Fig. 1. The "neighborhood" with Honolulu backdrop.
Fig. 2. Rock-lined swale.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sidney and Minnie Kosasa Neighborhood at Punahou School is one of two neighborhoods in the Elementary Community of the existing K-12 campus. The first of this two-phased project provides a new neighborhood for Grades 4 and 5, followed by a new neighborhood for Grades 2 and 3. Punahou School is a private, co-educational, college preparatory school with a student population of 3,760 students from kindergarten through the twelfth grade. Punahou School is the largest independent school in the United States and notable alumni include: President Barrack Obama, AOL founder Steve Case, ebay founder Pierre Omidyar and US Senator Brian Schatz.
The program includes four Studio Buildings, which house 16 Classrooms and supporting Administrative spaces. The next phase, which is currently under construction, will complete the Grades 2-5 Community (with three similar Studio Classroom buildings and a K–8 Learning Commons). It will serve as the administrative and creative hub of the entire Junior School, with a variety of design, technology and maker-spaces and state-of-the-art music and art facilities.

Fig. 3. Classroom buildings with breezeway.
HONOLULU
OAHU, HAWAII

Project Type: Elementary School
Completion: July 2016

22,675
Square Feet

$24,000,000
Construction Value

PUNAHOU SCHOOL / 7
New construction and renovations incorporated the architectural character and details of the existing buildings for continuity, but also created an improved aesthetic throughout the school campus.

NEW BUILDINGS

• Four Studio Buildings (16 Classrooms)
• Covered Lanais
• New Outdoor Education Office/Storage
• New Playground Equipment
• New Outdoor Play Spaces & Structures
• Landscaping / courtyards
• Covered Walkways for Circulation
Fig. 4. Site Plan of the Sidney & Minnie Kosasa Neighborhood.
Four separate 3-day design charrettes were conducted for the project. This included an educational planning and eco charrette. The design charrettes served as a method to facilitate and focus conversations so that the best collective priorities influenced the final design.

The process is organized to gather input about a school from a large, diverse group primarily over a compressed three-day timeframe. This allowed a consistent group to provide input and get immediate feedback as planning options and concept sketches were created from the dialogue.
Participants included school administrators, teachers, staff, steering committee, students and Board of Trustee members working alongside the planning consultants and architectural design team.

Fig. 5. Learning space rendering.
Punahou School aspires to remain a beacon and model of educating students within a sustainable future. The project is designed to encourage and inspire sustainable decisions and awareness. The buildings will be used as a teaching tool for analyzing energy use, understanding sustainable systems, use of recycled material and support teaching sustainability as part of the curriculum. The project is designed to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED); Platinum and Hawaii – Collaborative of High Performance Schools (HI-CHPS); CHPS Verified.
The 4-5 neighborhood is a physical representation of Punahou School’s educational philosophy for the incorporating research about the neuroscience of learning into an instructional vision based on personalization and flexibility.

The interior and learning spaces within the Studios and K-8 Learning Commons are designed to include flexible “neighborhood” themes and a variety of physical learning settings. Providing adaptable spaces allow for future modifications to the facility to accommodate new technology and teaching methods. The project is also provided with acoustical treatments to minimize noise.
KEY DESIGN ELEMENTS

• Open Studio Plan with moveable furniture, wall length white boards, tack walls, and partitions to support interactive learning.

• Studios provided with large sliding doors to provide direct access to exterior learning spaces.

• Shading systems to control natural light penetration. Lighting levels based on learning activity requirements.

• Green wall, rainwater catchment cisterns, energy efficient lighting systems are building features that promote a sustainable learning environment.

• Outdoor Learning Area includes compost bin, chicken coop, and vegetable garden as part of the interactive and sustainable learning environment.

• Viewports to showcase stormwater in the roof drains.

• Viewports to showcase mechanical and structural systems inside the walls.
Fig. 8. Trails and gathering spaces, with native plants.
Fig. 9. Sustainability: rain catchment system and shading.
The design consists of four two-story buildings with four classroom studios in each building. Each floor contains two studios grouped as pairs and divided by moveable partitions. Each studio has its own dedicated covered lanai and direct access to other outdoor learning spaces.

The design strives to honor Punahou School’s architectural legacy, including the Mary Persis Winne Units that it replaces, while embracing the future and emphasizing sustainability. The design supports Punahou’s educational philosophy for active learning. Among the features that illustrate its commitment to sustainable education is a 25,000 square-foot native Hawaiian forest environment with trails, gathering spaces and native plants for the Hawaiian Studies curriculum.
RESULTS OF THE PROCESS AND THE PROJECT

The Sidney and Minnie Kosasa Neighborhood establishes a new standard for green building design in education. Sustainability concepts included are Ka Punahou, ahupua’a, biomimicry, biophilia and the living laboratory.
Honoring the traditions of Punahou School’s legacy, the design embraces the future, supporting a 21st Century Education environment: where each student actively participates in sustainable activities on a daily basis.
# Project Data: Confidential Information

## Project Name
PUNAHOU SCHOOL - SIDNEY & MINNIE KOSASA NEIGHBORHOOD

## School District Name
HONOLULU DISTRICT (PRIVATE SCHOOL)

## Project Address
1601 PUNAHOU STREET

## City/State/Zip/Country
HONOLULU, OAHU, HAWAII 96822

## Superintendent/President
JAMES SCOTT - PRESIDENT

## Award Category—Please Identify the category of award.
NEW LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

### Submitting Firm:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Role (Architect, Planner, CM, Other)</th>
<th>DESIGN PARTNERS INCORPORATED (ARCHITECT)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contact for this Award Application</td>
<td>KENDALL ELLINGWOOD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>SENIOR PRINCIPAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>1580 MAKALOA STREET, SUITE 1100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City, State or Province, Country</td>
<td>HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>808-949-0044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email Address</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kendall@designpartnersinc.com">kendall@designpartnersinc.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Joint Partner Firm:

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### Other Firm:

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2017 LE Solutions Planning and Design Awards

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Location of Project___________________________________________________________

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Responsible Party/Photographer__________________________________________

Signature_______________________________________________________________

Date of Release__________________________________________________________

03-30-2017