

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE  
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION  
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

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December 4, 2015

VIA EMAIL ([lhammonds@htsb.org](mailto:lhammonds@htsb.org))

Lynn Hammonds, Executive Director  
Hawaii Teacher Standards Board  
650 Iwilei Rd., #201  
Honolulu, HI 96817

Dear Ms. Hammonds:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) is pleased to submit its 2015 annual report to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (“HTSB”). The Commission extends its appreciation to both HTSB and to Hawaii’s public charter schools for their cooperation and assistance in the preparation of this report. The Commission would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the charter schools on meeting teacher licensure requirements this school year. The Commission looks forward to continuing to work with HTSB and maintaining this positive momentum.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Hutton".

Thomas E. M. Hutton  
Executive Director

Attachment: 2015 Annual Report to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board on Teacher Licensure in Charter Schools



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DATE: December 4, 2015

TO: Lynn Hammonds, Executive Director  
Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director  
State Public Charter School Commission

SUBJECT: 2015 Annual Report to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board on Teacher Licensure in Charter School

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Pursuant to Section 302A-804, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), as amended by Act 39, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, the State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) submits this annual report to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB). Section 302A-804, HRS, requires the Commission to:

1. Report data annually to HTSB about the supply of, and demand for, teachers in charter schools, including the identification of shortage areas, out-of-field teaching assignments, numbers of teachers teaching out-of-field, numbers and types of courses and classes taught by out-of-field teachers, and numbers and types of students taught by out-of-field teachers;
2. Submit an annual report to HTSB documenting:
  - a. The number of emergency hires in charter schools by subject matter areas and by school;
  - b. The reasons and duration of employment for the emergency hiring enumerated in subparagraph (a); and
  - c. Individual progress toward licensing; and
3. Providing any other information requested by HTSB that is pertinent to the Commission’s powers and duties.

## 1. Background

State laws regarding teacher licensure, codified in Chapter 302A-801 through Chapter 302A-808, HRS, require that teachers must be licensed in order to be employed in a Hawaii public school. This requirement applies to all teachers, regardless of grade or subject taught. In 2002, the Legislature

placed with HTSB the responsibility for setting the licensing standards for Hawaii public school teachers that detail the qualifications needed to teach in Hawaii public schools. In 2014 Session, the Legislature passed Act 39, which clarified licensing and reporting requirements for both the charter schools and the Commission.

Public charter schools also are subject to provisions of the Commission's Charter Contract, Section 10.3 of which addresses teacher licensure as follows:

Teacher Credentials. The School's teachers shall comply with applicable State licensing requirements consistent with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, State law, and collective bargaining agreements, as such requirements may be amended. Teachers shall be licensed by the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board[.]

To satisfy the reporting obligations set by the amended law, the Commission issued its first annual report to HTSB in October 2014. This was the first time that charter school teacher licensure information had been collected and reviewed. The Commission found that 88%, or 621 out of 706<sup>1</sup> total teachers in the charter school system, were licensed with HTSB. The Commission also found that charter schools employed a total of 85 unlicensed teachers, of whom only 25 had the emergency hire permits required by law.<sup>2</sup> The Commission pledged to work with the charter schools and HTSB to ensure that these unlicensed teachers met the requirements of state law.

In order to determine charter schools' compliance with teacher licensure requirements and fulfill the reporting requirements set in Section 302A-804, HRS for the 2015-2016 school year, the Commission required each charter school to submit teacher licensure information about its faculty members by September 10, 2015. All charter schools provided the requested information. From mid-September through the start of November both the Commission and HTSB worked with the charter schools to ensure that licensure requirements were being met.

## **2. Licensed and Unlicensed Teacher Counts**

Based on the information collected by the Commission and shown in Table A below, 91%, or 630 out of 696<sup>3</sup> total teachers in the charter school system, are licensed with HTSB.

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<sup>1</sup> The number of licensed and unlicensed teachers in the charter school system for the 2014-2015 school year was 706. . This total did not include nine teachers who were classified as "undefined," as explained below.

<sup>2</sup> State law generally requires that a teacher must be licensed in order to be employed in a Hawaii public school, unless he or she is hired as an emergency hire. Emergency hires must be reported by the school and are required to hold an emergency hire permit from HTSB.

<sup>3</sup> The number of licensed and unlicensed teachers in the charter school system for the 2015-2016 school year is 698. This total does not include one teacher who is classified as "undefined," as explained below.

**Table A: Licensed and Emergency Hire Teachers in Hawaii Public Charter Schools**

School Name	Total # of Teachers	# of Licensed Teachers	# of Teachers with Emergency Hire Permits	Percentage of Licensed Teachers
Connections Public Charter School	23	23	0	100%
Hakipu'u Learning Center	6	6	0	100%
Halau Ku Mana Public Charter School	13	13	0	100%
Hawaii Academy of Arts and Science Public Charter School (HAAS)	34	34	0	100%
Hawaii Technology Academy	49	49	0	100%
Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha Learning Center	5	5	0	100%
Kua o ka Lā New Century Public Charter School	9	9	0	100%
Kualapu'u School: A Public Conversion Charter	26	26	0	100%
Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha (KANAKA) A New Century Public Charter School (PCS)	4	4	0	100%
Mālama Honua Public Charter School	3	3	0	100%
Voyager: A Public Charter School	21	21	0	100%
Waialae Elementary Public Charter School	39	39	0	100%
Ka Waihona o ka Na'auao Public Charter School	48	46	2	96%
Lanikai Elementary Public Charter School	22	21	1	95%
Myron B. Thompson Academy	21	20	1	95%
West Hawai'i Explorations Academy	18	17	1	94%
Innovations Public Charter School	15	14	1	93%
Ke Kula 'o Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u Iki, LPCS	25	23	2	92%
Ka 'Umeke Kā'eo	20	18	2	90%
Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS	9	8	1	89%

<b>Table A: Licensed and Emergency Hire Teachers in Hawaii Public Charter Schools</b>				
<b>School Name</b>	<b>Total # of Teachers</b>	<b># of Licensed Teachers</b>	<b># of Teachers with Emergency Hire Permits</b>	<b>Percentage of Licensed Teachers</b>
<b>Kamaile Academy, PCS</b>	68	60	8	<b>88%</b>
<b>Volcano School of Arts and Sciences</b>	15	13	2	<b>87%</b>
<b>Kanu o ka 'Āina New Century Public Charter School</b>	19	16	3	<b>84%</b>
<b>Ke Ana La'ahana PCS</b>	6	5	1	<b>83%</b>
<b>Waimea Middle Public Conversion Charter School</b>	24	20	4	<b>83%</b>
<b>University Laboratory School</b>	39	32	7	<b>82%</b>
<b>Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School</b>	10	8	2	<b>80%</b>
<b>Kona Pacific Public Charter School</b>	10	8	2	<b>80%</b>
<b>Na Wai Ola Public Charter School</b>	13	10	3	<b>77%</b>
<b>SEEQS: the School for Examining Essential Questions of Sustainability</b>	13	10	3	<b>77%</b>
<b>Kihei Charter School</b>	34	26	8	<b>76%</b>
<b>Kanuikapono Public Charter School</b>	12	9	3	<b>75%</b>
<b>Laupahoehoe Community Public Charter School</b>	18	13	5	<b>72%</b>
<b>Ka'u Learning Academy</b>	5	1	4	<b>20%</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>91%</b>

In twelve of Hawaii's 34 charter schools, all teachers are licensed. The twelve schools are:

1. Connections Public Charter School;
2. Hakipu'u Learning Center;
3. Halau Ku Mana Public Charter School;
4. Hawaii Academy of Arts and Science;
5. Hawaii Technology Academy;
6. Ke Kula Niihau O Kekaha Learning Center;
7. Kua o ka Lā New Century Public Charter School;
8. Kualapu'u School: A Public Conversion Charter;
9. Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha (KANAKA) A New Century Public Charter School;
10. Mālama Honua Learning Center;
11. Voyager: A Public Charter School; and

## 12. Waialae Elementary Public Charter School.

The remaining 22 charter schools employ a total of 66 unlicensed teachers, versus 85 last school year. In addition, this school year all of the unlicensed teachers obtained and hold the required emergency hire permits.

In compiling this year's teacher licensure information, the Commission encountered a single instance in which a charter school reported a teacher who either was unable or was not required to obtain a license from HTSB. The subject taught by this teacher was a Hawaiian culture-based class that included hula and preparation for the school's May Day festivities, as well as specialized areas in agriculture and industrial arts. In this situation, where the subject area may be outside of licensed subjects, the Commission has directed schools to consult with HTSB. Pending HTSB's determination that a license is not available for that subject area, these teachers have been designated "undefined" teachers in this report and have not been included in the count of the school's total number of teachers.

### 3. Emergency Hire Information

The total of 66 unlicensed teachers serving in charter schools accounts for nine percent of the total number of teachers in charter schools. This year all of these unlicensed teachers have emergency hire permits. This is a dramatic improvement over last year, where 12 percent of all charter school teachers were unlicensed and only 22 percent of them held the required emergency hire permits.

Based on the data gathered, no one subject area stands out in which charter schools are particularly likely to employ unlicensed teachers. The number of unlicensed teachers teaching core subject areas (such as Math, Language Arts, Science) and non-core areas (such as Physical Education, Music, Art) are evenly distributed in the charter school system.

Unlicensed teachers in the charter system are taking the necessary steps to become fully licensed. Their actions include: enrolling in teacher preparation courses, taking PRAXIS exams, and completing necessary course work to meet teacher licensure requirements. The Commission will continue to participate in HTSB-led working groups which are looking into alternative ways that teachers, including those in charter schools, can meet licensure requirements.

### 4. Out-of-Field Teaching

HTSB defines out-of-field teaching as a situation in which a licensed teacher teaches a course or subject area in which the teacher is not licensed. According to the information provided by the charter schools, 75 teachers, or approximately 12% of the total number of licensed teachers in charter schools, are teaching out of field. According to the information provided by the schools, 22 of the 34 charter schools had 20 percent or fewer of their licensed teachers teaching out-of-field, including 10 schools that had no out-of-field teachers.

In the 12 charter schools in which more than 20 percent of licensed teachers were teaching out of field, the actual number of out-of-field teachers ranged from one up to eleven. In one of these schools, the one teacher teaching out of field is one of only four teachers, while another school with

eleven out-of-field teachers employs a total of 34 licensed teachers. These examples highlight the varying sizes of Hawaii’s charter schools.

**Table B** below provides a list of the number of teachers teaching out-of-field and subjects taught by these teachers for each charter school. .

Table B: Out-of-Field and Subjects Taught by Charter School Teachers					
School Name	# of Licensed Teachers	# of Licensed Teachers Teaching Out-of-field	Percentage of Licensed Teachers Teaching Out-of-field	Core Subjects Being Taught by Teachers Teaching Out-of-field <sup>4</sup>	Non-Core Subjects Being Taught by Teachers Teaching Out-of-field
Hakipu’u Learning Center	6	0	0%		
Ka ‘Umeke Kā’eo	18	0	0%		
Ka’u Learning Academy	1	0	0%		
Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School	8	0	0%		
Ke Kula ‘o Nāwahīokalani‘ō pu’u Iki, LPCS	23	0	0%		
Ke Kula ‘o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS	8	0	0%		
Lanikai Elementary Public Charter School	21	0	0%		
Mālama Honua Public Charter School	3	0	0%		
Nā Wai Ola Public Charter School	10	0	0%		
University Laboratory School	32	0	0%		
Connections Public Charter School	23	1	4%	Science 6-8	None

<sup>4</sup> For the purpose of this review, Core subjects are considered to be English/Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science for middle and high school students and elementary education for the primary school grades.

Table B: Out-of-Field and Subjects Taught by Charter School Teachers					
School Name	# of Licensed Teachers	# of Licensed Teachers Teaching Out-of-field	Percentage of Licensed Teachers Teaching Out-of-field	Core Subjects Being Taught by Teachers Teaching Out-of-field <sup>4</sup>	Non-Core Subjects Being Taught by Teachers Teaching Out-of-field
Hawaii Technology Academy	49	2	4%	Social Studies 6-12; Math 9-12	Special Education
Ka Waihona o ka Na'auao Public Charter School	46	2	4%	Elementary Education K-6	Art
Kamaile Academy, PCS	60	3	5%	None	Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages; Physical Education
Myron B. Thompson Academy	20	1	5%	None	Art
Waialae Elementary Public Charter School	39	2	5%		Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages; Physical Education
Kanu o ka 'Āina New Century Public Charter School	16	1	6%	Math 6-8; Social Studies 6-8	None
Kualapu'u School: A Public Conversion Charter	26	2	8%	None	Early Childhood Education; Physical Education
Laupahoehoe Community Public Charter School	13	1	8%	None	Art
Volcano School of Arts and Sciences	13	1	8%	Elementary Education K-6	None
Innovations Public Charter School	14	2	14%	None	Art; Physical Education
Voyager: A Public Charter School	21	4	19%	Elementary Education K-6; Science 6-8	Art; Music; Special Education;
Waimea Middle Public	20	4	20%	Social Studies 6-8; Science 6-8	Reading; Music

Table B: Out-of-Field and Subjects Taught by Charter School Teachers					
School Name	# of Licensed Teachers	# of Licensed Teachers Teaching Out-of-field	Percentage of Licensed Teachers Teaching Out-of-field	Core Subjects Being Taught by Teachers Teaching Out-of-field <sup>4</sup>	Non-Core Subjects Being Taught by Teachers Teaching Out-of-field
<b>Conversion Charter School</b>					
<b>Kua o ka Lā New Century Public Charter School</b>	9	2	22%	Elementary Education K-6	Physical Education
<b>Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha (KANAKA) A New Century Public Charter School (PCS)</b>	4	1	25%	Elementary Education K-6	None
<b>Kihei Charter School</b>	26	8	31%	Elementary Education K-6; English 6-12; Science 6-12; Social Studies 6-12	Career & Technical Education
<b>Hawaii Academy of Arts and Science Public Charter School (HAAS)</b>	34	11	32%	Social Studies 9-12; Social Studies 6-8; Elementary Education K-6; Math 6-8; Science 9-12	Music; Foreign Language
<b>Kanuikapono Public Charter School</b>	9	3	33%	English 6-8; Social Studies 6-8	Special Education
<b>West Hawai'i Explorations Academy</b>	17	6	35%	Math 6-12; English 6-12	Foreign Language; Physical Education; Health
<b>Halau Ku Mana Public Charter School</b>	13	5	38%	Math 6-12; English 6-12; Science 6-12	Hawaiian Language;
<b>Kona Pacific Public Charter School</b>	8	3	38%	Elementary Education K-6; Math 6-8; Science 6-8; Social Studies 6-8	None
<b>Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha</b>	5	2	40%	Science 6-12; Math 6-12	None

Table B: Out-of-Field and Subjects Taught by Charter School Teachers					
School Name	# of Licensed Teachers	# of Licensed Teachers Teaching Out-of-field	Percentage of Licensed Teachers Teaching Out-of-field	Core Subjects Being Taught by Teachers Teaching Out-of-field <sup>4</sup>	Non-Core Subjects Being Taught by Teachers Teaching Out-of-field
<b>Learning Center</b>					
<b>SEEQS: the School for Examining Essential Questions of Sustainability</b>	10	4	40%	Social Studies 6-8; Science 6-8	None
<b>Ke Ana La'ahana PCS</b>	5	4	80%	Math 6-12; Science 6-12; English 6-12; Social Studies 6-12	Physical Education; Health
<b>Totals</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>12%</b>		

**a. Teacher Shortage Areas in Charter Schools**

The Commission reviewed the subjects taught by out-of-field licensed teachers and noted several common trends among the schools where out-of-field teaching occurred. In the twelve schools where more than 20 percent of the licensed teachers were teaching out of field, ten had out-of-field teachers teaching middle school and/or high school core classes (Math, English, Science, and Social Studies). In nine of these ten schools, Math and Science courses were being taught out-of-field teachers; five schools used an out-of-field teacher for English; and seven schools had an out-of-field teacher for Social Studies. Out-of-field teaching also occurs in other subjects such as Art, Physical Education, and Music. Out-of-field teachers are teaching these subjects at five charter schools. Finally, at the elementary level, five schools had elementary grades taught by an out-of-field teacher.

The Commission emphasizes that these charter schools are in compliance with teacher licensure requirements according to HTSB. The Commission encourages charter schools and charter school teachers to contact HTSB to determine whether these out-of-field teachers may be eligible to receive a license in the out-of-field subjects they are teaching.

**b. Number and Types of Students Taught by Out-of-field Teachers**

Although the Commission’s annual report to HTSB is required to report on the number and types of students taught by out-of-field teachers, the Commission does not collect this type of classroom-level information at this time. Going forward, the Commission will work with the

charter schools and the Hawaii Department of Education (“DOE”) to provide HTSB with this information. In the meantime, the Commission is providing HTSB enrollment and demographic information, such as student-teacher ratios and enrollment of disadvantaged students in each of the charter schools, which will provide some context and shed light on this question.

Total charter school enrollment in Hawaii for the 2015-2016 school year is 10,668.<sup>5</sup> Enrollment in the schools ranges in size from a few as 44 students to as many as 977. Only 12 schools out of 34 exceed the average Hawaii charter school enrollment of 314 students, while six schools serve fewer than 100 students. The charter sector-wide ratio of students to teachers is 15:1. **Table C** provides the number of students and teachers and the ratios in each charter school.

<b>Table C: Students to Teacher Ratio</b>			
<b>School Name</b>	<b>Total # of Students</b>	<b>Total # of Teachers</b>	<b>Ratio of Students to Teachers</b>
<b>Ke Ana La’ahana PCS</b>	44	6	<b>7:1</b>
<b>Hakipu’u Learning Center</b>	66	6	<b>11:1</b>
<b>Halau Ku Mana Public Charter School</b>	144	13	<b>11:1</b>
<b>Ke Kula Ni’ihau O Kekaha Learning Center</b>	53	5	<b>11:1</b>
<b>University Laboratory School</b>	439	39	<b>11:1</b>
<b>Waimea Middle Public Conversion Charter School</b>	268	24	<b>11:1</b>
<b>Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha (KANAKA) A New Century Public Charter School (PCS)</b>	49	4	<b>12:1</b>
<b>SEEQS: the School for Examining Essential Questions of Sustainability</b>	159	13	<b>12:1</b>
<b>Volcano School of Arts and Sciences</b>	182	15	<b>12:1</b>
<b>Ka ‘Umeke Kā’eo</b>	260	20	<b>13:1</b>
<b>Ka Waihona o ka Na’auao Public Charter School</b>	641	48	<b>13:1</b>
<b>Kualapu’u School: A Public Conversion Charter</b>	327	26	<b>13:1</b>
<b>Waialae Elementary Public Charter School</b>	498	39	<b>13:1</b>
<b>Kamaile Academy, PCS</b>	931	68	<b>14:1</b>
<b>Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School</b>	141	10	<b>14:1</b>

<sup>5</sup> This figure is based on enrollment information provided by each individual charter school to the Commission as of October 15, 2015, the state official enrollment count date.

<b>Table C: Students to Teacher Ratio</b>			
<b>School Name</b>	<b>Total # of Students</b>	<b>Total # of Teachers</b>	<b>Ratio of Students to Teachers</b>
<b>Ke Kula 'o Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u Iki, LPCS</b>	355	25	<b>14:1</b>
<b>Voyager: A Public Charter School</b>	301	21	<b>14:1</b>
<b>Lanikai Elementary Public Charter School</b>	327	22	<b>15:1</b>
<b>Connections Public Charter School</b>	358	23	<b>16:1</b>
<b>Innovations Public Charter School</b>	240	15	<b>16:1</b>
<b>West Hawai'i Explorations Academy</b>	282	18	<b>16:1</b>
<b>Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS</b>	157	9	<b>17:1</b>
<b>Kihei Charter School</b>	564	34	<b>17:1</b>
<b>Laupahoehoe Community Public Charter School</b>	307	18	<b>17:1</b>
<b>Hawaii Academy of Arts and Science Public Charter School (HAAS)</b>	598	34	<b>18:1</b>
<b>Kanu o ka 'Āina New Century Public Charter School</b>	334	19	<b>18:1</b>
<b>Kanuikapono Public Charter School</b>	217	12	<b>18:1</b>
<b>Na Wai Ola Public Charter School</b>	228	13	<b>18:1</b>
<b>Hawaii Technology Academy</b>	977	49	<b>20:1</b>
<b>Ka'u Learning Academy</b>	99	5	<b>20:1</b>
<b>Kua o ka Lā New Century Public Charter School</b>	182	9	<b>20:1</b>
<b>Kona Pacific Public Charter School</b>	214	10	<b>21:1</b>
<b>Mālama Honua Public Charter School</b>	63	3	<b>21:1</b>
<b>Myron B. Thompson Academy</b>	663	21	<b>32:1</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10,668</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>15:1</b>

Next, the Commission presents information on the three student groups considered “high needs” populations by the DOE. For each school, we identify the numbers and percentages of students: 1) who are eligible for free and reduced priced lunch (an indicator of economic disadvantage); 2) who receive special education services; and 3) who are English Language Learners (ELL). **Table D** below provides the demographic information on the number of charter school students eligible for free and reduced lunch.

<b>Table D: Free and Reduced Priced Lunch Students in Charter Schools</b>			
<b>School Name</b>	<b>Total # of Students</b>	<b># of FRL Students<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>Percentage of FRL Students</b>
<b>Ka’u Learning Academy<sup>7</sup></b>	94	91	<b>97%</b>
<b>Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahaelani Aloha (KANAKA) A New Century Public Charter School (PCS)</b>	60	57	<b>95%</b>
<b>Kamaile Academy, PCS</b>	952	864	<b>91%</b>
<b>Kualapu’u School: A Public Conversion Charter</b>	306	265	<b>87%</b>
<b>Hawaii Academy of Arts and Science Public Charter School (HAAS)</b>	547	462	<b>84%</b>
<b>Connections Public Charter School</b>	350	274	<b>78%</b>
<b>Ka ‘Umeke Kā’eo</b>	260	200	<b>77%</b>
<b>Ke Kula Ni’ihau O Kekaha Learning Center</b>	44	34	<b>77%</b>
<b>Mālama Honua Public Charter School</b>	41	31	<b>76%</b>
<b>Ke Ana La’ahana PCS</b>	45	32	<b>71%</b>
<b>Laupahoehoe Community Public Charter School</b>	246	175	<b>71%</b>
<b>Na Wai Ola Public Charter School</b>	172	121	<b>70%</b>
<b>Waimea Middle Public Conversion Charter School</b>	288	197	<b>68%</b>
<b>Hakipu’u Learning Center</b>	63	42	<b>67%</b>
<b>Ka Waihona o ka Na’auao</b>	646	432	<b>67%</b>

<sup>6</sup> These figures are for the 2015-2016 school year, though they are based on the actual student information from the 2014-2015 school year. Schools report student information to the federal government near the end of the school year; the federal government then uses that information to determine free and reduced lunch eligibility and funding for the upcoming school year.

<sup>7</sup> Kau Learning Academy (KLA) is an exception to the above notation as it did not operate in the 2014-2015 school year. However, the federal government used the figures for the complex area the school operates in and determined that, since the need was high for that area, KLA would receive assistance and funding for the 2015-2016 school year.

<b>Table D: Free and Reduced Priced Lunch Students in Charter Schools</b>			
<b>School Name</b>	<b>Total # of Students</b>	<b># of FRL Students<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>Percentage of FRL Students</b>
<b>Public Charter School</b>			
<b>Kona Pacific Public Charter School</b>	236	153	<b>65%</b>
<b>Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School</b>	136	84	<b>62%</b>
<b>Kanu o ka 'Āina New Century Public Charter School</b>	307	188	<b>61%</b>
<b>Kanuikapono Public Charter School</b>	179	109	<b>61%</b>
<b>Ke Kula 'o Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u Iki, LPCS</b>	294	180	<b>61%</b>
<b>Kua o ka Lā New Century Public Charter School</b>	229	135	<b>59%</b>
<b>Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS</b>	127	74	<b>58%</b>
<b>Innovations Public Charter School</b>	228	123	<b>54%</b>
<b>Halau Ku Mana Public Charter School</b>	134	63	<b>47%</b>
<b>West Hawai'i Explorations Academy</b>	248	107	<b>43%</b>
<b>Volcano School of Arts and Sciences</b>	171	67	<b>39%</b>
<b>Kihei Charter School</b>	526	162	<b>31%</b>
<b>SEEQS: the School for Examining Essential Questions of Sustainability</b>	126	34	<b>27%</b>
<b>Voyager: A Public Charter School</b>	282	77	<b>27%</b>
<b>Hawaii Technology Academy</b>	1,154	262	<b>23%</b>
<b>Myron B. Thompson Academy</b>	584	133	<b>23%</b>
<b>Waialae Elementary Public Charter School</b>	499	117	<b>23%</b>
<b>University Laboratory School</b>	444	68	<b>15%</b>
<b>Lanikai Elementary Public Charter School</b>	328	42	<b>13%</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10,346</b>	<b>5,455</b>	<b>53%</b>

In 23 of 34 charter schools (68 percent), more than half of students are eligible for free or reduced price lunch. Of these schools, nine serve populations in which more than 75 percent of students are eligible, and three schools serve populations in which more than 90 percent are eligible. Overall, more than half the children in Hawaii charter schools are eligible for free and reduced price lunch.

**Table E** below provides the special education and ELL demographic enrollment information from each of the charter schools.

Table E: Special Education and English Language Learner Student Population in Charter Schools					
School Name	Total # of Students	# of Special Education Students	% of Special Education Students	# of ELL Students	% of ELL Students
Connections Public Charter School	358	67	19%	13	4%
Hakipu'u Learning Center	66	13	20%	0	0%
Halau Ku Mana Public Charter School	144	17	12%	1	1%
Hawaii Academy of Arts and Science Public Charter School (HAAS)	598	49	8%	2	0%
Hawaii Technology Academy	977	68	7%	2	0%
Innovations Public Charter School	240	21	9%	6	3%
Ka 'Umeke Ka'eo*	260	17	7%		
Ka Waihona o ka Na'auao Public Charter School	641	42	7%	2	0%
Kamaile Academy, PCS	931	121	13%	75	8%
Kanu o ka 'Aina New Century Public Charter School	334	37	11%	2	1%
Kanuikapono Public Charter School	217	12	6%	2	1%
Ka'u Learning Academy	99	4	4%	3	3%
Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School* <sup>8</sup>	141	5	4%		
Ke Ana La'ahana PCS	44	13	30%	0	0%
Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha Learning Center	53	4	8%	14	26%
Ke Kula 'o Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u Iki, LPCS*	355	4	1%		
Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS*	157	2	1%		

<sup>8</sup> Schools with no ELL information are Hawaiian immersion schools which are exempt from ELL requirements.

<b>Table E: Special Education and English Language Learner Student Population in Charter Schools</b>					
<b>School Name</b>	<b>Total # of Students</b>	<b># of Special Education Students</b>	<b>% of Special Education Students</b>	<b># of ELL Students</b>	<b>% of ELL Students</b>
<b>Kihei Charter School</b>	564	22	4%	3	1%
<b>Kona Pacific Public Charter School</b>	214	8	4%	5	2%
<b>Kua o ka Lā New Century Public Charter School</b>	182	20	11%	4	2%
<b>Kualapu‘u School: A Public Conversion Charter</b>	327	18	6%	8	2%
<b>Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha (KANAKA) A New Century Public Charter School (PCS)</b>	49	6	12%	8	16%
<b>Lanikai Elementary Public Charter School</b>	327	17	5%	4	1%
<b>Laupahoehoe Community Public Charter School</b>	307	57	19%	14	5%
<b>Mālama Honua Public Charter School</b>	63	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Myron B. Thompson Academy</b>	663	5	1%	1	0%
<b>Na Wai Ola Public Charter School</b>	228	25	11%	4	2%
<b>SEEQS: the School for Examining Essential Questions of Sustainability</b>	159	26	16%	2	1%
<b>University Laboratory School</b>	439	25	6%	1	0%
<b>Volcano School of Arts and Sciences</b>	182	21	12%	3	2%
<b>Voyager: A Public Charter School</b>	301	32	11%	7	2%
<b>Waialae Elementary Public Charter School</b>	498	39	8%	26	5%
<b>Waimea Middle Public Conversion Charter School</b>	268	34	13%	12	4%
<b>West Hawai‘I Explorations Academy</b>	282	24	9%	2	1%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10,668</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>2%</b>

Eight percent (875 out of 10,668) of charter school students receive special education services, which is close to the state average of about ten percent<sup>9</sup>. Fourteen charter schools serve special education populations above the state average of ten percent of enrollment, with four schools at almost twenty percent and one school at thirty percent.

The total charter school ELL population is about two percent of the overall charter school enrollment (226 of 10,668 students). Only three charter schools exceed the state average ELL enrollment of approximately 7 percent<sup>10</sup>. Two of these schools, which provide bilingual programs, are significantly above the state average.

## **Conclusion**

The Commission congratulates Hawaii's public charter schools on the success of their efforts in working with HTSB to ensure that their teachers are properly licensed and that those who are not yet eligible for a teaching license have the required emergency hire permits. The fact that every charter school met teacher licensure requirements for the 2015-2016 school when just last school year only twenty percent of unlicensed charter school teachers had the required emergency hire permits represents a significant achievement. The Commission will continue to work with charter schools and HTSB to ensure that this positive momentum is sustained.

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<sup>9</sup> The state percentage for special education students referenced is based on the DOE's Official Enrollment Count Report for 2014-2015.

<sup>10</sup> The statewide percentage for ELL students referenced is based on information provided from the Department of Education's Longitudinal Data System for 2014-2015.