

The 'Ohana News

Welcome Back!

Attendance Daily
On Time is Expected!

"Waimea Middle School empowers all students with the skills, values and cultural understanding to successfully navigate high school and beyond."

August 3, 2016

www.WaimeaMiddleSchool.org

Our School 'Ohana Has Grown!



Welcome to our new Vice Principal Chris Barron, who is originally from Santa Barbara, California. After 10 years living in San Francisco, he and his wife are excited to raise their family in his wife's hometown of Waimea.

Mr. Barron taught English and History at a public high school for several years in San Francisco before beginning his Masters program at the Principal's Leadership Institute at UC Berkeley. Prior to joining WMS, he was an Assistant Principal in San Francisco Unified School District for five years.

He is passionate about empowering young people to be advocates for their learning and looks

forward to being part of a culturally dynamic educational community here at WMS.

There are quite a few more to welcome which we will do in coming newsletters, but for now, please extend your aloha to:

- Mahealani Yamashita – 'Ike Hawai'i Resource Teacher
- Stephanie Luck - Reading Teacher
- Joseph Moiha – Bus Driver (*Uncle Ray Aina has returned!*)
- Angela Pastores - Connecting For Success Outreach Coordinator
- Keala Kahuanui & Cara Bertelmann - Math PTTs
- Kit Hill - Special Education PTT
- Jacob Mirels - Migrant Education PTT
- Suzi Herhold - CFS Counselor

**We Are A PEANUT-FREE CAMPUS
to ensure everyone's safety! Please kokua!**

Important for Students & Families:

- School begins at 8 a.m. and concludes at 2:15 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays; and at 1:15 p.m. on Wednesdays.
- Early Release of students requires a signed note stating date and time of early release to be given to the office before school or during recess.
- Student pick-up and drop-off in parking lot next to the cafeteria.
- WMS/WES is a CLOSED CAMPUS - all visitors must check into the office first for a Visitor's Pass.
- Picture Taking Day is tomorrow - Thurs., Aug. 4. Students must bring signed order form back. Free Dress Day! Dress Code!
- See Student Planner for all school safety procedures and rules.
- Call the office (887-6090 Ext. 222) with questions.

We're An AVID School!

Every single WMS student this year will participate in **AVID** and here's WHY: **AVID**, which stands for **Advancement Via Individual Determination**, has a proven track record for closing the achievement gap and preparing all students for high school, college and career – which is our school's mission!

AVID addresses organizational skills and much more including reading and writing – so it also ensures that WMS will continue last year's intense focus on reading, and all students will again have a reading class.

Students and families will be learning more about AVID in the weeks ahead both in classes and at our **Wed., Aug. 17 Family Open House**.

Every student has already received an AVID Binder and must bring this binder to school (with his/her Student Planner inside) every day.

Important: Save This Date!

Family Open House

Wednesday, August 17 - 5-7 p.m.

All families expected to come meet teachers and staff, visit classrooms, learn about how to support your student. Also learn about 'Ike Hawai'i cultural lessons. Includes delicious hot dinner and earns your family a Parent Positive reward!

RSVP Forms To Be Sent Home

Want to help? Please call WMS Family Engagement Coordinator Amy Kailimai (Tel.: 887-6090 Ext. 223)

WMS' Before- & After-School Programs!

Many new extended learning opportunities, plus long time favorites to choose from!

Forms to apply for these programs will be sent home ASAP - Registration First Come!

Questions: Please call the office: 887-6090 Ext. 222.

Before-School:

Hot Chocolate Club! 7-7:50 a.m. Monday thru Friday. Schedule to be determined. This is an ideal way for students to get help or complete homework before school. Families must provide own transportation to school.

After-School:

Tuesdays-Thursdays Only w/ Bus Home @ 4:30 p.m. For Participating Students

👍 **Mala'ai Garden After School:** 2:25-4:25 p.m. with Miss Seri Niimi-Burch.

👍 **Athletics/Cross Country:** 2:25-4:25 p.m. w/ Coach Warren Tamaye.

Tuesdays-Thursdays Only w/ Bus Home @ 4:30 p.m. For Participating Students

These After-School options begin with a choice of (1) Basketball Fundamentals in gym w/ Mrs. Samura, OR (2) Study Hall from 2:25-3 p.m., then go to:

👍 **Robotics:** 3-4:30 p.m. with Miss Murphy, Mrs. Bowman & Miss Gusman. K-01. Important Informational meeting during lunch recess for students on **Tues., Aug. 9**, or see any of these teachers. Students will compete in First LEGO League District Finals.

👍 **Mini-Mermaids:** 3-4:30 p.m. w/ Mrs. Shafer (an all-girls running club to learn about a happy healthy life). W-103. \$20 per quarter; waived for Free/Reduced Lunch students.

👍 **Hands-On Science:** 3-4:30 p.m. Learn to think like a scientist w/ Mr. Binder! P-11. \$20 per quarter; waived for Free/Reduced Lunch students.

Wednesdays Only w/ Bus Home @ 4 p.m. For Participating Students

👍 **K(Arts) Classes:** Students get to choose any 2 of the following: 3D Stereographic Video, Choir, Hula, Hip Hop, Art & Backstage-Production with a Grand Finale Nov. 2-3 at Kahilu Theatre. 1:25-4 p.m.

Mahalo to our many community partners who make these amazing free activities possible including Kamehameha Schools, Neilan Foundation, Mala'ai: The Culinary Garden of Waimea Middle School, 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant with Friends of the Future, Kahilu Theatre Foundation, Hawai'i County Parks & Rec and Waimea Athletics. We also thank your teachers and staff for helping coordinate this.

For students, participation is a privilege so everyone must be their best at all times. School uniform and school rules must be followed (no cell phones, no gum, etc.) and students must remain on campus for the program. If unable to attend, families must call the office ahead of time.