



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

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| Meeting Title: | WMS Local Advisory Panel (LAP) - FINAL – Approved 2-2-15 |
| Date & Time: | 4:30-6:30 pm, Mon., November 24, 2014 |
| Members Present: | <p>Community Reps: Colin Miura, Keawe Vredenburg, Jane Sherwood, Patrick Hurney</p> <p>Family Reps: Lori Bergin (timekeeper), Marcie Neubecker & Elsie Mijjena</p> <p>Student Reps: Selection in progress</p> <p>Certificated Reps: Nau’i Murphy, Jade Bowman, Cherise Mundon</p> <p>Classified Reps: Lori Ching</p> <p>WMS Admin: Matt Horne, Amy Kendziorski, Patti Cook</p> <p>Student Advisor: Eunice “Laz” Lazarus</p> <p>Ho’okako’o Staff: Dr. Guy Kaulukukui</p> |
| | <p><u>Guests:</u></p> <p>Certificated Staff: Janice English-Somerville</p> <p>Community Members: Gail Gimbel, Pam Potter</p> <p><u>Excused:</u></p> <p>Community Rep: Robert Lindsey</p> <p>Classified Rep: Bernie Marsh</p> <p>Ho’okako’o Board: Ken Fischer</p> |

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| Topic: | Discussion: | Action: |
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| <p>Welcome & Introductions – Colin Miura, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Welcome b) Introductions c) Confirm Quorum d) Review & Approve Minutes from October 27, 2014 e) Preview Agenda f) School-Community Input <p>Teacher Input On How LAP Might Help With Fulfilling WMS’ Mission & Schoolwide Learning Results – Nau’i Murphy, Jade Bowman, Cherise Mundon</p> | <p>Meeting called to order at 4:40 p.m. Everyone thanked for attending and wished a Happy Thanksgiving. Went around the room for introductions.</p> <p>No revisions to agenda.</p> <p>No community input.</p> <p>NMurphy presented on behalf of 3 LAP teacher reps using projector; this is summary of her presentation:</p> <p>EXAMINING AND LAP SUPPORT FOR WMS Share Resources to help meet student needs</p> <p>Recommend to HC Funding Support for Programs or Resources</p> <p>Native Language Speakers to mentor ELL Students and assist families.</p> | <p>Quorum confirmed.</p> <p>Approved 10/27/14 Minutes as is to be posted on WMS & HC websites.</p> <p>Re: Agenda - Agreed LAP needs to review ByLaws – consider this for next meeting agenda. Need to look at attendance expectations and student participation.</p> <p>Comments:</p> <p>Teacher reps and LChing expressed appreciation for Mrs. Mijjena’s help. CMiura asked what languages needed. Teachers said: Thai, Chinese & Filipino. Also noted that they would welcome support during student-led conferences, when some students have to interpret for their family.</p> <p>These resource people could help families understand students’ needs.</p> <p>LChing acknowledged help LAP parent rep EMijjena is providing with recruiting families for Dec. 3 ELL/MEP night. She also helped prep flyers in native language, and is personally calling parents to let them know how important it is to come support their kids.</p> |

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| | | <p>EMijjena said not all Marshallese parents know their child’s teachers; she has told them to just call the office if they have questions or concerns.</p> <p>Brief discussion about possibly holding parent math nights for ELL students. Question: would families come? General agreement was “Yes” and would be more meaningful if someone there could help with interpretation. Also agreed one of the other essential ingredients for attracting families is providing childcare and food.</p> <p>Teacher reps recalled very successful ELL/MEP nights several years back.</p> <p>To help build attendance for the coming 12/3 ELL/MEP Family Night, WMS is asking families to bring a dish representative of their home country – school will purchase ingredients. Families seem excited/willing to do this; school/staff will fill in.</p> <p>Group agreed that Open House w/ teachers is important but “rushed.” Need longer time w/ teachers.</p> <p>Discussed revisiting Open House “plan”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Shorten cafeteria time* More time with teachers* Handouts for families re: ALEKS, Achieve3000/ TeenBiz, etc. for parents. |
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| | <p>Encourage Family/Community Support</p> <p>Encourage Family/Community Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * ELL/MEP Night - Dec. 3 * 'Ohana Makahiki Fest- Dec. 10 * Domino Nights (East Coast - Last Friday of the month) <p>Provide resources/suggest resources for Career Day/Connecting for Success/Classroom and School Community Partnerships</p> | <p>Brief discussion about concern raised by parent rep MNeubecker re: Achieve 3000 assignments for 6th grade. JSomerville offered to provide log-in info ASAP.</p> <p>Also suggestion was made re: posting Grading Policies on website.</p> <p>LAP members urged to attend both 12/3 and 12/10 events. JSherwood asked teachers to email her list of the kind of help they would welcome, such as Keck coming to Makahiki Fest. She volunteers at Keck and happy to ask their help.</p> <p>Suggestions on other needs of the school include: Track & Field equipment and facilities – long jump pit, high jump. Our students do very well at competitions even w/o this equipment though Coach Tamaye tries to take them to HPA to practice. Really very limited practice time.</p> <p>Also noted that community donated shoes for WMS student athletes.</p> <p>Re: Career Day – brief conversation about alternatives – bringing in adults to rotate around to meet with students, or possibly a “job shadow day.”</p> <p>Suggestion made to survey students on careers they are interesting in exploring. LAP agreed we should also “tweak” their imaginations by adding careers they might not think of. CMiura,</p> |
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| | <p>Tier 3 Intervention - Reading Specialist*</p> <p>Smarter Balanced Practice Test https://sat4.cloud1.tds.airast.org/student/V106/Pages/LoginShell.aspx</p> <p>NMurphy shared sample Smarter Balanced test questions which require excellent reading skills as well as high level critical thinking. Most present expressed shock at how difficult the questions were.</p> <p>Share and recognize that the upcoming year-end SBAC assessment will be much more demanding than HSA.</p> | <p>KVredenburg & JSherwood all committed to help make contacts for this. Will need guidelines on what’s expected of guest presenters.</p> <p>Deep discussion about WMS students’ reading challenges and how this impacts all core subjects; there is a direct correlation between reading proficiency and math and science proficiency. Comprehension is a challenge. This impacts about half of WMS students.</p> <p>Teacher reps noted that reading “gap” may be small in elementary but grows in middle school – painful; destroys self esteem and then they drop out in 10th-11th grades.</p> <p>“We have a morale imperative to help students catch up on reading.”</p> <p>GGimbel offered to explore helping fund this; will work with MHorner.</p> <p>Some discussion questioning time limits and whether info and thinking required is developmentally appropriate.</p> <p>Teacher reps explained that new Smarter Balanced assessments have been criticized in some sectors because of input from businesses, not educators. But some believe the new Smarter balanced is based on world standards, though in other countries, students taking the tests are often the cream of the crop. Very</p> |
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| | | <p>difficult when dealing with a child who simply can't sit still, much less concentrate.</p> <p>Teacher reps expressed concern that we (Hawaii) will probably see scores dive with new Smarter Balanced year-end assessment. Also noted that "test scores are not a true picture of the whole child; we are preparing them to be good citizens, too. All teachers take this seriously, not lackadaisical about scores."</p> <p>MHorne agreed we will watch how everyone in state and nation do and that this year cannot be compared to past HSA scores – this will be our new baseline, then next year we will watch for growth.</p> <p>Noted that testing grades are 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th</p> <p>PHurney asked if there was a computer-based program like ALEKS to help students prep for Smarter Balanced assessments? Teachers and MHorne explained that state hasn't released test yet – something like 14 states are waiting for this. However, teachers will pull up sample questions in classes to provide an opportunity for students to practice.</p> <p>Reference made to recent New York Times article criticizing "teaching to the test" and that "kids have ulcers over testing issues."</p> <p>Teacher reps reminded LAP about Accreditation's</p> |
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| | | <p>Schoolwide Learning Results that identify a broader range of skills the school values – academic proficiency is a piece of this; can't stop teaching to practice for tests. Smarter Balanced is only one piece of evidence. Mentioned Star data and also student portfolios.</p> <p>Teacher reps also noted that Waimea's "cream" – top students – are skimmed off, it's not that families don't trust us for 6th-8th grades, but want to be sure their child has a chance to get into HPA, Parker or KS for high school, so transfer them into those schools in 6th & 7th grades – despite financial hardship. It is, for example, believed to be easier to get into KS in 7th than 9th grade.</p> <p>KVredenburg noted that some educational decisions have been driven by business; a lot of businesses recognized that today's workers don't sit by themselves, but rather, work in groups.</p> <p>JSherwood and Keawe both thought the new testing is contrary to this; that kids need to learn to work together and are doing so in classrooms and need to learn to recognize their own strengths and weaknesses; that it's important to learn HOW to solve the problem, not to just solve it.</p> <p>Brief mention that Hawai'i's DOE's and the legislative commitment to Common Core State Standards might</p> |
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| | | <p>be repealed. MHorne noted that Gov. Ige is not a Common Core fan.</p> <p>LLazarus said she doubted it would be repealed; Hawai'i has tried to be at leading edge because we get a rap about being "too easy."</p> <p>AKendziorski noted how challenging math is for our families – it's "off the charts for parents."</p> <p>CMiura agreed – can get answer but cannot explain how to do it. His wife can do it – "she's younger – it's how they think."</p> <p>Math used to be "formula driven" but now need to know "why."</p> <p>JSomerville explained some of the philosophy behind Singapore math – acknowledging it's "more conceptual."</p> <p>Brief discussion about need to get students out into the community, job shadowing – for example, in a vets office, store, etc., to understand that precision makes a difference – and that this would make math more relevant to students.</p> <p>JSomerville said she has an 8+-minute video about Singapore math process – "Why Math Is Different Now" – see link at end of these minutes. It's also posted on WMS website on the Curriculum/Math page.</p> <p>All agreed we need to spread</p> |
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| <p>Principal's Update – Matt Horne</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation Implementation (see attachment) | <p>Reading and Math Tutors in the morning and afternoon programs in school</p> <p>Fund LAP Secretary</p> <p>Group agreed they will revisit these recommendations and continue this discussion at least every 3 months to see how LAP might assist. CMiura asked faculty-staff present to please let him know if they have specific needs. His vision is that LAP should provide “every day” support for the school.</p> <p>MHorne reviewed recommendations which represent school’s commitment to “continuous improvement.” Visiting Committee’s 8 recommendations are the “roadmap” for the next six years’ work. Faculty-staff</p> | <p>the word on what’s happening this year re: testing.</p> <p>Currently we have a waitlist for afternoon homework help – not enough teachers available. Many WMS teachers already doing morning Hot Chocolate Club; need more for PM supports for students.</p> <p>CMundon introduced Pam Potter again – candidate to take on minutes. One of goals is to get minutes done within 15-16 days after meeting. MHorne agreed to discuss w/ HC’s CKono both whether this should be hourly or set price, and also process to put out call internally and then externally as required by labor contracts and new charter school law.</p> <p>JSherwood agreed it would be ideal to send out minutes ahead of meeting so everyone has a chance to read them and then provide input/comments at next meeting.</p> <p>Brief discussion about possibly using PPT with minutes flashed on screen – typed as meeting progresses.</p> <p>Group voted to approve moving forward on this with goal of recruiting assistance by January 2015.</p> |
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| <p>b. Kamehameha Schools MOA c. Charter School Commission</p> <p>Coming Events</p> <p>Next Meeting</p> | <p>See agenda.</p> | <p>Next LAP Meeting: Mon., Jan. 24, 2015 (subsequently rescheduled for Feb. 2, 2015).</p> <p>Future Meeting Dates: Monday, Feb. 23, March 23, April 27, June 8, 2015 - 4:30-6:30 p.m.</p> |
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Handouts:

- ❖ WMS Mission & Schoolwide Learning Results
- ❖ WMS Accreditation – Action Plans

Attachment to Minutes:

- 1) Achieve3000 log-in instructions
- 2) Jan. 13, 2015 Letter sent home in Tuesday Envelope to families explaining that entire school "intensely focused" 2nd Semester on academics as required by new Common Core State Standards and end-of-year Smarter Balanced Assessments. Reiterates importance of attendance and readiness to learn and to call if questions. 2 Attachments - DOE explanation and sample exercises for ELA and Math.
- 3) Jan. 26, 2015 Letter mailed home to all families addressing raised behavior expectations as part of schoolwide 2nd Semester commitment by faculty and staff. 2 Attachments - 1-page summary of "Behaviors For Learning," and Updated Discipline Policy.
- 4) Video Link: WHY MATH IS DIFFERENT NOW – A 8+ minute video clip about why “new math” helps students UNDERSTAND, THINK and discover that SOLVING PROBLEMS is FUN.

<http://vimeo.com/110807219>

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| Submitted By: | Patti Cook | Date Submitted: | 2-1-15 |
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