Pa'ahana That's My Tradition

Meeting Minutes - FINAL - Approved 3/25/13

Meeting Title: | WMS Local Advisory Panel (LAP)

Date & Time: 4:30-6:30 pm, Mon., Feb. 25, 2013

Community Reps: Dr. Kamana Beamer (Chair), Pete Hendricks

Family Reps: Lori Bergin

Student Reps: Kiara Lorenzo-Rodrigues (8th)

Members Present: Student Advisor: Jade Bowman

Certificated Reps: Erica Owens (6th), Eunice "Laz" Lazarus (7th), Nau'i Murphy (8th)

Classified Reps: No representative

WMS Admin: Matt Horne (Principal), Patti Cook (Community Liaison)

Ho'okako'o Reps: Dr. Megan McCorriston (HC ED), Dr . Guy Kaulukukui (Board member)

Guests:

Community: Sam Murray (Mala'ai Board Member), Amanda Rieux (Mala'ai Garden

Program Director)

Parents: Nancy Lindsey (grandparent), Teri Chong (6th grade students)

Students: None Faculty/Staff: None

Ho'okako'o: Pauline Lo Bailey (President)

Excused:

Community Reps: Robert Lindsey, Robert Witt

Family Rep: Bernie Marsh, Election in progress for 3rd seat.

Classified Reps: Kiki Kihoi, Michelle Kauhi

Absent:

Student Reps: Serenidy (DeeDee) Delos Santos (6th), Jeren Soriano (7th)

Student Alternates: Hailey Mae Witcraft (6th), McKella Spencer (7th) & Holi Bergin (8th)

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Topic: Discussion: Action:

- 1. Welcome & Introductions Dr. Kamana Beamer, Chair
- a. Introduction of Guests
- b. Confirm Quorum
- c. Review & Approve Minutes from Jan. 28
- d. Preview Agenda
- 2. Public, Guests & LAP Member Comments – Dr. Kamana Beamer, Chair
- 3. Report from Students & Community Partners: Mala'ai Garden Integration Amanda Rieux, Mala'ai Program Director
- 4. Student Engagement in LAP– Discussion Led by Dr.Kamana Beamer

Brief introduction of all present & welcome.

Agreed to briefly defer Mala'ai report and instead, hear from students – Dr. Beamer explained he is concerned about "what's best for students" – and what they want to see happening both at school and with LAP...and to try to avoid adults dominating conversations.

Kiara reviewed some of the projects WMS students are involved in:

Fireweed project – initiated by Leadership Students – pulling weeds from campus and along PR bypass road (Ala 'Ohia). Very hands-on – during science and PE classes. Seems like they were making progress but recent rains have resulted in new bloom. Are trying to collect data; may need to try to involve others - this invasive is everywhere; students have researched the plant – a noxious alien pest that produces 15,000 seeds per plant and is toxic to horses & cattle; also studied bio controls that are being studied. So far have pulled out 20-25 giant 40 gal. bags every other week since the start of the school year. Laz said "people are noticing" – less Fireweed until recent rains! Also mentioned that some parents who have ranches have said they'd welcome help with weed removal! Talked about possibility of organizing a LAP/family work day.

Kiara also briefed group on Leadership Students'

Meeting called to order at 4:37 p.m.

No quorum (missing representation of Classified staff – both have resigned; will discuss later in agenda.)
Minutes approved as is.

No change to agenda.

No public-guests-LAP member comments but brief explanation that we are trying a new procedure to be more student-centered — address issues involving students early on the agenda so they do not have to sit through entire meeting.

current Cystic Fibrosis fundraiser - "Be A Link To The Cure" – goal: \$200. A good experience – planning and executing fundraiser – learning about CF, publicizing fundraiser, collecting money & importance of community service. Also having fun.

Dr. Beamer expressed desire to talk to students – what they want for their future.

Explanation that Student Leadership is separate from LAP – involves about 25 students from all three grade levels. LAP only has one rep per grade level – how give students an opportunity for more input?

Dr. Beamer opened it up for suggestions for securing more student input:

- A survey?
- Suggestion box?
- Talking with students during Advisories to make them more aware of what LAP is about and try to bring students "into the conversation"

Nau'i: "Kids are not afraid of letting their voices be heard; just gotta ask."

Suggestion made that MHorne and Dr. Beamer host a once-a-month lunch to talk to more students. Also look at school-wide projects such as "Make A Difference Day"/Earth Day. Maybe get more families, community involved in Fireweed project, or planting natives on campus.

Dr. Beamer and Matt Horne committed to continuing this discussion and will be meeting with students.

Mala'ai school garden presentation began with welcoming back Amanda from maternity leave. She began her review of the school's 8+ year partnership with Mala'ai by sharing 4-minute film by Robert Bates (funded by HAIS' "Grow Hawai'i project led by Robert Witt and involving a number of private schools in Honolulu. Mala'ai was cited as an exemplary school garden

project as documented by the film.

Amanda explained that the garden today is the work of 2,000+ students. Cited data from school's family surveys about impact on students and families – health, well-being & learning connected to core curriculum as well as about teamwork, environmental and cultural stewardship, and the value of hands-on experiential lessons.

Mala'ai sees all students through science, health/BPA and PE classes. Reviewed recent lessons/guest presenters tied to science classes – soil scientist, beekeepers, worm experts.

There are now gardens in about 70 Hawai'i Island schools in various stages of development – Mala'ai is the model but also different in organizational structure from others – funded almost entirely by the community and functions as a non-profit partner with the school.

What's new? There's tremendous interest in garden curriculum development tied to new Common Core Standards. Mala'ai also is being asked to document/formalize what's already happening between Mala'ai and WMS science teachers to be able to share with other teachers/schools. Interest in curriculum development is sparked in large part by desire to directly connect students' garden experiences with academic progress. Many see this as a way to help public policy makers and potential funders come to view school gardens as valuable tools to enhance student engagement and learning...not just "fluff." This is how we will prove that gardens support teaching and learning of core curriculum and contribute to student education.

Amanda concluded briefly describing Ku 'Aina Pa – an intense, year-long teacher training program in partnership with The Kohala Center that several WMS teachers are participating in. She thanked the teachers for this interest and support, and also acknowledged TKC as an ongoing major partner w/ Mala'ai.

Amanda also mentioned big increase in student interest in seed sharing - students wanting to

Amanda turned floor over to Board Member Sam Murray, who also is the lead on a family foundation (WHH Foundation), which has committed to funding a grant for both Mala'ai, and a second one for WMS to support curriculum development. Atherton Foundation is also helping Mala'ai with this – to document strategies to integrate Common Core with hands-on relevant lessons. WHH \$\$ to WMS will be used to stipend teachers for helping with this project as it is way above and beyond usual responsibilities. Mala'ai and Sam very grateful for the close working relationship/partnership between teachers and the garden. Funding from WHH will be run thru Ho'okako'o Corp as WMS' 501c3 not-for-profit umbrella. Sam thanked HC too for participating.

take home seeds from Mala'ai's "seed bank" to share w/ families for home gardens. Said she thinks this is partially economic, partially cultural – and that clearly our families know about and are interested in gardening.

Amanda concluded with thanking teachers-staff for ongoing, growing collaboration and also the community for its extensive support, noting that Mala'ai has become one of the "signatures" of WMS. Also mentioned the number of volunteers involved in the garden (40+-hours a week) and how this benefits students.

Dr. Beamer mentioned
Kamehameha Schools' interest in
"growing the next generation of
farmers." Amanda briefly
mentioned some of our students
have expressed interest in this —
and have gone on to Honoka'a High
and continue to express interest in
becoming farmers and are working
w/ teacher Manuel Jadulang.

5. 6-Month LAP Vision Check-Up – Led by Dr. Kamana Beamer, Chair

a. Very similar to the July 30, 2012 meeting. Each LAP member will be asked to share his or her mana'o after half a year as part of LAP. This openended opportunity yielded a great deal of valuable information and guidance the last time around. Please come prepared to share for 2 minutes about the following: i. As a member of LAP, what are you hoping to see us accomplish and contribute to the school in the coming months and years? ii. What do you hope to see for WMS in the coming months and years? iii. What questions do you still have about WMS' present or

iv. A commitment or two you would like to make, in your role, to helping the school to realize its vision and goals in the coming months.

future?

(Students may be excused at this point)

6. Principal's Update – Matt Horne, WMS Principal a. Master Schedule & New See attachments summarizing comments from all present.

Matt noted that WMS is currently recruiting for the following positions:

1) A Temp (4th Quarter only) Language Arts

Positions for Next Year teacher to replace a teacher out on long term medical leave The following are all for 2013-'14 SY: 2) A Vice Principal 3) A Technology Instructional Coach 4) A Curriculum Coach 5) An Extended Core Art Teacher Positions are being advertised, and postings & Position Descriptions are on the WMS, HC & CSAO websites. If anyone knows of someone who would be qualified and interested, please encourage them to apply. b. State Grant-In-Aid MHorne briefly reviewed GIA application **Application – LAP Member** submitted by school to the 2013 Legislature; we Support will be asking LAP members and HC staff & board for assistance in lobbying for GIA funding for 4 embedded instructional coaches. He said the GIA is interesting in that the educational strategy proposed – though not new in America - has not been used in Hawai'i so this is effectively a pilot for the state and could have application to virtually every other middle and high school in the state. Still, GIA's are extremely competitive – hard to predict outcome and really won't know until the Legislative session is pau come early May. MHorne confirmed that Pat Rice successfully c. Expanded Summer School wrote a Title 1 Grant to fund an expanded summer school, serving incoming 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th graders in Waimea. Currently recruiting summer school coordinator and will begin recruiting students soon. d. P/C Day - March 25 MHorne explained rationale for a Professional Collaboration Day (P/C Day) March 25 - no school as a change in the SY calendar -- to give teachers needed time to collaborate on Common Core Standards Implementation. Also, WES has no school that day and 3/26 is also a holiday (Kuhio Day) so if we held classes, attendance would very possibly be dismal. e. Waimea Principal's MHorne briefly recapped ongoing series of **Meeting & School Safety** meetings with the newly named Waimea Education Roundtable – the next one will be Feb. 28 and will be here at WMS – sharing our teacher's use of data to drive instruction, and also discuss recent lockdowns - lessons learned and how to improve communications between

- 7. Ho'okako'o Update Megan McCorriston, HC Executive Director a. WMS LAP Charter & ByLaws
- b. HC ByLaws Update & New Committee Structure

MMcCorriston reported:

schools.

- a. HC Board is completing review/approval of proposed new WMS LAP ByLaws & Charter
- b. Board has developed a new committee structure adding three committees:
- ☐ External Relations
- ☐ Development (resource development inkind & funds); have initiated recruiting a development person and working on a fundraising strategy.
- ☐ Education Committee headed up by Dr.
 Don Young (UH-College of Education) and
 Robert Witt (will identify needs of HC
 principals and also support implementation
 of common core; will focus on difficulties
 principals and schools face in achieving
 academic success and how to foster more
 collaboration, including sharing expertise
 between schools)

Expressed appreciation for both MHorne and Dr. Beamer attending HC Board meetings to help build bridges.

Pauline added in:

"Even if faculty-staff-families at school/in Waimea don't see HC staff and board all the time, we are working hard on your behalf; our goal is joint/shared success – we are all in this together. Members wouldn't be on the board if we weren't serious. Said they are asking board members to each take on a very specific project. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of WMS' new chapter."

c. Charter School Legislation Summary Report

8. LAP Members Discussion and Update – Dr. Kamana Beamer, Chair

a. Family LAP Representative Election Results Deferred in depth discussion of draft charter school legislation due to timing.

Group unanimously approved recommendation that we move Bernie Marsh from a Parent Rep position to a Classified Staff position, thereby opening up 2 Parent Rep slots and then move the two top vote getters in recent family election onto LAP. This would be Mr. Tim Beneski and Mr. Daniel Gomez. The 3rd candidate in the family election – Nancy Lindsey – has agreed to continue to regularly attend LAP

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	as a parent. Mr. Beneski unable to attend today			
	due to illness; Mr. Gomez had previously			
	scheduled trip off island; both will attend next			
	meeting.			
b. Open Classified Staff Seat				
·	Both current Classified Reps have resigned for			
	personal reasons; Due to the above, Bernie			
	March will move into one of the Classified Rep			
	positions and then the Classified staff will have			
	to elect a second rep.			
c. Open Community Member				
Seat(s)	We are continuing to recruit now 2 community			
3Cat(3)	reps – several names have been suggested and			
	are being contacted.			
9. Announcements: Coming				
Events & Opportunities –	Skipped this to end meeting on time –			
Patti Cook	dates/events noted on back of agenda.			
10. Concluding Remarks and				
Next Steps – Dr. Kamana		Dr. Beamer thanked everyone for		
Beamer		their time and dedication and		
		encouraged all to plan to attend		
		the next meeting and to bring along		
		a family member, friend or		
Next Meeting: March 25,		neighbor.		
2013, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.				

Attachments:

- Mala'ai film (can be viewed on both the WMS and Mala'ai websites
- Summary notes of LAP member and friend responses to 6-month Vision check-up
- Bar graph (prepared by MHorne summarizing the 6-month Vision check-up

Questions & Items to Re Addressed.

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None			
Submitted By:	Patti Cook	Date Submitted:	3-24-13