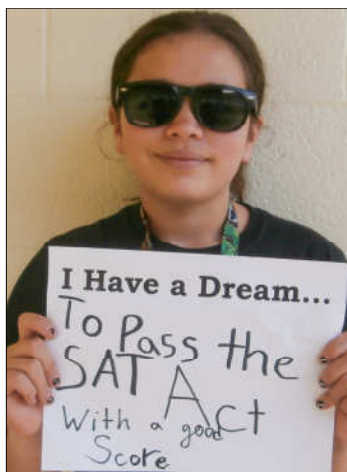


6-Year WASC Accreditation = Mission-Driven Academic Improvement



See student-created "I Have A Dream" video clip:
<http://youtu.be/cozwl6nFxLc>

Waimea Middle School - Who We Are:

WMS was the first public school in Hawai'i to convert to a public charter under Act 2/2002. We received our charter in 2003 and are in our 12th year focused on what's best for our children based on a collaboratively crafted mission (see banner at top of page). We are *the school of the community*, accepting all 6th-8th graders in the geographic area regardless of need with approx. 290 students:

- ✓ 70% Free/Reduced Lunch
- ✓ 13% Special Education (IEP & 504)
- ✓ 9% ELL
- ✓ 20% Migrant Education
- ✓ 47% Native Hawaiian
- ✓ 10% Marshallese & Other Pacific Islanders
- ✓ 26 Certificated Teachers (92% Highly Qualified)

2014-'15 SY - Significant Progress:

- 👍 Implementing Common Core Standards, including extensive professional development for faculty, and introducing new reading, math and science curriculum.
 - 👍 13% increase in instructional time (225 minutes) for all students (Mahalo to the State Legislature though need funding support).
 - 👍 Intervention classes 4 days a week for students struggling in reading and math.
 - 👍 Free before- and after-school homework help w/ transportation and expanded summer school (incoming 4th-8th grades).
 - 👍 Quarterly schoolwide assessments to monitor progress and extensive student data sharing with faculty.
 - 👍 3 hours 45 minutes weekly for teacher team collaboration focused on data-driven student academic needs in addition to individual teacher preparation time.
 - 👍 Implementing Teacher Competency Model for professional development and evaluation.
 - 👍 Instructional coaching support for teachers.
 - 👍 Substantial 3-year Connecting For Success grant focused on students at high-risk for dropping out of high school including intense wrap-around supports and mentors for approx. 70 students.
 - 👍 Consistently "clean" financial audits and significant progress with private donor fundraising.
 - 👍 Legislatively authorized funding for 9-Classroom STEM building.
- ### Urgent Needs For Student Funding Equity:
- 👍 State Per Pupil Funding increased to \$8,000/child, plus support for Title 1 food service and transportation.

'We're Going Places!'

School Bus Fundraising

Sustainability — for Waimea Middle School — looks, sounds and smells like — a **BUS**. In fact, 2 buses. Simply put, WMS spends about \$150,000 a year on student busing and research tells us it would cost less over the long haul to own and operate our own buses. Also, doing so would enable us to save up to \$61,000 a year, and we could redirect these savings into the classroom to benefit student learning.

This is, in part, the rationale behind our **WASC Accreditation Recommendation** to work toward a sustainable budget. There is no single "silver bullet" to resolve our fiscal challenges, but buying school buses is a significant first step. Toward this end, we have found two generous funders willing to help us move into high gear. The first is **The Neilan Foundation**, which underwrote our Accreditation celebration this past May. The event was free but donations were suggested to start our school bus

fund drive, and thanks to everyone's generosity, we raised **\$732.85** that evening. Then, the **Windermere Foundation** voted to again make a \$2,000 donation to our school. Our Local Advisory Panel (LAP) then sponsored a "Take A LAP Fun Run/Walk," raising another \$8,000, and now, **The Neilan Foundation** has stepped forward and contributed the balance needed. Two new buses are on order to be delivered in time to launch our own bus service for Fall 2015.

We extend a warm mahalo to The Neilan Foundation, Windermere, LAP, and our students, families, faculty, staff and community for helping us get this ball (oops—bus) rolling!

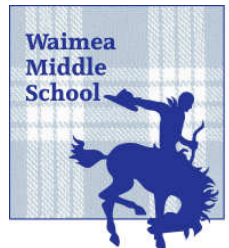


It's All About Partnerships!

One of the most compelling reasons for WMS to become a public conversion charter school was the opportunity to develop meaningful community partnerships to support our students.

We are honored and grateful for literally hundreds of partners who contribute in small ways and large each school year — from helping in our classrooms and school garden, to sharing their cultural knowledge or other expertise with students and faculty, to helping provide a wide array of programs and student and family supports, including:

- 👍 *Hawai'i State Legislature, DOE & Charter Commission*
- 👍 *Ho'okako'o Corporation (our Local School Board)*
- 👍 *Kamehameha Schools*
- 👍 *The Neilan Foundation*
- 👍 *Mala'ai School Garden*
- 👍 *Hawai'i Community Foundation / Richard Smart Fund*
- 👍 *Kahilu Theatre Foundation*
- 👍 *State Foundation on Culture & the Arts*
- 👍 *Office of Hawaiian Affairs*
- 👍 *The Kohala Center/Hawai'i Island School Garden Network*
- 👍 *Windermere Foundation*
- 👍 *Kohala Watershed Partnership*
- 👍 *Hawai'i County Parks & Recreation*
- 👍 *Na Kalai Wa'a*
- 👍 *KTA SuperStores*



Mahalo To Our Ho'okako'o Local School Board For Coming To Get To Know More About Our Students, Families, Faculty-Staff & Community



Ho'okako'o Board Chair Pauline Lo Bailey (standing 4th from right) introduces the Ho'okako'o Corp. Board and Staff To WMS Faculty, Staff and Local Advisory Panel (LAP) prior to a recent Board meeting on campus where there was time for questions and discussion. HC Board members at the meeting included Vice Chair Ann Botticelli, Dr. Ken Fischer, Barbara Kalipi, Dr. Guy Kaulukukui, Robert Peters, Joseph Uno and Dr. Donald Young. Our HC Executive Director is Dr. Megan McCorrison. Chairing the WMS LAP is Waimea business leader and parent Colin Miura, and LAP community reps include Robert Lindsey, Keawe Vredenburg, Jane Sherwood and Patrick Hurney. LAP includes elected representatives of all stakeholder groups — families, teachers and staff.

Monday, October 27, 2014