

The 'Ohana News

Free K(Arts) Grand Finale:
Wed., Dec. 14 - 5:30 at Kahilu

November 29, 2011

Local School Board: Ho'okako'o Corporation

Email Today To Request Free 2nd-Hand Computer for Students To Take Home

FreeStudentComputer@wmpccs.org

Mahalo Students & Families: Participation in last week's **Student-Led Family-Teacher Conferences** was the best ever! This is a significant win-win-win for all!

Scholastic Book Fair Continues: Today and tomorrow, **Nov. 29-30**, immediately after school in L-Lounge. Great prices for books targeted to middle school readers - great holiday gifts, too, plus our school earns credit to expand classroom libraries! Please drop by.

WMS Spelling Bee Finals: 8-9:30 a.m., Thurs., Dec. 15 at Kahilu Theatre. Families invited - free and exciting!

Great news: WMS students may request a free used desktop computer loaded with the Windows XP Home operating system to take home – while supplies last. Thanks to an unexpected federal grant and staff expertise, WMS recently acquired almost 90 new laptops to upgrade school-wide technology access, reduce energy consumption, and “retire” older models. Principal John Colson decided to make these available on a first-come basis for students and families without a computer at home to use for school work.

Students are asked to apply online by using the email above. For more info, go to the school website:

www.WaimeaMiddleSchool.org - Continued Page 2.



A Thanksgiving Imu Mahalo From Our WMS East Coast Trippers & Their 'Ohana!

Taken Thanksgiving morning (see all the finished pans in the background to the right awaiting pick-up), this photo by Ms. Tanya Malani captures the hands and hearts that worked nearly two full days including overnight to prepare and tend our school's Thanksgiving imu, both as an East Coast Trip fundraiser, and to teach this cherished cultural tradition to the next generation. A warm mahalo to each of them -- especially family members -- and to all of the school staff, families and community friends who participated in the imu and pie sale! For 7th Grade students and families - there's still time to sign up and participate in the 2013 trip and lots of time, too, for fundraising. For info, go to www.WaimeaMiddleSchool.org and click on the World Strides link, or email the project's teacher-adviser: Eunice.Lazarus@notes.k12.hi.us.

Tips For Students To Do Their Best on HSA Math

WMS students begin the first round of important HSA math proficiency testing this Thurs., Dec. 1 with an altered bell schedule. Testing will occur during an extended first period of each day, Dec. 1-9 -- reflecting research data that says middle school students do best on tests earlier in the day. Also, students will again be provided gum during testing, which reflects research findings that gum chewing improves student focus and recall.

Students and families can prepare for these tests too by:

- Getting plenty of good rest each night before testing
- Having a nutritious breakfast each morning -- either at home or in the cafeteria
- Report to school *on time* - and avoid absences during testing periods.

Also, families are urged to talk to their child about these tests -- they can be stressful. Encouragement is helpful.

Students and their teachers have worked hard to prepare for these assessments so it's an opportunity to show how much each student has progressed!

First-Ever Online Auction For Mala'ai

A rare pair of authentic pieces of Hawaiian kapa by native Hawaiian artist **Roen Hufford** -- pieces that any indigenous arts museum or collector in the world would covet.

A prized **Edwin Kayton** original oil portrait of a young Hawaiian wahine (woman) and an exotic **Calley O'Neil** portrait of a kane (man).

Five laying hens, three fruit trees and several wheelbarrows to be decorated by student artists -- gifts not to send but to contribute in the name of a loved one to touch student lives by helping to sustain one of the lead school gardens in the Western U.S.

These are just a sampling of unusual treasures that will be offered in a first-ever online auction targeted for Christmas gift giving to support our Mala'ai school garden.

Taking a page out of **eBay Giving Works'** philosophy -- that "Each of us can make a difference for all of us," and that "we have the power to touch many lives by the choices we make," Mala'ai's cadre of volunteers invites faculty, families and friends of the garden and those who simply believe in the power of self reliance and innovative experiential learning to check out the online auction.

All items will be available December 1-15, 2011 on **Ebay's Giving Works**; just search for Mala'ai.

For more information, go to www.malaai.org. For questions about the auction or otherwise getting involved in supporting the school garden program, contact Executive Director Alethea Lai, alethea@malaai.org or call 989-7861.

Students: Email Today To Request Free Desktop Computer To Take Home...

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Internet access at home is not required to use these computers, but if students have home access internet access at home, they will be able to access "via the cloud" -- an "online" repository for student work. They also will have access to their personal gmail account to communicate with teachers or collaborate on projects with other students. To help keep our students safe, student gmail accounts have limited access -- intra-school, not to outside accounts.

This giveaway reflects WMS' commitment to providing students and faculty with the highest level of 21st century technology integration possible. Since becoming a public conversion charter school, WMS has invested heavily in technology and today, the school has nearly one computer for every student, as well as "cloud" storage so students are able to access their personal secure server account anywhere on campus (and at home via the internet) -- something that was unheard of, even in high schools, five years ago and that is still quite rare in middle schools.

WMS' technology director, **Jay Matsumoto**, has also introduced numerous other state-of-the-art systems, including recently adding multi-terminal desktop virtualization, which enables "pods" with one central computer and five others "daisy chained" off of it -- as a less expensive, more energy efficient alternative to entirely replacing older equipment with new computers.

All WMS students, faculty and staff enjoy access to Google Applications for Education, which provides online word processing, spread sheets and presentations, website and school-based emails.

For information, or to request a computer, email Jay Matsumoto at: freestudentcomputer@wmpccs.org or go to the school website. Students must use their student email account only -- other emails will be bounced back.

This offer is limited to stock on hand, so apply quickly and get your name on the waiting list.

WMS Desktop Computer System: Minimum specifications for computers for students to take home:

Operating System: Windows XP Home

Processor: At least 2.0 GHz CPU

Memory (RAM) At least 512 MB

Hard Drive: At least 40GB IDE Hard Drive

Monitor: 15-19" CRT Color

Other Accessories: Keyboard, Mouse, Ethernet Network Card, USB2.0 slots, DVD ROM. (May have burner)

High Five To Our WMS Volleyball Teams!



The P&R Volleyball season is came to an end just before Thanksgiving -- and our student-athletes showed tremendous improvement and sportsmanship -- making us very proud!

Congratulations to the teams for their Pa'ahana (hard, industrious work) and persistence, and especially to our volunteer coaches and Athletic Director Warren Tamaye -- and also to the families and P&R staff, too! It's all about teamwork!

Shown here - clockwise - from below are our five WMS volleyball teams: The WMS Cyclones, WMS SideOrder, WMS Sharks, WMS Ikaika Wahine and WMS 808.



TRACK & FIELD INFORMATIONAL MEETING

12:20 p.m., Tues., Dec. 13 - P-10.

Students are urged to attend this informational meeting to pick-up forms required to participate. Practice begins after Winter Break.

The first Meet will be Sat., Feb. 11, 2012.

Questions? See Athletic Director Warren Tamaye.

School Website: www.WaimeaMiddleSchool.org

Please Mark Your Calendar!

School Lunch Menus: Wed: Corn Dog & Oven Fries, Vegetable Sticks, Banana & Whole Wheat Roll, or Chinese Chicken Salad w/ Fresh Fruit; Thurs: Baked Spaghetti w/ Tossed Salad, French Roll & Peaches, or Tofu Salad w/ Fresh Fruit; Fri: Kalua Pork w/ Cabbage, Steamed Hapa Rice, Sweet Roll & Pineapple Chunks, or Chicken Noodle Soup & Sandwich w/ Fresh Fruit; Mon: Turkey Pastrami on Bun w/ Sweet Potato Rounds, Cole Slaw, Banana & Cookies, or Cream of Broccoli Soup & Sandwich w/ Fresh Fruit; Tues: Soft Shell Taco w/ Lettuce & Tomatoes, Potato Rounds, Fruit Cocktail & Muffin, or Chicken Caesar Salad w/ Fresh Fruit. NOTE: All school menus can be found on the website.

- **Free Homework Help+:** Tuesdays & Thursdays on school days thru 12/13 and resumes 3rd Quarter. 2:25-3:25 p.m. See website or office for applications. Info? See/call Mrs. Bernie Marsh.
- **Robotics Team:** Tuesdays & Thursdays - 2:15-3:30 p.m. through 12/13. K-01. Info: Please see Miss Murphy.
- **Boys' Basketball:** See details in column to the right!
- **Free After-School K(Arts):** Wednesdays, 1:30-4 p.m. Grand Finale: 5:30 p.m., Wed., Dec. 14 - all students, families, faculty, staff and community friends invited! Questions? Please see Mrs. Bernie Marsh.
- **Student Leadership:** Thursdays—2:25-3:25 p.m. W101. Questions? Please see Mas.
- **Makahiki Training:** 2:45-5 p.m., Mondays: Dec. 5 & 12, leading up to the Annual Waimea Makahiki on Sat., Jan. 14 in Waimea Park. Info: Keala Kahuanui at email: kkahuanui@gmail.com, (960-2811), or see Ms. Pua Case.
- **7th Grade Snowflake Club:** Meet Tues., Nov. 29, 12:20-12:40 during recess. Bring home lunch and be on time please. Info: See Mrs. Noetzel.
- **8th Grade Book Club:** Meet Wed., Nov. 30, 12:10-12:40 during recess. Bring home lunch and be on time please. Info: See Ms. Robertson.

Mark Your Calendar Please!

K(Arts) Grand Finale - 5:30 p.m., Wed., Dec. 14

This is really only 4 weeks and a day away - and it's not to be missed as our K(Arts) students share what they've learned on the grand stage at Kahilu Theatre! It's free -- it's family friendly and it's definitely one of the high points of the school year! Please plan to attend!

LOST & FOUND! There's a huge pile of good clothing in the WMS office that belongs to students -- and there's a second big box of mostly jackets, sweatshirts and sweaters in a large box at Thelma Parker Memorial Gym. **Please come check it out if you are missing something!**

IMPORTANT SCHOOL NEWS:

2012 COUNTY P&R BOYS' BASKETBALL:

Ages 8-14 (Teams 10u, 12u, 14u) - Registration Deadline Changed To Fri., Dec. 2: See WMS Athletic Director Warren Tamaye for forms - must be returned by this Friday.

CLINIC: Thelma Parker Gym – Mon.-Wed., Dec. 5-7. 3:30 p.m. - 10u; 4:30 - 12u/14u.

P&R LEAGUE: (Fee: \$10/player) - Jan. 9 - March 9, 2012. Game times: 4-6 p.m. in Waimea - Kohala - Honoka'a.

COACHES NEEDED – MEETING: Tues., Dec. 6 @ 5:30 p.m. - Thelma Parker Gym.

INFO: Melissa Samura, Recreation Director-Waimea – Tel: 887-3014 or Email: melissasamura@gmail.com or contact Mr. Tamaye.

REMINDER: Hawai'i Island Board of Education member Brian DeLima at Waimea Cmty Assn Town Meeting – Thurs., Dec. 1 – 5-6:30 p.m. – Parker School Theatre. Please consider attending, introducing yourself to Mr. DeLima and conveying support for public charter schools, progress made, urgent need for equitable funding during this "listening session."

'LOKAHI GIVING TREE PROJECT' CHRISTMAS TREE

LIGHTING: 6:30 p.m., Thurs., Dec. 1. Front lawn of Parker School. Everyone invited – caroling, storytelling and beginning of collection of "absolute necessities" for families in need in our community. Free. Hot cocoa and food available.

WAIMEA CHRISTMAS PARADE DAY 'LOKAHI GIVING TREE PROJECT' IN-GATHERING:

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at KTA's Waimea Center. Continuous entertainment including our own WMS student Kuha'o Kawa'auhao-Case at 2 p.m. Others performing include 'A'oial, Beamer-Solomon Halau o Po'ohala, Honoka'a Jazz Band and Kevin Haleamau. Donations of "absolute necessities" suggested. Lots more going on around town at farmers markets, Parker Ranch Center and Thelma Parker Gym.

51st ANNUAL WAIMEA CHRISTMAS TWILIGHT PARADE:

Sat., Dec. 3. Parade starts ½ hour earlier than before – 5:30 p.m. Reminder – road closure; expect delays. WMS student **Ku'hao Kawa'auhao-Case** will be the narrator by Bank of Hawaii with teacher **Cherise Mundon!** Also, Waimea student groups will be selling foods along the parade route – please support them!

- Chili 'n Rice, Chili Dogs, Hot Dogs and water at Bank of Hawaii corner, served by **WMS Leadership Students;**
- Hot Saimin and Hot Cocoa at historic Spencer House (next to McDonalds), served by Kamehameha School's West Hawai'i Association of Teachers and Parents; and
- Portuguese Bean Soup, Saimin and Hot Cocoa 'n Crackers at Waimea Community Education (formerly Pioneer Savings), served by **WMS 8th Grade East Coast Trippers.**