

Wish list for school projects includes \$63 million for Maui

By TIMOTHY HURLEY
Staff Writer

8-9-1992
WAILUKU — Nearly \$20 million for the Upcountry high school and more than \$9 million for a second elementary school in Kihei are among the projects listed in the state Board of Education's request for construction funds for the 1993-95 state budget.

The board on Thursday approved a \$248 million wish list of projects the state Department of Education feels necessary to meet

school construction demands over the two-year period. The 94-project list includes more than \$63 million for construction on Maui island, none on Molokai or Lanai.

However, board members acknowledged that the DOE won't receive the entire requested amount, especially in an era when the state is financially strapped.

Under state law, at least \$90 million goes to education per year in a special construc-

See LIST OF SCHOOL
on the last page of this section

List of school projects includes \$63 million for Maui

Continued from Page A1

tion appropriation. Under the BOE's proposed construction budget, the \$90 million would cover only the first 66 projects, including nine for Maui estimated at more than \$35.3 million.

The request now goes to the state Department of Budget and Finance, which is given the job of recommending to Gov. John Waihee which items on the board's list should be included in the governor's proposed two-year state budget.

Maui projects making the cut, in order of priority, are \$1 million for Waihee School drainage improvements, \$19,975,000 for Upcountry high school, \$2 million for a Maui Waena Intermediate School band room, \$195,000 for planning and design of a Maui Waena six-classroom building, \$9,225,000 for the first increment of "Kihei II Elementary School" and planning and design of a second increment, and \$2,945,000 for construction of an eight-class-

room building at Princess Nahienae-na School.

Maui wish list projects that didn't make the cut include first increment funding of "Maui Lani Elementary School" in Kahului, first increment funding of another Wailuku elementary school, planning and design funds for a Lahaina elementary school, a physical education locker room and cafeteria for Lokelani Intermediate School and a cafeteria for Waihee School.

Maui projects that didn't make the top 66 projects totaled nearly \$27.9 million.

Despite the cuts, Maui District Superintendent Lokelani Lindsey described Maui's tentative construction budget as "fantastic."

"We got a lot," she said Friday. "We planned fairly and lobbied a great deal, and I'm glad we're getting what we got."

Not happy are parents trying to persuade education officials to con-

struct the Upcountry high school all at once. However, state Superintendent Charles Toguchi warned them July 31 that the DOE could not afford to allocate roughly \$70 million for the school in one budget.

"We don't have that kind of money to spend on one school," Maui BOE member Meyer Ueoka reiterated on Friday. "If we gave it to Upcountry we would have to take it away from Kihei or Kahului or Lahaina."

Ueoka, chairman of the BOE's Business Services Committee, said the board is like a parent to the schools, which are children.

"If you have five children, you don't want to give preferential treatment to one. You treat them all fairly," he said.

Toguchi, meeting with parents at Kalama Intermediate School July 31, advised parents who want the Upcountry school built all at once to take their cause to the politicians.