Hō‘ike Haumāna

Due to the re-opening of our Mālamapōki‘i Preschool and an increase in our kindergarten and first grade students, our second graders moved to the Lālāmilo Campus this school year, joining our 3rd graders to form a 2nd-3rd grade hui. This hui meets in the Lālāmilo warehouse, formerly known as the computer lab and the bay, while also regularly learning at our new Elementary Computer Lab in the former Library.

For this school year, our three dozen students in grades 2 and 3 will focus on learning about KA PLINA KAI, or our relation to the ocean, as they explore our connections and our kuleana to the kai. We believe that once a person establishes a relationship or understanding of an environment, that place will remain special. With over 70% of our planet covered in water, it is indeed important that future generations of decision makers of our planet and these islands are informed about the fragile ocean resources that surround us. The more children know about the kai, the more they will work hard to mālama and kōkua the kai, by protecting its delicate ecosystems from pollution and destruction.

As part of our exploration of the ocean, we plan to first brainstorm what the children know and want to know about this fragile system. We also have plans to explore the relationship of fish ponds, tide pools and coral reefs with the lunar cycle, and the relationships and connections of ocean creatures to native Hawaiians on land. Another aspect of our investigation will focus on sand samples to discover how our beaches change. Students will also explore the differences between changes due to natural elements, compared to human intervention, like the building of hotels, homes and golf courses and its effect on our beaches and coastal ecosystems.

Another aspect of research will focus on unique animals at each level of the kai, including endangered species like the whales, seals, and sea turtles. Food chains of the kai will take us into topics of adaptation and how the color, shape and behavior patterns are the keys to survival. Subjects such as camouflage, coloration, and partnerships are explored. Sample collections will be observed and analyzed with students recording their data in beach log books or field notebooks and using those data to form conclusions. To document their endeavors, students will develop a photo journal and compile a final photo story on CD.

KANU believes that the marine environment is a vital topic to introduce to our island keiki. As it is in all hui, this theme will be taught seamlessly by our Grades 2-3 Teaching Team integrating all subject areas. Aunty Danielle will focus on the kai as she builds language skills. Aunty Terri will introduce scientific investigation, math techniques and tools used when investigating and collecting data in the field, for example, using cameras. Aunty DeeDee will focus on mo‘olelo and other areas of social studies as well as art relating to the ocean. Aunty Kalua will familiarize our keiki with Hawaiian language aspects including vocabulary, ‘ōlelo no‘eau, and mele and hula pertaining to the kai. PE, as well, will be focusing on the kai, with all students receiving swimming lessons to ensure their safety, while working close to the water. Students will also learn about efforts to conserve and manage marine resources and meet other committed individuals and groups taking care of our ocean resources.

Essential Questions will guide our 2-3 Hui this school year include:

- What was the relationship between our Hawaiian kai pana and the kai?
- What is the relationship between Hawai‘i’s current island residents and the kai?
- What is our current relationship as Hawaiians to the kai?
- What is our kuleana as Hawaiians, and/or as island residents, to restore the kai to its balanced, natural state as much as possible by protecting it from pollution and destruction?

The 2-3 Hui is proud to be part of a large effort to mālama our kai for future generations. We will not wait until it is too late. It is our kuleana to take care of our ocean resources. Please contact us if you can contribute in any way to our exploration of the ocean.

Mission: Kula i ka Nu‘u - Strive To Reach Your Highest!

NĀ KIUMU O NĀ PAPA 2-3 (Grades 2nd & 3rd Teachers)

Aunty Terri Amaro
Aunty Terri moved with her husband from New Mexico and joined our KANU ‘ohana last school year. A veteran teacher, she has an Elementary Teaching License from New Mexico and is currently taking the needed steps towards becoming licensed in the State of Hawai‘i. Aunty Terri loves taking pictures, swimming, and dogs (she has two Pomeranians). To provide continuity for our students, Aunty Terri followed her former first and second graders to the Lālāmilo Campus, where they have become our new 2-3 hui. She is excited to be able to continue to work with her students, observe their progress and watch them as they continue to grow and mature. A highly experienced math teacher, Aunty Terri is working hard to assure that our keiki develop basic foundations in math, a school wide focus. As in all other KANU hui, math is also integrated into the 2-3 hui theme, with special emphasis on scientific data collection and analysis. Besides integrating math with science, Aunty Terri will also focus on lots of writing and reading of authentic literature, as well as scientific inquiry, as the 2-3 hui studies the kai this year.

Left: Aunty Terri and her haumāna are intrigued by the different colors of sand in the same spot?

Aunty Danielle Coakley
Aunty Danielle, who lives in Kawaihau, has been employed at KANU since 2003. She is extremely happy to be studying the kai with our Grade 2-3 hui. Her love of the Kawaihau area and the beach in general will be a great asset during the hui’s weekly huaka‘i to the kai. Aunty Danielle has studied la‘au lapa‘au, Hawaiian herbal medicine and other Hawaiian healing arts for many years from Hawaiian kupuna, and holistic healing and using traditional medicines are a way of life for her. As a result, many of her lessons and activities also tie in to each hui’s curricular theme, in the case of our 2-3 hui, the kai.

Aunty Danielle and Teighen in Language Arts class.

Aunty Danielle and Teighen in the 2-3 hui theme, with special emphasis on scientific data collection and analysis.

In helping others, we shall help ourselves, for whatever good we give out completes the circle and comes back to us. ~ Author Flora Edwards
STUDENTS’ PORTRAITS - Students’ portraits will be taken by Kelvin Nakano of Positive Image. Please turn in your order forms which were passed out this past Monday and submit your payment in the enclosed envelope to the KANU office. Checks (made out to Positive Image) are preferred. Order forms and payment are due by Tuesday, September 1, 2009. Students must bring KANU shirts to school and are allowed to bring aloha attire for the picture taking session only. Note that KANU’s dress code applies for aloha wear. If students wear inappropriate attire, they will have their picture taken in their KANU shirts. Grades 6-12 students, kumu & staff on Friday, September 4, 2009 Hālau Ho’oloko at 9:00 am. Grades Pre K to 5th Grades, Kānua, Staff & Parents on Friday, September 11, 2009 at Lālāmoku Campus at 9:00 am. If your child misses the photo taking days, please reschedule the make up day with Kelvin Nakano of Positive Image at 885-0488. Please contact Auntu Sanya at 880-8147 if you have any questions.

**HŌ’OKAUHALE PROGRAMS** - August 31 will be the start of a variety of exciting after-school and evening programs for the entire ‘ohana. Funded by a grant from the US DOE, most programs and workshops will be held at Hālau Ho’oloko, free of charge to KANU students, ‘ohana members, as well Waimae/Kohala residents of all ages. Please complete the attached Registration form (program descriptions in back) and return to KANU Office ASAP. Registration will be on a first come, first served basis. For more information, please contact Chris Plunkett at 960-6806.

**CORRECTION ‘IKE HAWAI‘I COMMUNITY DANCERS CLASS** - Classes will be held on the 9th and the 16th of September from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Please contact Pua Case at 938-5550 to confirm practice dates.

**HŌ’OKAUHALE ‘OHANA SERIES** - August 31 will be the start of a variety of exciting after-school and evening programs for the entire ‘ohana. Funded by a grant from the US DOE, most programs and workshops will be held at Hālau Ho’oloko, free of charge to KANU students, ‘ohana members, as well Waimae/Kohala residents of all ages. Please complete the attached Registration form (program descriptions in back) and return to KANU Office ASAP. Registration will be on a first come, first served basis. For more information, please contact Chris Plunkett at 960-6806.

**HALE MUA O HĀLOA AND HALE O PAPA** - The first SY 09-10 gathering of Hale Mua o Halea and Hale o Papa will take place from Friday September 11 3 pm through Saturday September 7 5 pm at KANU’s outdoor lab in Waipi’o Valley. These monthly cultural immersion weekends present a unique opportunity for Hawaiian youth, adults and families interested in carrying on the nativeness traditions and practices of our Hawaiian kīpuna to learn more about Hawaiian culture. Permission forms are available at the KANU office. Signed forms are due to Chris Plunkett by Monday, September 7, 2009. For more information call Kī Kahakalo at 900-5270.

**FREE MATH TUTORIAL** - for students in Grades 6-12. Meet Dennis Spain (KANU tutor) at the Parker Ranch Food Court, Mondays to Thursdays from 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm. Friday’s session from 1:00 to 2:00 pm. Students who are interested need to contact Dennis at 987-0945 to reserve your space.

**LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING** – KANU’s Local School Board (LSB) meets on the second Wednesday of the month. Next scheduled meeting Wednesday, September 9, 2009, 4:00 pm at Hālau Ho’oloko in the Lōkahi Room. Open to staff, students, parents and general public. For more information, contact Margo Kawamoto at 890-8144.

**‘OHANA GATHERING** - Save the Date!! Thursday, September 10, 2009 at 6:00 pm at Hālau Ho’oloko.

**Community**

**Cub Scout Pack 27** - Parker Ranch - For boys in 1st thru 5th Grade, Bring your parents. Every Wednesday 5:30 - 6:30 pm at Pukalani Stables, Waimea. For more information contact Jason Ward @ (808) 895-9444 or (808) 885-0385.

**Waimea Town Meeting** - Normally the first Thursday of every month at 5:15 p.m. Visit www.waimeatown.org.

**Labor Day Potluck “Eat Inn”** - On Monday, September 7, 2009 in Waikoloa and Waimea. The purpose of these “Eat Inn” is to get Congress to pass a better Child Nutrition Act that would bring real food to the children who eat lunch in public schools across America. Our potlucks coincide with National Day of Action programs across the country when thousands of people will share a meal to send a message to Congress that our children deserve real food in school lunches. In September, Congress must reauthorize the Child Nutrition Act so it is timely to ask our elected leaders to take action to give schools the resources it needs to serve real food. For more information call Shelby Floyd 885-1009.

**Mata Nui**

**Aloha mai kākou**

At KANU, every day brings new, invigorating learning opportunities. This school year, we are delighted to not only offer quality programs to our P-12 students during school hours, but also a variety of fun, stimulating after-school and evening programs for the entire ‘ohana. With our fall sessions scheduled to start next week, please be sure you check the enclosed schedule and sign up for one of our exciting HŌ’OKAUHALE PROGRAMS. As parents, guardians, and ‘ohana member, we are all critical to the success and well being of our keiki.

In study after study, research shows that when ‘ohana are involved in their children’s education, their keiki do better in school. Children attend school more regularly, complete more homework, earn higher grades, do better on assessments, and demonstrate more positive attitudes and behaviors. Beyond learning together with your keiki, by participating in events like our weekly Tuesday HŌ’OKAUHALE ‘OHANA SERIES, you can also kōkua your keiki by doing the following:

- Ask about homework assignments when students get home
- Check to see if homework is done every evening (provide assistance if needed)
- Limit TV viewing or video game playing on school nights
- Ensure that your children get enough sleep each night
- Get them to school on time (no earlier than 7:30am)
- Have them eat breakfast daily (at home or school)
- Pay attention to handouts, forms, notices, etc. Discuss them as a family when you notice that they have not returned and drop them off with your child
- Help your keiki set educational goals
- Help your keiki set academic standards and goals
- Discuss your children’s progress with teachers regularly

As an ‘ohana set cultural, health and/or community service goals for yourselves

Most importantly, don’t forget to take some time each day to just talk with your children. It doesn’t matter if it is in the car on the way home, at the dinner table, or when you go in to say good night. Just find a few moments to talk and most of all to LISTEN. Ask about their day at school. Ask about what they learned. Ask about their friends and how they get along with their peers and teachers.

When possible, validate, reinforce, and enhance what they are learning in school. Practice those math facts with them. Read together. Share personal experiences and oral histories about your family. Provide real life application examples whenever you can. For example: engage your children in math when cooking and shopping, discuss political or environmental issues when watching the news. When you stumble upon a topic of interest, together research it further by using the internet, going to the library, or talking to someone with expertise in the area.

Remember that a child’s first and foremost teachers will always be his/her parents and ‘ohana.

The more all of us, home and school, work together, the more we can assure that our students become educated, 21st century global citizens, able to take on the challenges that will face their generation. As always, mahalo nui for your ongoing kōkua and support. Know that we value your input, as we all strive to reach our highest. Kīlii ka No‘u!

Me ke aloha punehana,
Allyson Tamura
K-12 Administrator

This is our third behavioral expectation. In order for a family to function effectively, each member must be willing to give and receive help. This type of mutual, reciprocal help – expressed by the directionals aku, meaning away from the speaker, and mai, meaning towards the speaker - is a primary ingredient of an effective ‘ohana. Only when all of us assist one another can we achieve our individual and collective short- and long-term goals and visions.

Visit our website: http://kanu.kalo.org

Kanu o ka ‘Aina New Century Public Charter School