

# Kualapuu Public Conversion Charter School

Principal Lydia Trinidad

September/October 2013

## Exciting School Activities

Kualapuu School is committed to educating the whole child. In addition to providing a safe and nurturing learning environment for traditional subjects such as reading and math, we provide many other enriching learning opportunities. Through our extended learning time special courses, such as PE, performing arts and computers, and student activities, such as our Junior Police Officer program, Student Council, partnerships with community agencies, field trips and After School Classes, students are able to experience other cultures, practices, knowledge, and supports that allow them to find interests and talents that may not be discovered in the regular classroom environment. Watch for the second quarter After School Class sign up flyer that will be sent home this week.



*Diana Kaai training new JPO Recruits.*

**After School classes are on Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday -**

**Offerings include:  
Just Dance,  
Chorus,  
Violin,  
Ceramics,  
Farming,  
Drama,  
Robotics,  
Yearbook,  
Hawaiian Language,  
French**

**Language and Culture,  
Tutoring, E Ho'oulu Kakou (farming).**



*Students learning square dance in fitness class.*

Check out our new website at [www.kualapuu.k12.hi.us](http://www.kualapuu.k12.hi.us) and like us on Facebook.



*Alu Like - safe and drug free workshop with Grade 5.*

## EVENTS

**Book Fair &  
Parent Conference Week  
School Done at 12:30pm  
September 23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>**

**First Quarter Student Recognition  
Assembly  
Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>  
at 8:30am**

**Fall Intersession - No School  
September 30<sup>th</sup> - October 11<sup>th</sup>  
Students Return October 14<sup>th</sup>**

**LAP Meeting  
Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm**

**Teacher Institute Day - No School  
Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**

**School Picture Taking  
October 22<sup>nd</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Stop Flu at School Vaccination Clinic  
Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Special Thursday Early Release Day  
and PSO Halloween Costume Contest  
Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>**



## FMC Kokua Cards

Kualapu'u School is still participating in the Friendly Market Kokua Card program and we are asking for your help and support.

Kokua card funds go toward our rewards program for students such as the Caught Being Good (CBG) program, pool party, Icee gift certificates, and quarterly ice cream parties for all classes with 95% or higher attendance.



Kokua Cards are available at our School office.



*Students can spend the CBG's they receive for meeting behavior expectations at the weekly CBG store or save 30 CBG's to attend the quarterly CBG pool party.*

## RECYCLE - Driver's Wanted

Do you know that recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy for a T.V. to be run for three hours? Another astounding fact about aluminum is that it can be recycled over and over again! Many people feel that recycling doesn't matter, but in fact it makes a big difference for our environment. If the U.S. recycled 30% of its waste, then that would be the same as removing 25,000,000 cars from the roads. Wow!

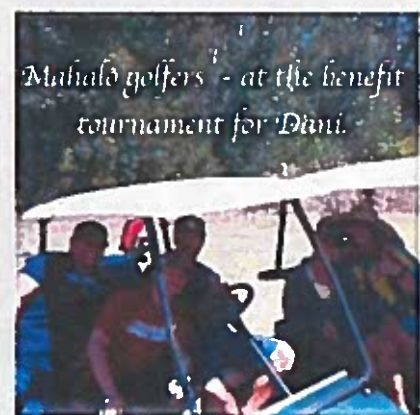


America Recycles Day is right around the corner. This is an opportunity to make some wire bins for aluminum cans, collect your glass bottles and jars, and start sorting your rubbish. Renew your commitment to recycle and teach others the importance of recycling. For young children counting recyclables and counting HI-5 by fives can be a time to practice math skills. Mahalo for recycling, it does make a difference.

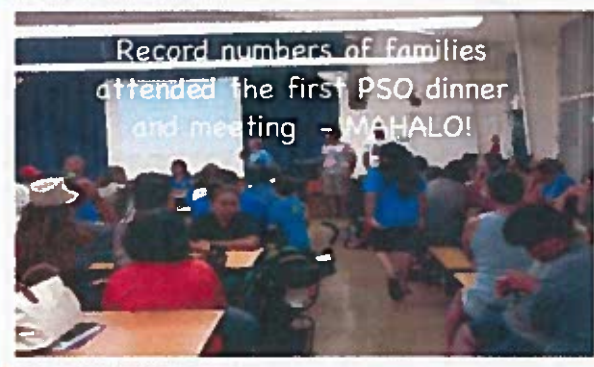
**DRIVERS WANTED:** Our student council wants to restart the school wide recycling program but we need some help getting the recyclables to the recycling center. If you know a parent, community member or organization with a truck to help haul 5-10 boxes or bags of cans, please contact Geneva Castro'Lichtenstein, the school counselor and student council advisor, at 567-6900.

*I just wanted to say "Thank You"  
For the kindness you've shown,  
For being there to support me,  
For your generous gifts that you shared from your  
heart, and most of all for showing me that you care.*

*Love always,  
Dantalle "Dani" Dela Cruz and Family*







## School Counselor's Corner: School Attendance

Research shows that regular and timely school attendance is an indicator of student success. The State of Hawaii recognizes the importance of attendance by making regular attendance mandatory by law for children over the age of 6. The Hawaii Department of Education has recently recognized the significance of attendance by including it in part of the elementary school's rating for their Strive HI results.

Chronic absenteeism is one of the factors used to "grade" our school in our of Strive HI results. Chronic Absenteeism is when a student is absent 15 days or more from school during the school year. A student is considered absent regardless if the absence is excused or unexcused. Last school year Kualapu'u had 20% of our students who were considered chronically absent. 20% is represented about 74 students. That's a lot of students who were chronically absent!

Our goal this year is to improve our attendance rate to 95% and to reduce our chronically absenteeism rate to below 10%. That means we can only have 34 students to be chronically absent. So we will be contacting families early and often when we see that absenteeism is heading into the chronic stages. Thank you always for your support of our children.

## A Foundation for Literate Children

As much fun as it is to read aloud to your children, did you know that it is also helping their brain develop in more ways than we think? Reading aloud to your child is one of the most important activities a parent can do with their child. Lucky for us as parents, it's also an enjoyable experience. Even older kids love to be read to! Older children can understand a book at a higher level than they can read at, so choose a book above their actual reading level to expose them to more complex words and situations.

### Benefits of Reading Aloud:

- **Reading aloud** provides a positive reading role model.
- **Reading aloud** creates a bond between the reader and the child.
- **Reading aloud** improves the child's listening comprehension.
- **Reading aloud** expands the child's attention span.
- **Reading aloud** helps develop the child's language skills.
- **Reading aloud** helps develop critical thinking skills and effective communication skills.
- **Reading aloud** exposes the child to rich vocabulary.
- **Reading aloud** exposes the child to good grammar.
- **Reading aloud** stimulates the child's imagination, creativity and curiosity.
- **Reading aloud** establishes the reading-writing connection.
- **Reading aloud** provides the child with a lot of background knowledge. The more a child is read to now, the more he/she will learn for use in reading later.
- **Reading aloud** nurtures the child's emotional development, raising his/her self-esteem.
- **Reading aloud** is FUN, providing the child with the pleasures of reading!





## Pre-K News



We would like to thank Pre-K student Puakea Gamiao and her family for organizing a garage sale fundraiser at their home for the Kualapu'u School Pre-K Program. Their generous donations will go towards technology in the classroom and the Pre-K playground. Puakea and her family also volunteered to care for our classroom fish tank. They provided fish, snails, and fish food.

Thank you to Pre-K student Kalo Nakayama for lending us your play set to our backyard play area. The children now have another play set to climb and slide on.

## LIBRARY SERVICES WEBSITE: RESEARCH AND RESOURCES



Do you know where the country of Rwanda is? How about its form of government, monetary unit and leader's name? These were some of the questions sixth graders have been researching about different countries in our school's library, using print as well as electronic resources. The new Common Core Learning Standards adopted by the State of Hawaii are now being implemented beginning this school year. They call for an emphasis in research integrated in most subject areas such as science, reading, writing. Students use iPads in the library to access electronic, as well as print resources, using the online library catalog (<http://destiny.k12.hi.us>). Find out about more library resources in the next issue and don't forget to stop by the book fair this

**THANK YOU FOR A GREAT FIRST QUARTER!  
HAVE A SAFE BREAK AND WILL SEE YOU  
BACK AT SCHOOL ON OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup>.**