



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

Meeting Title:	WMS Local Advisory Panel (LAP) - FINAL – Approved 2/23/15
Date & Time:	4:30-6:30 pm, Mon., February 2, 2015
Members Present:	<p>Community Reps: Colin Miura, Keawe Vredenburg, Jane Sherwood, Patrick Hurney</p> <p>Family Reps: Marcie Neubecker</p> <p>Student Reps: Selection in progress</p> <p>Certificated Reps: Nau’i Murphy, 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 Board: Ken Fischer</p> <p>Ho’okako’o Staff: Megan McCorriston</p>
	<p><u>Guests:</u></p> <p>Certificated Staff: Janice English-Somerville, Pat Rice, Tisha Gusman, Linda LoBue, Leesa Robertson, Tim Beneski</p> <p>Family Members: Gayle Desha</p> <p>Community Members: Tom & Gail Gimbel, Owana Wilcox</p> <p>Ho’okako’o Board: Ann Botticelli, Joe Uno</p> <p>Ho’okako’o Staff: David Gibson</p> <p><u>Absent:</u></p> <p>Community Rep: Robert Lindsey</p> <p>Family Reps: Lori Bergin, Elsie Mijjena</p> <p>Certificated Rep: Jade Bowman</p> <p>Classified Rep: Bernie Marsh – excused</p> <p>Ho’okako’o Board: Robert Witt</p>

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Topic:

Discussion:

Action:

Welcome & Introductions –

Colin Miura, Chair

- a) Introduce HC Board Members**
- b) Confirm Quorum**

Colin welcomed everyone and we went around the room for introductions. Special guests:

HC Board Chair Ann Botticelli explained her involvement in public charter schools dates back to 2004 when her son was attending Waialae Elem – first PCS in Hawai'i – became “an impassioned supporter” due to the “promise” they provide.

HC Board Chair-Elect Joe Uno explained he’s a construction cost consultant who has served on the HC Board for 2.5 years; now V-Chair, formerly Board Treasurer; happy to be here for meeting.

HC Board Member Ken Fischer introduced himself as a 40+-year resident of Waimea; an optometrist and that two of his daughters are teachers here at WMS. Also serves on the Parker School Board.

Called to order at 4:40 p.m.

Confirmed quorum.

- c) Review & Approve Minutes from 11/24/15**

- d) Preview Agenda**

- e) School-Community Input**

Draft minutes approved w/o revisions. Will be posted on WMS/HC website.
No changes suggested to the agenda.
No school-community input.

Principal’s Update – MHorne Celebrations:

*** STAR Reading & Math**

WMS students are tested on STAR quarterly. These assessments include tracking academic growth – Student Growth Percentile (SGP) since the beginning of this school year as compared with every other, same-grade-and-month student in the nation. Anything above 50 is beating the national average. End of 1st Semester results indicate all the hard work by students and teachers is making a difference:

WMS Reading Growth

Grade	SGP
6 th	50
7 th	31
8 th	82**

WMS Math Growth

Grade	SGP
6 th	53**
7 th	39
8 th	54**

Scores of 50, 53, 54 and 82 are significant – “82 is huge” – congratulations! Applause!

* ‘Connecting For Success’ student achievements.

CFS 1st semester results were first shared w/ students, families, faculty, staff & mentors at CFS family night 1/28/15. There are about 60 students in the CFS cohort; 54 received awards:

ATTENDANCE

Beginning of 2014-15 SY – 47% of students “on track” = better than 95%; Now - 57% “on track” including 5 w/ Perfect Attendance! (This is huge achievement!)

MARKS (GRADES)

Beginning of 2014-15SY – 11% “on track” = “C”s or better in all 4 core subject areas; Now - 36% “on track”; Also dramatically fewer “off track.” (Again, this is a huge achievement!)

STAR MATH

25% improved 1+ grade level during 1st Semester

STAR READING

18% improved 1+ grade level during 1st Semester

PRice: “These results reflect a strong collaborative effort by CFS and teachers and staff.”

MHorne thanked everyone involved in CFS including about 50 volunteer mentors from the community who are working w/ CFS students, plus soon, a group of Parker School students who will begin mentoring WMS students as part of the Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

* ELL Family Night 12/2/14

Very well attended – thanks in part to help from LAP Family Rep Elsie Mijjena (Mahalo Mrs. Mijjena!). Clearly good connections have been established w/ these students and families by WMS faculty. MHorne commented on student performances including a “performance math” demonstration by a boy who

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<p>* Stepped Up Schoolwide Discipline Expectations: Behaviors For Learning</p>	<p>wanted to share his new skill w/ dividing fractions.</p> <p>Admin and teachers/staff have collaborated on implementing stepped-up behavior expectations for 2nd Semester; held student assemblies and classroom discussions reviewing new policies and procedures including both positive rewards and possible Saturday School, if warranted. Letter mailed to families reviewing new expectations. This occurred in response to serious teacher concerns and is “a work in progress; a step in the right direction” - need and welcome faculty-staff and family feedback. New policies and procedures also posted on website and Facebook.</p> <p>TGusman explained that she was one of two HSTA reps that serve on the school’s APC. Said teacher concerns re: discipline were not new; had been expressed last year and had gone unresolved; procedural deadlines for addressing this, as spelled out in contract, had not been met so a formal grievance was filed. There is a plan now but too soon to know how it’s working.</p> <p>Colin urged teachers and staff to bring discipline concerns to LAP’s attention if there are any. NMurphy acknowledged LAP’s involvement and collaboration of teachers and admin and said it seems like we’re “on the right track.”</p>	
<p>* Recruiting Reading Teacher for 2nd Semester per teachers request.</p>	<p>Internal and external postings; help wanted classified ads placed. Small response – hard time of year to recruit for this position; will talk to applicants and determine next steps.</p>	
<p>* Sustainability Progress – buses & vans</p>	<p>See Agenda for abbreviated report. Buses will each have a 12-camera video system onboard.</p>	
<p>* STEM Building progress</p>	<p>See Agenda for abbreviated report.</p>	
<p>* 21st Century STEM-focused grant.</p>	<p>DOE has not yet formally announced this grant -- awaiting direction and funding from DOE to determine how and when implementation will begin. What we do know is that it’s a 5-year partnership with Friends of the Future and DOE Hamakua Complex Schools for after-school and summer programs.</p>	
<p>* TMT/THINK Fund Grant</p>	<p>Mahalo to HC/David Gibson for assisting teachers and Pat Rice with grant application with strong professional development focus.</p> <p>PRice shared one additional celebration: School has received approval of a Title 2A Grant for math teacher</p>	

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<p>Principal Departure</p> <p>Community Perspectives – Colin Miura, Owana Wilcox, Jane Sherwood</p>	<p>team to attend NCTM Conference in Boston.</p> <p>MHorne reiterated what had already been shared with faculty-staff, families and HC that his family will be moving this summer. “My commitment is to do everything I can to continue to support the school’s mission and also support the transition.”</p> <p>CMiura prefaced comments by saying he wanted to share some of what he’s encountered as an employer interviewing prospective employees; doesn’t want to imply that all candidates are former WMS students – they are from “all over.” Asked group to please keep process and specific questions confidential. (Sample questionnaires were shared on a projector screen.)</p> <p>He recapped application process as having 4 steps – includes asking applicants words they use to describe themselves. Applicants are often unable to select words due to very limited vocabulary. Process also includes a math test – “very basic math” and showed examples. Asks applicants to show computations on paper. Most applicants cannot do the math. The store’s experience has been if the applicant has trouble on math test, the usually have trouble as a cashier. Said he also asks applicants a series of questions, such as: Do you prioritize tasks for the day? They don’t know what “prioritize” means. Many clearly have challenges w/ both vocabulary and comprehension.</p> <p>Said “I’m not trying to put burden back on teachers but am bringing this up because this is what I see as an employer.” Also said, “Kids from private schools bomb too, and realizes the problem is a combination of things – school, family, society.” He hopes that by sharing this, it will help everyone understand some of the reasons WMS must look at academic progress for our students. If applicants have trouble with the application process, they may get stuck at entry level jobs. “This is not what we are all about”</p> <p>Added that applicants, when asked to describe themselves, don’t know the meaning of words such as “diligent” and “accommodating. They do know the meaning of “funny” and “popular.”</p> <p>LRobertson (8th grade LA teacher) noted that vocabulary is a statewide issue. Also that texting and Tweeting – using abbreviations – exacerbates the problem.</p>	
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OWilcox spoke from two perspectives – as a contractor w/ the Department of Labor who goes into high school and college classrooms to provide mentoring, and also as a resort employer rep trying to recruit employees for her hotel. Said 65% of the housekeepers at the Hilton will retire in the next 3 years; who is going to take these jobs? Many of the students she meets with are unable to pass the entry level application process.

Admitted she was a very kolohe kid – attended Waimea but eventually had to be home schooled. Finally got it together, went to community college in TIM and now runs the spa at the Hilton and, when the GM of the hotel is away, she takes her place.

Said Hilton has a tough interview process – can you read and write English? If not, you don't get far. Many of the students she works with are not WMS students but the problems are islandwide.

JSherwood spoke as a recently retired teacher at Hawai'i Community College in nursing. Said there is an admission test so the students she saw were a little above average but too many were used to memorizing information – not critical thinkers and struggled with math.

Said 1st Semester in Community College nursing is all Content (memorization); but by 2nd Semester, critical thinking required and is “really a challenge” – 2nd year is all critical thinking. Must be able to read well and do basic math too.

Mentioned how nursing requires ability to do math computation to administer meds; many students found this very difficult.

“Please understand we appreciate what the teachers and staff do and how challenging it is but I support the posture that LAP has taken that academics needs to be a priority.”

CMiura said again that he wants teachers to let LAP know how to help.

NMurphy mentioned Career Day, inquiring about the status of this; is Lori Ching working on this perhaps with BPA teacher? Said she thinks students need to hear through Career Days some of what was just said to understand why reading and math are relevant and important.

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Laz said “our kids need to hear this – lots think they are going to be athletes or rock stars.” Career Day could help drive home the point that we try to make with students – serve as a wake up call.”

Was mention about possibly focusing on vocabulary in Advisories (not sure who said this).

JSherwood said: “There’s all kinds of slavery – when our students don’t have the skills to do the basics, they are in danger of becoming slaves.”

TGusman said she talked one day recently with her students about what it takes to survive financially. Minimum wage is about \$8/hr for 40 hour week. Said she talked with her students about what taxes would be like and other expenses. Students realized they couldn’t afford to have kids, and couldn’t afford housing either – might be homeless. They didn’t want that for life.

Someone said our kids know about EBT cards and work comp – think of these as “free money.” (Don’t know who said this.)

CMiura said he was happy to come talk with students. Shared a recent conversation with his daughter about what it costs to just survive. Said they assumed she’d make \$15/hour though he told her she probably wouldn’t start at that – ran through the numbers and realized you cannot live on this.

Family member GDesha shared similar conversation with her granddaughter – if you don’t get a good education, you can’t get a good job.

LRobertson agreed that students need to see the big picture and what real jobs require.

JSherwood said she was sure she could get instructors to come from Community College. “Please give us some advance notice.”

JEnglish-Somerville said she would like to have guest presenters in the next several weeks in her AVID classes.

CMiura asked teachers/staff to let other faculty know that LAP members and friends willing to come speak.

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<p>Ho’okako’o Local School Board Update – Ann Botticelli, Joe Uno, Megan McCorriston,</p> <p>* HC Board Leadership Transition & Recruitment</p> <p>* Principal Search Process & Timetable</p> <p>* WMS 2015-'15 Budget Review</p> <p>* Kamehameha Schools MOA</p>	<p>OWilcox mentioned job shadowing – would welcome students to Hilton. PPrice and LChing will be in touch w/ Owana to schedule visits for CFS students.</p> <p>MMcCorriston explained Board’s intention to move forward with Strategic Planning and that they will involve all 3 schools in the process. ABotticelli said the current 7 Board members very committed to this; will complete SP in the next few months with WMS going first, then will grow the board, recruiting new members based on new Strategic Plan – skills and expertise needed.</p> <p>HC doesn’t know yet if they’ll appoint an Interim Principal or permanent leader until Strategic Planning is done. Will start SP w/ WMS – what is WMS; does HC model work for this community? Have never done SP w/ their schools. Skills needed by Principal might be different based on findings of SP.</p> <p>ABotticelli said school’s Accreditation plans will inform moving forward.</p> <p>Said “Board will get back to school on the budget.”</p> <p>ABotticelli shared a printed summary of the new Kamehameha Schools Strategic Plan 2015-2020 – this is the only document currently available; KS complete new SP document not available yet. See attachment.</p> <p>Said KS has now signed HC’s MOA for 2014-'15 SY – Application for the next school year is due March 2. Hope to get answer on this by June. KS cut funding across the board by 26% (not just HC schools). HC applied last April and didn’t get answer until November – well into the school year. Very difficult; hope it will be faster approval process this time.</p> <p>Mentioned that Ho’olako Like Division Interim Dir has talked about a 1:4 match “transition plan” for this next SY – a 1 year solution while KS works through its own SP transition.</p> <p>GDeSha asked if recent KS family survey WMS sent home influenced them? Answer: It can only help.</p>	<p>NMurphy said WMS would like to support HC in this effort whenever/wherever.</p> <p>MMcCorriston said HC staff/Board and Principals will be meeting w/ Jack Wong, KS’ new CEO, Feb. 20. May know more after that.</p>
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<p>HC Fundraising for WMS</p>	<p>DGibson said WMS is in a “good position” to do fundraising but it has been difficult to get traction for fundraising within the school; each school has been asked to identify who will implement fundraising program.</p> <p>Said new STEM Building presents “a great opportunity” – “sexy kinda stuff” for the school – it’s an opportunity to brand itself as one of the premiere STEM schools in the state. Should launch fundraising w/ groundbreaking. WMS needs a fundraising committee – need to “own” the fundraising responsibility.</p> <p>Said school needs to begin by creating list of stakeholders and then let them know what school is about, using direct mail, email, events, etc.</p> <p>JSherwood said: “If we’re in charge, we gotta put this on the agenda next month – cannot wait till June.”</p> <p>KVredenburg noted that school needs a Strategic Plan to help us know where we’re going. Was discussion that Accreditation Plan was Waimea’s SP. JSherwood agreed with Keawe that Accreditation Plan is not a SP – SP includes specific goals and measures.</p> <p>ABotticelli said she looked forward to the Strategic Plan conversation w/ WMS. Also said she wanted to thank MHorne for pouring a lot of heart and soul into the school. Appreciated that he had given HC 6-months notice and was committed to participating in the conversation.</p>	<p>DGibson to provide what fundraising process might look like.</p>
<p>* Legislative Advocacy</p>	<p>MMcCorriston said HC has not gone to meet with legislators yet but have identified priorities. Looks forward to working with new legislative leadership including Sen. Michelle Kidani (Sen Ed Cmte Chair) and Sen. Jill Tokuda (Sen WAM Chair).</p> <p>Said per pupil is HC’s priority – it’s “incredible that funding for public charter schools is still at only \$6,000 per pupil.” HC is also asking for food and transportation support, as are all other public charter schools, and also “hard to fill position” stipend reimbursements for Kamaile and Kualapu’u (doesn’t impact WMS as we are not designated a hard-to-fill zone for teachers).</p>	
<p>Teacher Rep Input on How LAP Might Help With Fulfilling WMS’ Mission & Schoolwide Learning</p>	<p>NMurphy said recruitment of reading teacher is in progress.</p>	

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<p>Results – NMurphy & CMundon</p>	<p>Year-end Smarter Balanced assessment training will be held soon for teachers – was only just released; will be a huge undertaking – reading assessment expected to take 7 hours; math assessment 8 hours.</p> <p>Re: Hiring LAP Secretary – decision deferred after Pam Potter injury – will follow-up before next meeting.</p> <p>Re: Sharing resources between HC Schools – teachers asked if there are programs that are working at other schools – urging that time and opportunities be developed for HC teachers to share what’s working/have conversations.</p> <p>MMcCorriston asked what teachers needed? NMurphy talked about KS possibly having curriculum resources and trainings – that WMS teachers used to be invited to their trainings; that stopped a few years back. Also re: data collection.</p> <p>Asked: Do KS students take state testing. Answer: No.</p> <p>CMiura asked what kind of specific help do teachers want re: Native Language speakers?</p> <p>CMundon said they could use help with helping parents understand textbooks. Also said:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) ELL parents at student-family conferences have a hard time understanding – students often are interpreting for them. Would be helpful to have adult interpreters present. 2) Could use help in the ELL classroom. 3) Would help to be sure ELL families understand the new Discipline Plan. 4) Have a pool of names that speak different languages. 5) Have important documents and letters translated. <p>Teachers agreed to talk w/ teacher Elizabeth Oden on what languages most needed.</p>	<p>Group voted to move forward with recruiting Pam Potter if she’s willing and still available.</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>		<p>Future Meeting Dates: Mondays, March 23, April 27, June 8, 2015 - 4:30-6:30 p.m.</p>

Attachment to Minutes:

Kuhanauna: A Generation On The Rise – Kamehameha Schools Strategic Plan 2015-2020 at a glance

<p>Submitted By:</p>	<p>Patti Cook</p>	<p>Date Submitted:</p>	<p>2-22-15</p>
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