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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WAIMEA MIDDLE SCHOOL ASKS DONATIONS OF GENTLY USED BOOKS FOR NEW 1ST SATURDAYS POP-UP ‘WAIMEA READS!’ BOOTH AT FARMERS MARKET

Got a book you’ve read and loved but now would be willing to pass along to be enjoyed by others? Waimea Middle School (WMS) would gratefully accept donations of new and gently used books of all reading levels and styles, fiction and non-fiction, as part of a community-wide “Waimea Reads!” campaign to celebrate the joy and life-long benefits of reading.

“Waimea Reads!” was launched recently by WMS with a new First Saturday Reading Booth at Waimea Homestead Farmers Market. The both will again “pop up” at the Sat., Oct. 3 market on the Waimea schools campuses, offering a “Give One/Get One” Book Swap, or, anyone may just take a book providing they promise to pass it on once they’ve read it. A wide assortment of books will be up for grabs, ranging in October from a tongue in cheek paperback reader, “Your Mama Thinks Square Roots Are Vegetables” by Bill Amend, to historical biographies such as “Richard Smart Of The Legendary Parker Ranch” by Dr. William Bergin and Dexter Keawe Vredenburg.

Donations of books may be brought to the Oct. 3 booth at the farmers market, or dropped off at the middle school office between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. on school days.

Also featured at the farmers market reading booth is a “read-aloud” to younger children by both Waimea Middle School students and adults sitting on a magic reading carpet that’s spread on the grass. Volunteers of all ages are welcome to join in to “read aloud” between 8:30 and 11 a.m.

“Waimea Reads!” also includes a Scholastic Book Fair at WMS now through Oct. 1. Scholastic Book Fairs feature popular contemporary books that are leveled so it’s easy to know what skill or age level a book is suitable for. The purpose of the book fair is to give all students an opportunity to purchase something that interests them and WMS students may use “Book Bucks” earned through positive behaviors at school to buy books.

Community readers who would like to support WMS’ “Waimea Reads!” program and book fair are invited to call WMS Vice Principal Janice English-Somerville (887-6090 Ext. 227) or email: Janice_English-Somerville@wmpccs.org to learn more about volunteering or helping build or expand classroom reading libraries. Or, WMS family members and community friends may log onto this website (<http://vols.pt/SxyuUG>) to select a day and time to volunteer at the book fair.

WMS is a WASC-accredited public conversion charter school that is “the school of the community” serving all 6th, 7th and 8th grade public school students in the Waimea/Kamuela/Kawaihae district of Hawai’i Island. For more information, go to www.WaimeaMiddleSchool.org, or “like” the school on Facebook.

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