

The 'Ohana News

Very Important:
Family Survey In Tuesday
Envelope — Return By Thursday
May 22 & Earn A Pizza!

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

May 20, 2014

www.WaimeaMiddleSchool.org

WMS Students Have Grit!

Grit is what Waimea's paniolo are all about! Loosely defined, Grit is persistence over time to overcome challenges and accomplish big goals. It's a legacy that is imbedded both in the Waimea community's heritage and our school's Core Values of 'Ike, Kaizen, Accountability, Integrity and Respect.

— With Aloha, Tom and Gail Gimbel, The Neilan Foundation



See Page 5 For Names
Of Our Student 'Grit'
Award Recipients
For Spring 2014

*The Gimbels with The Neilan Foundation
intend to continue WMS Student "Grit" Awards
— so stay tuned for this next school year!*

**Great Beginning For Our
School Bus Fundraising!**

(Mahalo Plenty & Please Read More On Page 6)

\$732.85

The Neilan Foundation's Spring 2014

Culture of Excellence Awards

The key to a bright future for all of us lies in today's classrooms. Teachers and school staff make a dramatic difference in the lives of children every day. Working in today's schools can often feel thankless and tiring; too often the profession does not encourage the celebration of excellence and the sharing of effective practice. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gimbel have a deep commitment to the future of Waimea's children. The purpose of these "Culture of Excellence" awards is to recognize those outstanding educators at Waimea Middle School who are beating the odds and showing strong growth for all students, strong implementation of best practices, and the leadership to share their success and grow the school as a whole. "Culture of Excellence" awards recognize that making a dramatic impact for all students is multi-faceted. For the purposes of these awards, all contributions to the future of Waimea's children were considered, both within and outside the classroom. The primary focus is on contributions to the creation of a "Culture of Excellence" for all students and stakeholders.

Nau'i Murphy - Teacher Leadership

"As the Science Department Chair, a strong leader in the eighth grade team and as an invaluable member of the Accreditation Steering Committee, Naui serves as an inspiration to her peers, both as a fellow teacher and as a teacher leader. She leads by example and is always willing to do the extra for the good of the school. She inspires others by her devotion and selfishness as she strives to enable each student and each member of her team to do their best."



Janice English-Somerville - Teacher Leadership

"Janice has such a 'can do' attitude -- she makes working with children so much fun. No problem is too big for Janice; she is always saying: 'how can we fix it?'...She is a very caring person...she is also always paying it forward. Yes, it is her job to help all the teachers do better, but I feel she goes above and beyond what is asked of her. She is also a very supportive person to the teachers and staff at Waimea Middle School."



Shelby Loo - Student Academic Growth

Shelby's "dedication and passion for teaching are immeasurable. Shelby is a mother of 2 small children and still she finds times to create ways to enhance her classroom experience so the children will stay inspired...She brings to the classroom a vitality and willingness to learn everyday for herself and, as she would say, "my kids," referring to her students. The students in her classroom are not just children who will be there for a short time and then move on. They are the future and she believes in each of them.



In addition to her classroom role, Shelby has been the 6th grade department chairperson for many years and sits on the schools leadership team....she leads with kindness, patience, understanding and a desire to make the experience at Waimea Middle School the best it can be. "

Sarah Teehee - Student Academic Growth

"Sarah's student's consistently make progress in reading intervention classes. In the first quarter, 6 out of 10 of Sarah's intervention students made substantial progress, meaning that they increased their reading score by GREATER than .5 grade level equivalent. That is a gain of over one half year during a quarter year's time. In the second quarter, 5 out of the 9 students made substantial progress and in the third quarter, 7 out of 13 made substantial progress. In addition, many of the rest of the students made at least moderate progress. Sarah is hard working and dedicated to the progress of her students. She is committed to the growth of all students."



Bernie Marsh - Caring & Inspiration

"You can ask any Waimea Middle School Student or Teacher about how hard Mrs. Bernie works. She is strict on the kids because she wants the best for them. She cares so much about them and she does not ask for anything in return. She loves working with the kids...and makes the school a more happy environment. She is always first to jump up and help people...even if its not her job. Sure she seems like a "tita" but she is the most honest and dedicated worker. She helps promote manners and she is always an open ear to go to....and she never asks for any recognition."



WMS 'Excellence' Awards, Continued...

Warren Tamaye - Caring & Inspiration



"Coach Tamaye" as he is called by our students, has become our "pied piper" -- shepherding what is a very modestly funded after-school athletics enrichment program that is extremely popular with, and greatly benefits students, families and our entire school community. For at least 5-6 years if not longer, Coach Tamaye has managed our partnership with Hawai'i County Parks & Recreation, organizing WMS teams to participate in volleyball, basketball, Track and Cross Country, and each year, the number of students participating has grown. This year alone, each of these events has drawn 40-50+ students who willingly turn out several afternoons a week for practices, and then do surprisingly well in competition.

"Further, behind the scenes there's a ton of time and effort required to organize and coordinate these sports activities -- from recruiting both students and community coaches, and then scheduling and running practices; to organizing and maintaining team uniforms (he and his wife wash all student uniforms); to chasing after use of DOE-owned vans to transport students to games. There's also a lot of paperwork involved to be sure family permission forms and medical documents are in order, and to conduct required grade checks.

"Coach Tamaye manages all of this...and he is out there playing with, running with, coaching the students -- and also providing counseling, encouragement, and problem solving. Coach Tamaye contributes in a very quiet, reserved way to student connectedness to school and life....he is a role model and caring friend for our students who also has high expectations. Our school athletic program under Coach Tamaye's leadership fosters pride - in both the students themselves and in our school."

Tanya Malani - Personal & Professional Growth



"Tanya Malani started out as our WMS Health Aide but in addition to this, she is now responsible for many aspects of our public conversion charter school's Human Resources accounting, payroll and benefits management. This is huge -- and extremely complicated as it involves working with the State DOE and our public conversion charter's Local School Board and staff, and also meeting the needs and expectations of the newly established Public Charter School Commission -- and also coordinating with no fewer than three public worker unions -- HSTA, HGEA and UPW. Perhaps the most difficult aspect is that much of what she's doing it "new territory" for everyone - there are not clearly established procedures and rules, and/or the procedures are changing/evolving. She has just kept her head down and gotten the work done with amazing professionalism and accuracy."

Pua Case - Community Connections



"Pua has always committed her energies by sharing her knowledge and the knowledge of others in the community with her students...Pua Case has always been fearless about extending herself to secure educational opportunities for WMS students and teachers to learn through events, past and present, thus making huge community connectivity learning possible...She breathes community connectivity as she knows that we are not alone, we must all lahui, make strong for ourselves, our community, our future."

Patti Cook - Community Connections



"Patti has successfully engaged the community in supporting Waimea Middle School. Each year she has brought approximately 20 new partners to the school to share their expertise, their passion for children and, in some cases, their financial resources with WMS. She has successfully lobbied for the 9-classroom building, has been instrumental in the reestablishment of the Local Advisory Panel, has been a driving force in the Mala'ai Garden and has served as an example to school staff and students as they strive to make WMS a true community school."

Thanking Our Generous Partners & Friends...



Above: Principal Matt Horne with Neilan Foundation's Gail and Tom Gimbel and daughter Jennifer (center) and our State Sen. Malama Solomon. Below: Gov. Neil Abercrombie's Hawai'i Liaison Wendy Boteilho Cortez presents Dr. Ken Fischer (left) and Pat Rice with certificates recognizing their contributions — Dr. Fischer now serves on our Ho'okako'o Local School Board, and Mrs. Rice facilitated schoolwide Accreditation collaboration. Sen. Solomon, along with Rep. Cindy Evans, secured almost \$15 million for our STEM building.





Mahalo Nui from the ‘Ike Hawai’i May Day Committee – Pua, Keala and Keali’i

7th Grade Class May Day Mahalos

Hokule`a's coming voyage, Malama Honua, inspired our class selections. Na `oli we performed were "Mele Kahea" and "Ia Wa`a Nui."

Mahalo nui to Kumu Keali`i Bertelmann for preparing us for our May Day performances and for teaching us the mele of "Ia Wa`a Nui," and to Kumu Keala Kahuanui for leading practices while we prepared bandanas in Mala`ai for Hokule`a voyaging members, and lastly Kumu Pua Case for sharing her mana`o on the olis performed and for showing us "how it's done" with Kumu Keali`i. We couldn't have done it without you!

– Jamilynn Mareko on behalf of the entire 7th Grade teaching team!

Waimea Middle School May Day Court
Parents and families of May Day Court Members
Students, teachers and families of:

Waimea Elementary School
Waimea Middle School (all faculty & staff)
Parker School
Kanu o Ka `Aina
Honoka`a Middle and High School
Hawai'i Preparatory Academy
Waimea Hawai'i Civic Club
Alo Kehau o ka `Aina Mauna
WMS 'Ike Hawai'i Program

Jennifer Bryan
Mindy Vera Cruz
E. Kalani Flores
Ainahua Florals
Kaleinohea Cleghorn
Keanuenu Roldan
Lanakila Mangauil
Sala Von Der Heyden
Kalei Bridges
Pua Garmon
Liana Aveiro
Brenda Case Resendiz
Dina Case
William and Delma Case
Hawane Rios
Kevin Kealoha
Brandon Nakano
Emma Coloma
Kuha'o Case
Richard Teanio Jr
Waimea Music Center

Paul Buckley
Melissa Samura
Mala'ai Culinary Garden
Thelma Parker Memorial Library
Paniolo Country Inn
Na Kalai Wa'a and the Makali'i 'Ohana
Matt Wung
Kipuka o ke ola
Lima Tamasese
Marc Bouchet
Warren & Sandy Tamaye & Flo Tadio

We hope we have remembered everyone who contributed — we sincerely apologize if we inadvertently missed you!

All Waimea Families & Friends Invited To Mala'ai Garden's First 'Super Kitchen' Community Dinner

5:30-7:30 p.m., Wed., June 25. Kahilu Town Hall.

Themed: "Everyone Needs A Good Meal!," Mala'ai and WMS Summer School students are inviting the entire Waimea community to share recipes for healthy eating at a free community dinner. This is a "pilot" for what will hopefully become a monthly gathering featuring healthy meals that can be re-created easily at home for \$3 per person. Donations welcome. Volunteer help welcome for setting up, serving and cleanup, too. Co-hosted by Mala'ai, North Hawai'i Rotary and Mana Christian 'Ohana. Info: Amanda Rieux (640-3637) or go to www.malaai.org.

WMS Summer School

Deadline To Register: Thursday, May 29

It's time to be thinking about Summer and Summer School! This year's **WMS Summer School** will only run for 14 days, **June 9-27 from 8 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.** and it will be great fun too, mixing academics with exciting place-based experiences including weekly excursions!

Summer School is being offered to **ALL** Waimea students entering 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Grade.

Questions: Please call the school office (887-6090 Ext. 222) or check out the school website!

Year-End WMS Parent Surveys

Families are urged to please check today's Tuesday Envelope for our annual survey — only this year it's much shorter — one page only front and back — it should only take 10 minutes to fill out!

Our goal is to have all surveys returned by this Thurs., May 22. To encourage this, all students who do return their Parent Survey by Thursday will given a script by their Advisory teacher. Students should immediately sign the back of the script so no one else can use it. Students then should take the script to the office and redeem it for a Domino's Gift Certificate – good for a FREE small (10") one-topping pizza. Certificates can be redeemed at Domino's in Parker Ranch Center any time before June 30.

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

Making Science Delicious!



There's no end to the MAHALOS this week: We again thank Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gimbel who brought their daughter, Jessica Gimbel, and a friend who is a Chemistry graduate student, Trevor Pitcher, to work with students this past Thursday and Friday. Jessica, a Neurology Nurse, shared a super energetic "Baliwood" dance with PE classes; Mrs. Gail Gimbel cooked with students in the Mala'ai garden, and Trevor along with Mr. and Mrs. Gimbel and Jessica presented a lesson on chemical change that included making ice cream with liquid nitrogen. Talk about making science delicious! Mahalo, too, to all of the teachers and staff who helped make this series of events come together rather last minute after a plane incident forced changes in the week's planned activities. Mahalo, too, to Rincon Farms and Kawamata Farms for their donations to various school projects this week!



Congratulations To The Neilan Foundation's First Round of Student 'Grit' Award Recipients!

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gimbel, sponsors of The Neilan Foundation's new Student "Grit" Awards, hosted last week's School-Community Steak Fry and presented the first round of these awards. They want to continue this awards program next school year as they believe that 'Grit' complements and supports our school's **I KAIR Core Values** by also spotlighting skills such as persistence and self control that help students "successfully navigate high school and beyond."

The Gimbels are contemplating expanding the awards program to include nominations from faculty and staff as well as student self-nominations.

More to come on this, but for now, please join in congratulating the following "Gritty" students:

6th Grade: Jenny Coney, Hillary Connors, Isabella Kilgore & Jermon Thomas

7th Grade: Breana Arakawa, Cy Chong, Darius Day & Emily Fetsch

8th Grade Benjamin Paki Akau, John Paul Bala, Lahela Dickens, Maya Gee, Ryan Hooley, Madilyn Jardine, Kaeo Medeiros Kaaekuahiwi, Nakue Olotoa, Kamuela Spencer-Herring & Trayson Tripp-Carvalho.



As recent graduates of the E Lauhoe Wa'a Cohort (teachers who have devoted more than 100 hours to learning about voyaging to be better able to share the lessons of the wa'a with their students), WMS teacher Barbara Haight (right), and Mala'ai School Garden teacher Holly Sargeant Green (second from right), joined cohort kumu, Pua Case and Keala Kahuanui and Waimea's own Maulili Dickson this past weekend for the launching of the Hokule'a and Hiki'analia, which will leave for Hilo this weekend before embarking on the World Wide Voyage. Our teachers are working on a presentation for all students this week to ready them for tracking the canoes which are scheduled to leave Hilo Sat., May 24 midst dozens if not hundreds of high flying lupe (kites) and the chanting of "Malana Mai Ka'u" as the canoes begin their journey.

School Bus Fundraising Blasts Into High Gear!

Sustainability — for Waimea Middle School — looks, sounds and smells like — a **BUS!** In fact, 2 buses! Simply put, WMS spends about \$140,000 a year on student busing and research tells us it would cost less over the long haul to own and operate buses, which would, in turn, enable us to redirect the savings into the classroom to benefit student learning! This is the rationale behind our **Accreditation Action Plan Recommendation** to pursue buying buses, and we are pushing forward on this because we have found two generous funders willing to help us get this ball rolling. One of the funders is **The Neilan Foundation**, which underwrote last Wednesday's celebratory **School-Community Steak Fry**. This allowed us to dedicate all donations received from families and friends last Wednesday to our new Bus Fund — and thanks to everyone's generosity, we raised **\$732.85!** Then, **Windermere Foundation (aka C&H Properties')** Waimea real estate team voted to again make a significant donation to our school — of **\$2,000!** And **The Neilan Foundation** stepped



forward with their promised seed money of \$25,000! So our total to date is \$27,732.85! Awesome! Clearly, this is just the beginning of many fundraisers including our **2nd Annual Take a LAP Fun Run/Walk**, which is set for **Friday, Sept. 12, 2014!** More on that come the start of the new school year. For now, a very warm Mahalo to **EVERYONE** who came to the dinner last Wednesday and contributed. And...a very warm Mahalo to both Windermere Foundation and the Gimbels' Neilan Foundation!

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School Lunch Menus

(All Served With Fresh Local Milk)

Tues., May 20: Baked Spaghetti w/ Spinach & Romaine Salad, Pineapple & Whole Wheat French Roll.

Wed., May 21: Breaded Pork Chop Patty w/ Whipped Potatoes, Baked Beans, Apple Wedge & Whole Wheat Roll.

Thurs., May 22: Pepperoni Pizza w/ Garden Salad, Baby Carrots & Banana.

Fri., May 23: Menu To Be Announced — 6th Grade Culture Faire and Waimea Elementary May Day.

Mon., May 26: Memorial Day — No School!

Tues., May 27: Fish Nuggets w/ Hapa Rice, Carrot & Celery Stix, Fruit Juice & Raisin Roll.

All menus are posted on school website & Facebook.

Important Family Info: Free/Reduced Food Service Applications For '14-'15 SY For Both Exiting 8th Graders & Current 5th-7th Graders

Applications for Free/Reduced meal service must be renewed annually.

Waimea Middle School, as a public charter school, handles this differently than regular DOE public schools. WMS does not use the DOE's online application process and extends a 10-day grace period at the start of the new school year. But this is not the case for Honoka'a High and other DOE schools.

Here's the full scoop for families including important deadlines:

1) Families of 8th graders entering Honoka'a High, Kealakehe or other public high schools in the fall must apply for Free/Reduced lunch service online after July 1 to ensure that the reduced rate has been approved and will apply beginning with the first day of the new school year. If the application is not completed in advance online, students will be charged the full lunch price until the application is approved so it's important to do this in July.

To apply online, go to: <https://secure.ezmealapp.com/> after July 1.

2) Families of current 5th, 6th and 7th graders attending WMS do not have to worry about this until the first day of school when a new application will be sent home in the first day packet. Families have a 10-day grace period to process applications. Thus, current 5th, 6th and 7th grade families do not have to do anything until the start of the new school year.

If you have questions, please call 887-6090 Ext. 222.

WOW! WORD-OF-THE-WEEK:

Dis-tin-guish

<u>Definition:</u>	Perceive or point out a difference.
<u>Parts of Speech:</u>	Verb
<u>Root Word:</u>	Origin Latin <i>distinguere</i> meaning "to separate between"
<u>Sentence:</u>	"Bees are unable to distinguish between red, black, and various grays."

Why do we feature WOW? Research tells us that improving vocabulary is a "high yield strategy" for student success in reading comprehension. Therefore, WMS teachers agreed to spotlight a Word-Of-The-Week! (WOW!) throughout this school year. To learn more about WOW!, go to the school's website and click on WOW! at the top the home page:

[www/WaimeaMiddleSchool.org](http://www.WaimeaMiddleSchool.org)