

October 19, 2015

Aloha Kula Waena 'Ohana

Our spiritual theme for this school year is "E ho'ohua mai i ka hua maika'i" bear *good fruit*. Our faculty, staff and students are off to a great start to bear good fruit.

We had an extremely successful participation in cross country this year. Registered runners in our annual KSM MS cross country meet was over 1,000 entrees and a little over 700 runners who actually ran that day. Our boys place 2^{nd} overall in the championship meet.

At the 2015 PBS Hiki No Awards, we place 1st overall in the middle school division for best home base. And although we did not win best cinematography, we were proud to be nominated as the only middle school in this category. That really is a win.

Our very own middle school teachers presented a total of seven sessions at the MISO conference (Maui Independent Schools Organization) this year. They shared 21st century technology in the classroom, career & college counseling efforts, and many instructional practices that focus on student learning and achievement.

By now you should have received your child's first quarter report cards. Students who earn a 3.5-3.9 GPA receive a certificate and pin for the Principal's List award; 4.0 GPA earns students the Headmasters List award with certificate and pin. I can tell by the number of certificates I personally signed that our students were engaged and learning this past quarter.

We have certainly been busy this last quarter. These are just a few of the events that students participated:

- Open House grade 8 hō'ike iki (E imi mau, choir and 'ūkulele)
- Student government elections
- Welcome Back dance
- Lili'uokalani Observance
- Back-to-School days grades 6 & 7
- Go-To-College day grade 8
- Homecoming week & parade

I would like to mahalo everyone who completed the after school interest and the parent college attendance surveys. Information from both surveys will help us to plan events for your children. You will be receiving though email in November one more survey – We Support. This survey is part of the SPN, Successful Practices Network. The survey helps to assess and address conditions that inspire children to reach their fullest potential. *We Support* is the parent portion

of the assessment. Students, faculty & staff and administrators will also take the survey. Please take a few moments to complete that online survey.

There was interest in after school care and enrichment programs based on the survey you completed. We hope to be able to roll out some of these programs in the near future. Information will be passed on to you in several ways – daily bulletin, blog, email and/or your child.

Last year during one of our Table Talk Tuesday events, parents indicated an interest in learning more about technology especially because of our 1:1 laptop learning project. On **November 10**, we will be hosting our first Hoʻoulu ʻIke Makua – Growing Parent Knowledge with our focus on technology. There will be a keynote speaker, sessions ranging from basic technology information to school-wide use. We also hope to have some of our students share what they are doing in their classes. Child care will be available. We will be sending out more detailed information and registration directions shortly. Mark your calendar and be prepared to join us for an evening filled with technology information.

This year we are celebrating our 20^{th} anniversary of Kamehameha Schools Maui – Nānā i Hope; Nānā i Mua with monthly celebrations. In August our middle school students enjoyed a lunchtime concert by Josh Tatofi and had guri guri for dessert. In September the students joined with their high school brothers and sisters for an afternoon concert by Ekolu. There are two events happening for October. The first is an art showcase with student art pieces displayed in Keanolani Learning Center. Check out our MS Blog for a virtual gallery walk. Then on October 23 the whole middle school will be going to six different locations around the island to provide service to community organizations. Students will volunteer their time to weed, plant, and clean up areas for Waihe'e Refuge, Ka Hale A Ke Ola Wailuku and Lāhainā, Ke Kahua Farm Wai'ehu and KIRC (Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission). This opportunity provides the haumāna with experiences to help others and also contribute to the goal of at least 1,000 acts of kindness to others – another way we are celebrating the 20^{th} anniversary.

And we will end the second quarter with our very special Founder's Day chapel. I hope that you will be able to join us for our special 20th anniversary Founder's Day chapel on December 18. Although only a half day, this is an official school day for our students. This is the day students honor and remember Ke Ali'i Pauahi for her legacy by attending the chapel service.

Thank you for your continued support of kula waena faculty and staff.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

Lois Nishikawa Po'o Kumu Kula Waena