

As a native Hawaiian, I would like recommend the name "Piilani High School," be selected for the new school to be built Upcountry.

The name Piilani translates as "ascending or climbing to heaven," a fitting name for a place of "higher learning!"

There were three kings that ruled Maui during the 14th and 15th centuries, Piilani and his two sons Lono-A-Piilani and Kila-A-Piilani. Whenever a song or chant mentions the ali'i or kings of each island, the name Piilani always represents Maui.

In the S. M. Kamakau's book *Ruling Chiefs of Hawai'i*, it mentions that Kila-A-Piilani lived close to the boundary of present day Kula and Makawao near the site of the new high school. There he cleared a large area and planted sweet potatoes with slips from Hamakuapoko and Hali'imaile. His people were suffering from a famine caused by a long drought, but as soon as the potatoes were planted heavy rains began to fall. A new beginning. Just as the new high school will be for our children and our community.

Three centuries before the great Kamehameha, Piilani and his koa(warriors) were feared through out the Hawaiian Islands. I suggest the name "Piilani Warriors" would be an excellent choice for the new school's athletic teams, since I'm sure the new "Piilani Warriors" will also be feared through out the Hawaiian Islands.

I read that name "Cameron" is also being considered. In a year that we recognize the 100th anniversary of the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy, I would like to strongly recommend against selecting this name or that of any other decedents of the missionaries which took away our sovereignty. This would be an insult to the Hawaiian people.

Finally, I'd want to thank Auntie Malia Craver, a living treasure of Hawai'i and Hawaiian linguist for her help with this recommendation. She shares my feeling that Piilani should be the name for this new Maui school.

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