinez
347	Analyn	Elizarde
348	Clarinel	Yoro
349	Sonia	Neza
350	Lenie	Pablo
351	Renson	Batehalia
352	Araulani	Yulot
353	Arnolto	Ceria
354	Marisol	Melegrito
355	Celeb	Chavez
356	Cindy	Juda
357	Sterling	Miles
358	Shaunna	Diforth
359	Orlando	Garcia
360	Lilia	Rambac
361	Kellie	Pritt
362	Sandra	Jamilla
363	Livan	Cua
364	Michael	Salas-McKee
365	Robyn	Palomar
366	Kathy	Kaai
367	Ku'ulei	Serna
368	Alexis	Alford
369	Lysa	Ronduen
370	Dominique	Bale
371	Scott	Sinnett
372	Leah	Sekiya
373	Regan	Gabriel Jr