



Local Advisory Panel Virtual Mtg MINUTES – Tues., August 17, 2021 4:30 – 5:30PM

Time	Activity	Facilitator	Notes
4:30pm	<p>Google Meet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Call Meeting To Order - Welcome, Quorum, Check-In ● Review/Approve July 27, 2021 WMS LAP Meeting Minutes 	PKanekuni & JEnglish	<p>Meeting started 4:30 pm. Quorum confirmed – See P. 2</p> <p>7/27/21 Minutes approved with minor revision.</p>
4:40pm	Ho’okako’o Update	DGibson	See P. 2
4:50pm	<p>Budget Update –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enrollment ○ Kamehameha Schools ○ OHA Grant Update re: Trauma-Informed Art Teacher/Counselor ○ Postcard Mailer/Help Reaching Out to Potential Funders ○ Virtual Silent Auction: Oct. 19-29 - LAP members/friends invited to join committee primarily to solicit auction donations 	<p>JEnglish</p> <p>PRice</p> <p>PCook</p> <p>PCook</p>	See P. 3
5:00pm	<p>Principal Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Face-To-Face Learning – Safely! (21-22SY Plan) ● School-Community Covid Status & Gov’s Vaccination/Testing Mandate ● Personnel Update ● Virtual Family Open House & Title I Annual Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wed., Aug. 25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 6th Grader – 4-4:25 PM ○ 7th Grader – 4:30-4:55 PM ○ 8th Grader – 5-5:30 PM ● Student Meals ● Student Transportation ● MAHALO Nate Hendricks for Talk-Story w/ 8th Grade Students 	JEnglish	See P. 3
5:20pm	Title I Update	PRice	See P. 5

FINAL



Local Advisory Panel Virtual Mtg MINUTES – Tues., August 17, 2021 4:30 – 5:30PM

5:25pm	New Business State Library System - Wednesdays Closure To Help Prevent 'Community Spread' of Covid WMS LAP – Need to recruit another parent rep and confirm Certificated & Classified reps for 21-22SY Community Input (2 minutes each) REMINDER: Next WMS Virtual LAP Meeting: Tues., Sept. 21, 2021. 4:30-5:30 p.m.)	PKanekuni	See P. 5 Meeting adjourned 5:30PM
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Attachments:

- 1) **Principal Presentation – August 17, 2021**
- 2) **'Face-To-Face Learning – Safely' – August 10, 2021**

Attendance: 8/17/21

- Community Reps:** Phyllis Kanekuni, Tammy Muranaka, Pete Hendricks, Andrew Odell, Midge Jambor
- Family Reps:** Jennifer Brown, Jennifer Hirayama
- Certificated Reps:** Tisha Gusman
- HC Board:** Susan Maddox (HC Board nominee)
- HC Staff:** David Gibson
- WMS Admin:** Janice English
- WMS Staff:** Patti Cook
- Guests:** Pat Rice (School Improvement Specialist/Title I & Grant Coordinator), WES Principal Tammie Picklesimer (WES Principal), Colin Miura (WMS parent)

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS: Phyllis welcomed and thanked all for attending. Quorum confirmed. Asked WES Principal Tammie Picklesimer to introduce herself and she did. Briefly said she was a VP at Honoka'a for 6 years; glad to be at WES. Group welcomed Tammy Muranaka, who is recovering from Covid. Said she plans to return to work at WES 8/23/21; grateful for the support she received from family and friends when ill. Tammy said she really misses the children. MAHALO, Tammy, for joining us.

HO'OKO'O CORP. UPDATE: DGibson acknowledged all the hard work by all three schools – admin, teachers and staff – and their work with respective families/communities - saying all are tired but committed to putting kids first. He briefly shared Covid impact update re: the other two HC schools:

Kamaile (Waianae/O'ahu): Very high community spread in Waianae resulting in 7 confirmed Covid cases with students and 2 staff. Also 230 "close contacts" – very disruptive to in-person



Local Advisory Panel Virtual Mtg MINUTES – Tues., August 17, 2021 4:30 – 5:30PM

instruction so have temporarily closed until Sept. 13. Will use the time to regroup, build program options; HC Board and Kamaile leadership recognize they will have to be flexible the entire year, and will strive to have students on campus as often as possible. Have a virtual town meeting scheduled 8/19/21 for all Kamaile families.

Kualapu'u (Moloka'i): Board Chair Pua Akaka unable to join WMS LAP Meeting because Molokai's HDOE Complex Area Superintendent (CAS) is concurrently holding a parent meeting for all public school families and Pua is involved there. Moloka'i experiencing high level of community spread though low on their campus. They do believe students generally "safer" in school and will continue to be open for in-person instruction as much as possible.

BUDGET UPDATE:

Enrollment: JEnglish reviewed current status; had projected 214 students for 21-22SY, then revised up to 225, now revised down to 205; hoping for 214-215 but wanted realistic budget. Per Pupil will be \$7,397. Smaller enrollment coupled with reduced funding from Kamehameha Schools required revising SY budget that will be presented to the HC board next week. We anticipate operating in the red so fundraising critical.

Kamehameha Schools: Did fund \$15,000 for teacher PD this summer; about \$4,000 remaining. Have also said they will provide new grant opportunities but process not in place yet.

OHA Grant: PRice reviewed challenges w/ this \$60,000 grant for a Trauma Informed Art Teacher/Counselor. Had received grant approval effective 8/1/21. Advertised and interviewed candidates; offered position but candidate declined. Was fortunate because OHA subsequently said funding won't be released until Oct. 1, and then, Nov. 1. However, we had to write the position into our master schedule so have hired a sub for the time being.

Postcard Mailer/Outreach to Potential Deep Pockets: PCook explained plan to print and distribute a postcard mailer to a very targeted audience of potential funders including those who have supported the school in the past. Will be asking LAP members to please either share a card with potential contributors or share names with Patti to reach out to.

Virtual Silent Auction: Moving forward with this in mid-October. Welcome LAP members joining project committee and/or helping solicit auction donations. Particularly hope to attract one-of-a-kind experiences.

PRINCIPAL REPORT: Shared her slide deck (see attached). Briefed LAP on school's "**Face-To-Face Learning – Safely**" plan for the 21-22 SY (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14QIX7uaeRN8XqExrxJPslbWpsogR0ZT/view?usp=sharing>). Includes detailed recap of Covid mitigation strategies. Waimea Elementary has a similar plan they've shared with families called, "Return-To-Learn." Shared that there have been positive cases involving students, staff and families at all 3 schools but no spread within our WMS campus. Said she and office team are working closely with DOH, WES Principal and Honoka'a High Principal as well as HC. Janice is personally calling all families when a student is identified as a "close contact" so the families get two calls – one from WMS, one from DOH. DOH determines "next steps" for families re: possible quarantining etc. but WMS wants to know family/student status.



Local Advisory Panel Virtual Mtg MINUTES – Tues., August 17, 2021 4:30 – 5:30PM

Question asked if we are doing daily temperature checks: No, we're not; we did last year during hybrid learning. However, we do expect every single family to do a **Wellness Check** daily before bringing or sending student to school. (Link: <https://forms.gle/9PXnSwoo6Sbg4STB9>). It's an online questionnaire and if not filled out/submitted, then school Health Aide follows up with student during morning Advisory.

One change in the "Face-To-Face Learning – Safely" plan that has occurred since the start of school is lunch timing for students. All grade levels eat outdoors. Changed 8th Grade schedule so they get to play first, then eat. Kinda "musical chairs" but more room for students.

100% Compliance w/ Governor's Vaccination/Testing Mandate: WMS has completed this; has to be updated weekly. Health Info about teachers-staff is confidential and kept under lock and key. Working w/ Chris Kono/HC to be sure we're in compliance.

MAHALO to WMS Alumni Nate Hendricks: Janice thanked Pete Hendricks, LAP Community Rep and former WMS parent/grandparent for arranging for his son, Nate Hendricks, to come speak to the 8th Grade class to share his story about being "a very kolohe student" – and now a successful Hawai'i Island homebuilder/contractor. Pete said Nate was moved by the experience and appreciated that several teachers remembered him. PRice said "Nate was my student – it was very special." Here is link to watch Nate's talk:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1duXW7HXzdoRf3ZKnVGixtof1c7kR-mM6/view?usp=sharing>

Teacher Mana'o: Janice asked if Teacher Tisha Gusman would share her thoughts about the start of school experience: Tisha described what it's been like and realizing she needed to be "less demanding," instead, to follow-up and help students complete their work in school. Still two of her students who are no-shows.

WMS Family Rep Jennifer Brown described her experience both as a parent and WES employee: Both my son and I are "anxious." "Mixed feelings." Described son's experience on bus to Honoka'a High: 80 students jammed in – "makes me very super nervous."

PKanekuni asked if the school has discussed a threshold – when and if to pivot? DGibson said each of the 3 HC schools are looking at their own community. "Lydia at Kualapu'u thinks kids safer on campus; high level of community spread on Moloka'i but there has been no "spread" on the Kualapu'u campus.

DGibson said schools will follow DOE/DOH and Governor's directives; could reach a tipping point where operational issues/complexity make teaching impossible. This is what convinced Paul Kepka/Kamaile to close. Added there is something to be said for some kind of hybrid model that "lightens" the number of students on campus – spreads kids out, cuts down on busing, food service challenges.

JEnglish said so far, WMS has only had 2 positive cases – and neither of the students had been on campus for several days. 2 of 214= 1%. Assessing daily and making personal calls to all families either identified as positive or "close contacts." Not at a tipping point. Will discuss this



Local Advisory Panel Virtual Mtg MINUTES – Tues., August 17, 2021 4:30 – 5:30PM

further at our Leadership Meeting Monday, 8/23.

LAP Parent Jennifer Hirayama said as a parent, she's a little bit anxious but daughter was more anxious when doing distance learning at home than now at school. Said she really appreciated WMS "quick communications" – keeping families informed so we can better make our own decisions. Daughter has told her about what's going on at school; believes the school is doing all it can. Really appreciate the communications.

PKanekuni thanked everyone for sharing their views and acknowledged the good work by admin, teachers and staff.

Patti Cook reminded all that the school will host a virtual Family Open House on Wed., Aug. 25, 2021, which will be an opportunity to hear from families about their comments and concerns. All invited to join the virtual meetings as follows:

TITLE I UPDATE: PRice briefly reviewed status of this federal funding. No significant changes since last meeting except that school may have carryover of as much as \$14,000 (rather than \$11,000). \$18,000 is allowable; will know more specifics in September and be able to then adjust budget.

Hot Chocolate Club (before-school) & Homework Help+ (after-school) tutoring: Starts week using Title I funding. Have a waitlist of students; have funding to accommodate more but need to recruit teachers and secure Title I approval. (Question: Is tutoring in person or virtual? It's in person.)

Annual Family Household Survey: Was sent home 8/11; due back 8/18 – so far about 50% return. Will need to follow-up – need 100% compliance.

NWEA Testing: In progress; all teachers expected to complete this by 9/3; will then assess results and share with teachers and LAP.

NEWS BUSINESS:

LAP Membership: Still need to recruit another Parent Rep and 2 Classified Reps.

Pat Rice reminded group about a suggestion that we add time to each future LAP agenda to ask family reps to share their thoughts; Jennifer Hirayama and other LAP members agreed that this would help ensure we hear family "voices." PCook said we do try to let families know that parents are always welcome to attend LAP Meetings and there is time for them – albeit briefly – to speak. Depending on the subject, it might be deferred to the next meeting or addressed by the Principal ASAP.

Community News:

Andrew Odell shared that Keck has established a vaccination mandate for its employees; was at 90%; goal is 100%. Also working with other employers and community businesses to encourage vaccinations. Also shared that Keck is still working with Queen's North Hawai'i Community Hospital, Mauna Kea Observatories and Covidpau.org to host a **Covid Pau Friday**



Local Advisory Panel Virtual Mtg MINUTES – Tues., August 17, 2021 4:30 – 5:30PM

celebration on the grounds at Keck with a number of food trucks plus a pop-up vaccination clinic. Will be giving away many “rewards” to those getting vaccinated and those who already are. Have cancelled band and will encourage mask wearing. Was originally scheduled earlier in the month; will be 4-8 p.m., Fri., Aug. 20. All invited.

Phyllis Kanekuni shared that all Hawai'i public libraries will be closed on Wednesdays to the public (staff still on premises) to try to limit community spread of Covid. Still open all other days as usual.

Also, the State Library System is hosting an 'Ukulele Lending Library virtual event at 4 p.m., Wed., Oct. 25 (see WMS FB page for flyer) and thereafter, library card holders may come in and borrow an 'ukulele.

LAP Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m. Phyllis Kanekuni thanked everyone for participating.

Next meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2021 – 4:30 p.m.

www.WaimeaMiddleSchool.org