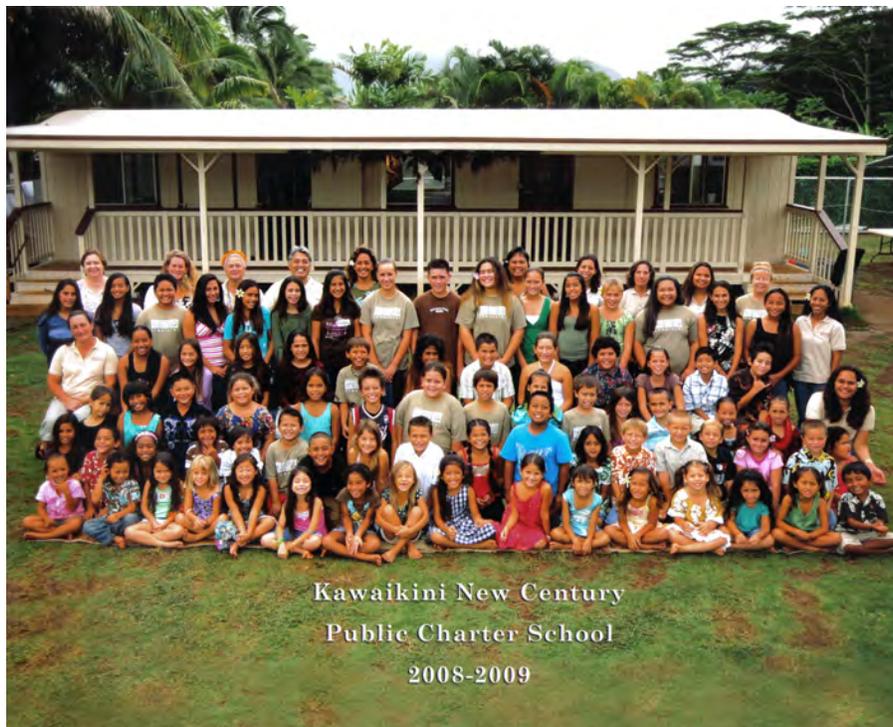


Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School State of the School Report to Parents and Stakeholders

For the period January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008



K A W A I K I N I

A New Century Public Charter School

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K A W A I K I N I

A New Century Public Charter School

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It was not long ago that Kawaikini was nothing more than a beautiful dream of a handful of committed Hawaiian language teachers and supporters; and now, after countless hours of hard work, and with the support of so many people that it is virtually impossible to mention them all, the school has finally become a reality. On July 29, 2008 the first school bus pulled into the driveway across from Kauai Community College, and with that Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School began its very first school year of operation.

In the months before the school's opening, many challenges were faced. But with a commitment to teamwork, positivity and ingenuity that has become a part of Kawaikini's culture, these challenges were overcome: the grueling charter application process; the quest for an ideal site for the school; the pursuit of funding and other resources for start-up; the hiring of all faculty and staff in time for school opening; creating all necessary forms and procedures to be used at the school; coordinating such day-to-day details as the bus schedule, lunches, and school uniforms; building the temporary classrooms, office trailer, and the admin building in time for start-up; installing the electricity, etc. One by one, these challenges were met until it happened that, on July 29, the school came into existence. Looking back, it seems that so much time has passed and that these milestones are distant memories. Such are the signs of our progress....

As with any new enterprise, the challenges since then have been many: creating a school where there was none means that you must establish routines of a typical school day; you must translate new textbooks that will be used for the upcoming years; you must work to establish new means of communication to reach your community. For us it has also meant dealing with the challenges posed by interim facilities – not to mention the recent and unparalleled downturn in the economy. All of these challenges are real and make the job of perpetuating our language through the education of our children an imposing one.

And yet it is the values of our school that have enabled us to not only meet these challenges, but to move forward with a sense of purpose. These values, as mentioned in a recent Local School Board planning session, can be seen on a daily basis at Kawaikini not only in the interactions of Kawaikini faculty and staff, but also in the interactions of our parents, our students, and our community supporters:

- Resourcefulness
- patience
- perseverance
- positivity/optimism
- adaptability
- leadership
- communication
- helpfulness
- honesty (w/ tact)
- aloha
- ho'omau
- initiative
- vision
- malama (the children, each other)
- striving for the highest
- seeing the long term
- caring
- humility
- sharing/kokua
- humor
- persistence
- going out of one's comfort zone
- flexibility
- solution-finding

In the short time since Kawaikini has come into existence, the school has seen amazing things happen both in and out of the classroom. Our community has begun to come together, and our children are in a position to benefit from the extraordinary education that results when you combine experienced caring teachers and innovative culture-based curriculum.

This report is intended to provide our community—our parents, our partners, our community supporters—with an update on the progress of the school, so that we can acknowledge the many milestones that have been achieved, as well as the challenges that we are sure to face in the future. By doing this we hope to show how the contribution that each of our stakeholders has made is playing an invaluable role in the betterment of the school, our children, and our community.



II. OVERVIEW OF KAWAIKINI

A. Kawaikini's founding

Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School was established as the result of a long-standing dream of Hawaiian immersion parents and teachers to provide a stronger educational model for Hawaiian-language instruction on Kaua'i. Upon receiving a planning grant under the USDOE's Charter Schools Program in 2006, Kawaikini's support organization, Supporting the Language of Kaua'i, Inc. (SLK, Inc.), established an interim local school board (ILSB) which submitted the application for charter status to the State of Hawaii's Charter School Review Panel. In October 2007 Kawaikini received one of two available charters through a highly competitive application process, and opened its doors in July 2008.

B. Kawaikini's Local School Board

Kawaikini is governed by a Local School Board (LSB) that consists of nine (9) representatives from the following stakeholder groups: Principal, Instructional Staff, Support Staff, Parents, and Community members (see *Appendix A* for bios). Parent, Instructional Staff, and Support Staff representatives are elected for three-year terms; Principal representatives receive automatic membership without term limit; Community representatives are appointed by the LSB for three-year terms. Currently, Kawaikini's LSB consists of the following nine members whose three-year terms are due to end as follows:

School Representatives	Parent Representatives	Community Representatives	Term Ends
Namomi McCorriston	Nolan Rapozo	Pua Rossi	June 30, 2008
'Alohilani Rogers (<i>Support Staff</i>)	Leilani Spencer*	Liela Nitta	June 30, 2009
Kaleimakamae Ka'auwai (<i>Instructional Staff</i>)	Corrina Sabala	'Ilima 'Apana	June 30, 2010
Chris Town/ Leialoha Kauahi (<i>Principal</i>)**	Kimo Perry	Nani Hill	June 30, 2011
TBD by 2009 election of Support Staff	TBD by 2009 parent election	TBD by 2009 appointment by LSB	June 30, 2012

*Leilani Spencer appointed in 11/08 to serve out remainder of term vacated by Marie Bailey

The meeting schedule for the LSB has been approved through the current fiscal year: January 15, February 19, March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18. All meetings begin at 5pm on the Kawaikini campus and are open to the public.

C. Kawaikini's vision, beliefs, and mission

As set forth in its charter with the state, Kawaikini's mission, vision, and beliefs are as follows:

Vision

We envision a thoughtful, knowledgeable, and healthy community where the language, beliefs, and practices of the indigenous people of Hawai'i have become instinctive.

Beliefs

- We believe that we have a responsibility to cultivate and nurture the traditional language, culture, and values of Kaua'i.
- We believe that the Hawaiian language should be a respected and normal part of daily life throughout Hawai'i.
- We believe that bilingualism is cognitively advantageous.
- We believe that good physical, spiritual, and emotional health is vital to learning.
- We believe that being part of a caring community provides children with the inner strength to succeed throughout life.
- We believe that a diverse and academically rich education is necessary to thrive in a dynamic, ever-changing world.

Mission

Through the medium of the Hawaiian language, Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School will create a supportive learning environment where indigenous cultural knowledge is valued, applied, and perpetuated.

D. Faculty and Staff (2008-09)

For the 2008-09 school year Kawaikini has been able to put in place a highly effective team of experienced and dedicated faculty and staff. These are:

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

Chris Town, M.Ed., (Co-Director) is a seasoned principal with over 38 years experience in Hawai'i public and private schools. Chris came to Hawai'i in 1970 to work as a teacher at Kapa'a Elementary. After teaching at Koloa Elementary School for seven years, Chris moved on to school administration in a number of Kaua'i schools. As principal of Kalaheo Elementary for 14 years, Chris worked with his staff to bring about many

innovative changes including school community based management. After earning his M.Ed. along with a cadre of his Kalaheo teachers in 1995, Chris moved on to become Kaua'i Deputy District Superintendent. After "retirement" Chris served in Colorado as a principal for 6 years where he implemented school-wide improvement and a school facilities renovation. Returning to Hawai'i, Chris served on O`ahu as a private school Director. Chris has extended family on Kaua`i, O`ahu and Hawai`i, including a brother, children, and grandchildren, two of whom will attend Kawaikini. Chris lives in Oma'o with his wife Devi.

Leialoha Kauahi, M.Ed., (Co-Director) is a former principal and teacher who served in the Hawai'i Department of Education for 37 years. As a co-director at Kawaikini, Mrs. Kauahi is committed to achieving the following goals: mobilizing teachers, staff, students, parents and community around a vision of a school in which all students achieve; creating an orderly and safe school environment by setting high standards for discipline and attendance; helping students acquire the habits and attitudes necessary for more than adequate progress in school, college and life; providing a challenging academic curriculum and tailoring instructional strategies to meet the needs of all students; focusing on early childhood programs to increase children's chances for success; reaching out to help parents take part in educating their children.

Ke'ala Bristol (SASA) joins Kawaikini as the school's Student Administrative Services Assistant. Ke'ala studied both Journalism and Public Relations at Hawai'i Pacific University in Honolulu. While earning her degree, Ke'ala worked as a childcare associate and as a Kumu for the county's Summer Enrichment Program, and most recently worked for a medical clinic in Kilauea. She is excited for the upcoming school year and is working hard to improve her Hawaiian language fluency.

Mohala Aiu (Development and Community Liaison) has worked in the Hawaiian community for more than 15 years. She has previous charter school experience working as an SSC/counselor on Hawai'i Island, as a local school board member in Honolulu, and as a program coordinator running a mentoring program in Kalihi. She has a BA in Political Science from UH-Manoa and a Masters in Counseling Psychology from Chaminade University. Mohala is happy to be coming home to Kaua'i to live and work.

Kaulana Smith, M.Ed., (SSC) comes to Kawaikini from Kapa`a High School, where she served as a Special Education Teacher and worked with students with disabilities for 10 years. Kaulana earned a B.A. in English from the University of Hawai`i, Mānoa, and a Masters in Special Education from Chaminade University of Honolulu. Kaulana is trained in various reading, writing, and behavioral strategies and she is a proponent of self-determination for students with disabilities. At Kapa`a High, Kaulana initiated SPED programs in technology integration, project-base learning, the Readiness Employability Program, and partnered with Hawai`i Networked Learning Communities (HNLC). Kaulana helped in the start-up of Ka Loko I`a, a Fisheries and Hatchery Facility, as well as other Workplace Readiness Projects. In keeping with the Vision and Beliefs of Kawaikini, Kaulana continues to be the alaka`i of Hanai I Ka Ipu (HIKI) Kapa`a, a leadership and mentoring program through the Pacific American Foundation,

and is the Girls Varsity Canoe Paddling Coach at Kapa`a High School. Kaulana joins Kawaikini with the love and support of her family (including 3 of 4 children who have been nurtured by Ke Kula Kaiapuni `O Kapa`a) and the spiritual guidance of nā kūpuna, na `aumakua a me ke akua.

Sandy Reece (Business Manager) attended the University of Toledo and has worked as an Accountant for over 30 years.

INSTRUCTIONAL FACULTY:

Malia 'Alohilani Rogers (Resource Teacher) has taught in the field of Hawaiian language education for over 14 years, where she has taught at the elementary, middle school, adult education and community college level. She has helped develop and translate materials used in the Hawaiian language education program. Kumu 'Alohilani has a BA in Hawaiian Language from the University of Hawai'i and certification in elementary education. She is also on the Board of Directors of 'Aha Punana Leo. Her goal is to see the revitalization of the Hawaiian Language and culture here in Hawai'i through the education of our kamali'i, with a specific emphasis on Kaua'i. She enjoys spending time with her 'ohana and reading, especially stories and articles from old Hawaiian Language newspapers and books.

Samuel K. Ka'auwai (Kumu Alaka'i, 3-5) holds a B.A in Business Administration, Management and Accounting from The College of Idaho and Professional Diploma in Elementary Education from University of Hawai'i Manoa as well as a Master of Arts (Major: Teaching, Specialization: Reading) degree. He has taught Hawaiian Language immersion education for over 12 years and currently serves as a Kumu Alaka'i for grades 3-5 at Kawaikini. Kumu Ka'auwai is a member of the Hawai'i State Teachers Association as well as the National Education Association. He has been the Church Choir Director at his church for over 25 years and is a board member of the Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association.

'Ilima 'Apana (Kumu Alaka'i, K) currently holds the position of Kumu Alaka'i for Kawaikini's K-2 pae. She was born and raised in Wailua, Kaua'i and later moved to Anahola and graduated from Kapa'a High School in 2001. Upon graduation, she enrolled in the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and earned a B.A in Hawaiian Studies with an emphasis in Hawaiian Language. In 2005, Kumu 'Ilima continued her education at UH Hilo in the Kahuawaiola Hawaiian Medium Teacher Education Program and received her Teaching Certification. She completed her student teaching and taught for a year at Ka 'Umeke Ka'eo Hawaiian Immersion Public Charter School in Keaukaha, Hawai'i. Kumu 'Ilima is very proud to return to Kaua'i and be able to give back to her 'aina hanau through teaching our keiki and perpetuating the language and culture of our kupuna.

Namomi McCorriston (Kumu Alaka'i, 1-2) currently works as a Kumu Alaka'i for Kawaikini's K-2 pae. She has taught preschool at Punana Leo o Kaua'i as well as grades K-1 at the Kaiapuni elementary school level. Kumu Namomi holds a BA degree in

Hawaiian Studies from Brigham Young University Hawai'i, where she also served as the President of the Hawaiian Club. She is a dedicated educator with a passion for teaching Hawaiian culture and language.

Debra Gochros - Debra (Kepola) Gochros (Kumu Alaka'i, 6-10) has been a middle school science teacher for 8 years. A graduate of University of Hawai'i Manoa, she holds a degree in Secondary Science Education. Her post graduate studies include working with NASA to improve science education, developing curriculum for Volcanoes Alive program, working with Kaua'i teachers to develop a watershed education conference and becoming a fellowship scholar for National Tropical Botanical Garden. Her favorite off hours activity is training her dog "Astro" for the Kaua'i Search and Rescue Team. She enjoys teaching students through hands-on activities and labs. She believes in place-based teaching programs and is excited about the teaching opportunities with Kawaikini. She hopes to engage the students in real world activities and problems to emphasize the importance of knowledge. Kumu Debra is a secondary teacher at Kawaikini.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS:

Kawaikini is also blessed to have an excellent team of Kumu Kokua to support instruction in the classroom. For 2008-09, these are:

Kawai'olu Torio (K-2)
Moani Mahinai (K-2)
Kanana Kuhaulua (3-5)
Lei Wann (3-5)
Hale Mawae (6-12)

E. Student enrollment and admissions

For the 2008-09 school year, Kawaikini's final enrollment was 79 students in grades K-12 with 34 students in grades K-2; 28 students in grades 3-5; 14 students in grades 6-8; and 3 students in grades 9-12.

A waitlist has also been generated for each of the multi-grade pae and will be used if space becomes available during the school year.

Enrollment for SY2009-10 is projected to be 92 students in grades K-11. The enrollment process will begin January 15, 2009, with application deadline of February 15. Applications submitted after February 15 will be reviewed on a space-available basis and will be eligible for waitlist lottery. Applications for enrollment and re-enrollment forms are available online at www.kawaikini.com/admissions/html.

F. Kawaikini's campus at Kaua'i Community College

The site

Kawaikini's Interim Local School Board has worked diligently to find a viable long-term site for its school, and after much research, has received approval from the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents for a 25-year lease of approximately 11 acres of land adjacent to the main campus of Kaua'i Community College. The site provides an excellent long-term home for our school, ensuring a stability that will allow us to focus our efforts on building up our school and its curriculum, rather than on struggling to find or acquire land for facilities.



We believe the site will help sustain the school well into the future by offering the following benefits:

- ▶ KCC's central location allows Kawaikini to be an island-wide Hawaiian immersion program
- ▶ Kawaikini will be located on the same site as the existing Punana Leo preschool, which will ensure an enrollment stream for Kawaikini and strengthen both programs
- ▶ Proximity to KCC's Hawaiian Studies department and Punana Leo allows Kawaikini to be a part of a larger Hawaiian immersion setting
- ▶ Location at KCC ties in directly with Kawaikini's college-prep component and gives students access to college classes and other resources
- ▶ Location at KCC helps avert potential isolation of the school and encourages involvement of the community in the school and vice versa
- ▶ Central location increases potential student pool (especially from the West side) and helps support necessary enrollment in Kawaikini
- ▶ Creation of an integrated Hawaiian language environment from pre-K to college—a Hawaiian-focused P-20 model—will create synergy among all programs (Punana Leo, Kawaikini, KCC Hawaiian Studies)
- ▶ Proximity to the college ensures the ability to collaborate with KCC on existing projects on campus (Rural Development Project, lo'i, ethnobotany, etc.)

- ▶ Close location allows Kawaikini to conveniently partner with programs and services located on campus (Native Hawaiian Career and Technical Education Program, Na Pua No’eau, Running Start, etc.)
- ▶ Proximity allows for Kawaikini faculty and staff to conveniently pursue professional development at KCC (Teaching degrees/ Masters in Ed. degrees / Hawaiian Studies classes, etc.)
- ▶ Central location will make Kawaikini’s facilities a valuable resource for the Hawaiian community and the community in general.

These envisioned benefits have already begun to bear fruit during the first year of operation. Some examples of the Kawaikini/KCC synergy realized during the 2008 calendar year include:

A. Kumu ‘Ilima ‘Apana has been able to pursue her Master’s degree thanks to the proximity of the two programs. This semester she’s enrolled in an online Masters program at KCC to pursue a degree in Indigenous Language and Cultural Education.

B. Kumu Kokua Lei Wann is a Graduate from UH-Hilo in Anthropology. In May 2008 Lei graduated from UH with a Bachelors in Elementary and Early Childhood Education. She’s currently doing her student teaching at Kawaikini under Kumu ‘Alaka’i Samuel Ka’auwai.

C. Kawaikini teachers Debra Gochros and Kaulana Smith are both taking Hawaiian language classes at KCC.

D. Kawaikini student Ke’ala Lopez participated in a Science Camp at KCC.

E. Kawaikini has received permission from KCC to use the lo’i area for student projects.

F. Anake Leialoha Kauahi participated in a Professional Development opportunity for KCC faculty and staff on incorporating Hawaiian values into the classroom.

Kawaikini is fortunate to have such a strong partner in KCC and good relations with its neighbors: both KCC and Punana Leo. These ties will only strengthen in the future as more opportunities for partnership become available.

Facilities

For the 2008-09 school year, the school has been housed in interim class structures (tents) paid for by a grant from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. These temporary structures have been approved per an interim use permit issued by the County of Kauai. Plans for permanent classroom facilities are being developed as part of a long-range development plan with implementation expected to begin for the 2009-10 school year.



Kawaikini is currently in partnership with the University of Hawaii School of Architecture to develop a comprehensive long-range site plan for the campus. Kawaikini's project has been included as part of a site-design class for PhD students at UH. Each of the students will submit a plan for the site that will include:

- ▶ Comprehensive site analysis & assessment including trade winds, views, land description on the site, trees, water, environmental considerations, sun, wind, rain, etc.
- ▶ Full consideration of building placement and configuration with special attention to entry sequence and setting the tone of the school.
- ▶ Design recommendations for planting, edges, landscape heights, planting materials.
- ▶ Thoughtful design which creates sense of community.
- ▶ Suggestions on incorporating green technology design tailored to the site with an emphasis on using existing resources to minimize energy expense, etc.

This partnership is a great example of how Kawaikini has been able to find synergies that support the school. Once again, this support has been a blessing for our school.

G. Academic programs

Curriculum

Kawaikini's academic programs are developing in line with its curriculum.

- **Curriculum** is a “set of planned experiences.”
- **Project-based learning (PBL)** incorporates projects as a significant organizing element of the curriculum. PBL allows for both direct (in-class) instruction and experiential (field) learning.¹

¹ At Kawaikini, these relationships will vary from pae to pae and/or from teacher to teacher as appropriate. This is to be determined by the teacher within the parameters set by the LSB.

Kawaikini's LSB believes that an outstanding curriculum will exhibit the following characteristics:

- 1) An outstanding curriculum will prepare students for successful achievement on quantitative assessments. These assessments currently include: HSA, HAPA, NWEA, and COMPASS. The results of these assessments can be gathered and presented to demonstrate the student's academic attainment and, by extension, the success of the curriculum.
- 2) An outstanding curriculum will include evidence of achievement in areas above and beyond those measured in quantitative assessments. Such evidence will take the form of products that are prepared and presented by the student and assessed by the instructor and/or instructional team. These will most often take the form of: a) portfolios of student work; and b) student projects.
 - a) For our purposes, an outstanding *student project* will be one which produces a tangible product that:
 - ▶ demonstrates the *skills* needed to produce the product
 - ▶ is *useful* in its real-world application
 - ▶ is *helpful*
 - ▶ demonstrates *mastery of content benchmarks*
 - ▶ demonstrates *cultural knowledge*
- 3) An outstanding curriculum may also be evidenced by surveys conducted of stakeholders (parents, students, etc.).

To ensure that the school's curriculum is outstanding, and that this will be evident to the LSB, the school's teachers and staff, the students and parents of the school, and the community at large, the LSB has proposed the following steps be taken:

- 1) Annual Curriculum Outlines – Before the beginning of each academic year, each Kumu Alaka'i will present for LSB review/approval a Curriculum Outline showing a tentative plan of the curriculum that will be taught during the upcoming school year. The Curriculum Outline will be an overview of the curriculum for a given pae and will include key benchmarks. Moreover, the format used for these outlines should be standard across the different pae. These Outlines will allow the LSB to "see" the curriculum for the upcoming year and will also allow adjustments to be made during the year; it will also allow for monitoring of the success of the curriculum after the school year is over.
- 2) Curriculum mapping – Mapping of curriculum is ongoing and will be continued, expanded, and given structure. For this, a common format will be decided upon which will be appropriate for Kawaikini's curriculum, easy to use, and flexible enough to allow different teachers to use it.

After-school programs

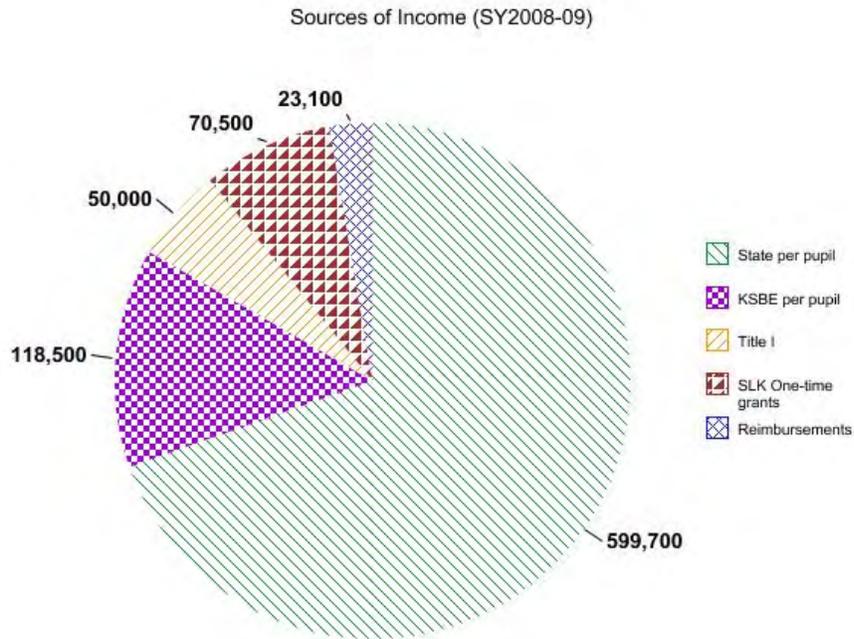
Kawaikini offers after-school programs in conjunction with Ho'ola Lahui's Kekukuilamalamaoho'ola Program. These after-school programs include tutorial assistance and project-based learning. There are also after-school programs focused on reading and mathematics.

After-school sports programs

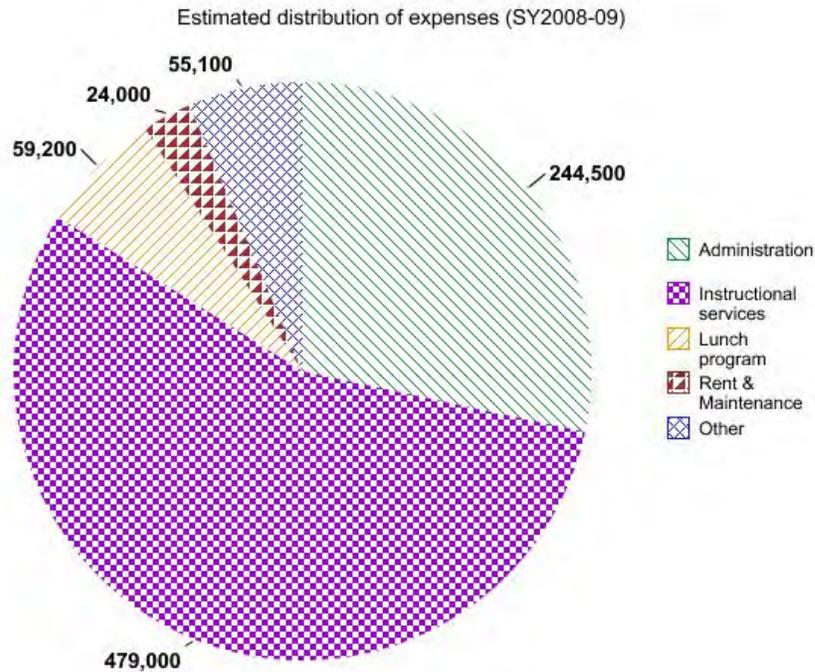
As a public charter school, Kawaikini's students have the ability to participate in sports in "any public school in the complex in which the charter school is located." For Kawaikini, this means that students have the mandated right to play for Kauai High School. To create a greater diversity of options for its students, Kawaikini's administration recently requested an exemption to this rule that would have allowed our students to play for the school of their home district. This request, however, was denied by the KIF board. To head off hardships that may be caused by this decision, Kawaikini is committed to working with parents to explore alternative options that may be available in specific situations.

H. Financial Condition

Kawaikini's budget for the 2008-09 school year is approximately **\$861,800**. Sources of revenue include state, federal, and private funding. Sources of income are broken up as follows:



The budget for SY2008-09 is somewhat larger than it will be for future fiscal years due to a large amount of start-up expenses. These start-up expenses were covered in great part thanks to Planning and Implementation grants provided to Kawaikini by Kamehameha Schools. For SY2008-09 the projected distribution of expenses is expected to be as follows:



While Kawaikini’s financial condition for SY2008-09 is stable, the prospects for 2009-10 are less than favorable due to the harsh downturn in the economy. Statewide (and nation-wide) schools are looking at cost-cutting measures to address the projected shortfall in funding that will result. In line with this, Kawaikini has begun to look at areas where cost-saving can be achieved. This will involve prioritization of expenditures according to their direct impact on the school’s academic programs and will inevitably require difficult decisions to be made. In anticipation of this, Kawaikini’s Finance & Audit committee is currently looking at different revenue scenarios and will propose different budget proposals based on these scenarios.

I. Parent participation

Parent participation is an important part of Kawaikini’s contract with its ‘ohana. Since Spring 2008, we have taken our kuleana as caretakers of the school grounds to heart, working to rehabilitate the land, removing piles of trash and broken glass, cleaning the area, and planting grass and native plants. The school features strong parent involvement, and our parents do much of the work. Work days have been organized to clean the grounds of debris, rake, pick up trash, etc. In October a two-day work project was conducted to lay sod with over 80 volunteers from the Kawaikini community taking part in the hard work. As a result, we were able to turn a large part of the school grounds from dirt to grass overnight. Other

parent work days have been set up to prepare the school for opening and to clean the classrooms. Kawaikini parents have demonstrated their commitment to the school and their children's education by their ability to be enthusiastic and supportive while working together for the betterment of their school.



J. Community Support

Community participation in the school is critical for Kawaikini's success and a key component of the school. To date, Kawaikini has been blessed with broad community support from a range of organizations and individuals. *Appendix B* provides a list of some of the many people who have contributed to the school. We appreciate the support of these individuals and institutions and encourage our community to remember the graciousness of those who have so generously given of themselves to help our school.

III. HIGHLIGHTS OF 2008

The 2008 calendar year was an incredibly busy one for Kawaikini's Local School Board, as it required the finalization of the charter process and lengthy preparations for school opening. Key highlights of the activities conducted during this time are:

A. First quarter: January – March 2008

- Finalization of Charter application process
- Finalization of Grant-in-Aid application
- First enrollment process is conducted
- Roll-out of Kawaikini website
- Search for Director, administrative staff, teachers
- Successful awarding of 25-year lease by UH Board of Regents



Clearing the future site for the school

- Preparation for work on school site
- Mahalo luncheon for community supporters

B. Second quarter: April – June 2008

- Hiring of all instructional staff
- Finalization of Assurances document for CSRP
- Initial work on campus: clearing of land, tree trimming, planting of grass, installation of office trailer
- Construction of classrooms, concrete slab
- Hiring of contractors: Development & Community Liaison, Co-Directors, SASA
- Curriculum planning retreats
- Collection of forms for enrollment
- Arrangement of busing, food service

C. Third quarter: July – September

- Installation of admin. building, fencing, electricity
- ‘Ohana work day to prepare the school grounds for opening (50+ volunteers turned out)
- Beginning of school!
- Beginning of after-school program
- Participation and awards in E Lili’u Song competition
- Parent/student conferences



Kawaikini ‘ohana coming together on work days

D. Fourth quarter: October – December

- ‘Ohana work day to lay sod for the school (80+ volunteers turned out)
- Participation in Kula Kaiapuni’s first annual Ha’i ‘Olelo competition with Kawaikini students winning in two age/grade categories
- Hosting of Honolulu Symphony Orchestra on Kawaikini campus
- Co-sponsoring of Volleyball camp at Island School
- Search for high school teacher (in January Ms. Penny Yamashita is hired)

IV. KEY CHALLENGES FOR 2009

A. Financial

As has become clear recently, the deteriorating economy has placed a strain on budgets for both state and private entities. This has already begun to impact Kawaikini in several ways:

- ▶ Reduced per-pupil funding from the State is projected for SY2009-10 dependant upon budget revenue scenarios; this means that Kawaikini, like all other public schools, can expect a reduced amount of funding from the state.
- ▶ Collapse of the financial markets has had a heavy impact on the availability of foundation grants that are available.
- ▶ Due to the State of Hawaii's projected shortfall, Kawaikini's Grant-in-Aid is at risk of not being approved.
- ▶ The DOE has proposed cutting funding for SSC positions which have previously been provided to charter schools; Kawaikini will be forced to seek other revenue to pay for this position.
- ▶ For those grants/income sources that are still available, the economic contraction means increased competition as other organizations look to cover their own budget shortfalls.

In short, the upcoming 1-2 years will require innovative solutions and persistence to help keep the school strong and allow for sustainability and growth of its programs.

B. Facilities

With the initial funding that has been made available by its key funders, Kawaikini is moving ahead with plans for the construction of its permanent campus. This has included a partnership with UH-Manoa School of Architecture to develop comprehensive site plan options as well as funding from Kamehameha Schools and the United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Economic Development program through Kauai Island Utility Cooperative. Kawaikini's LSB has also made it a priority to construct high-quality buildings that address the need for long-term sustainability in the form of energy-efficiency and green technology. Doing this in the current climate of limited financial resources will require school leadership to demonstrate ingenuity, perseverance and tenacity. And it will be critical that the school continue to look to its community partners for additional support during this process.

C. Communication

As a new school, Kawaikini has worked to set up a communication network to allow information to flow between the school, parents, board members, and the community. This

has been especially challenging during this first year as events and processes are happening in an unprecedented timeframe which has often led to “last-minute” notices of upcoming meetings and events. To facilitate communication, several steps have been taken:

- ▶ A makua web forum has been created at Google Groups for postings and discussions
- ▶ Makua emails have been consolidated to allow notices to be sent via email
- ▶ One Call Now automated calling system has been instituted to allow parents to be contacted for announcements and emergency notices.
- ▶ A “Pahu Mana’o” has been set up to allow comments and suggestions.
- ▶ The school has a website (www.kawaikini.com) that presents more static information but can also be used to house forms and applications for download.

Still, despite these measures, communication remains an area where Kawaikini sees room for improvement and is committed to improving during the upcoming year.

D. Parent Organization

While Kawaikini parents have shown great willingness to help the school, the strenuous first year of operation has caused some delay in providing structure to the parent organization process. To address this, upcoming plans include the formation of the school’s Hui Makua and guided implementation of ‘Ohana Plans for each family. As with any new endeavor, this will require patience and resourcefulness to get the necessary organization in place.

V. CONCLUSION

For Kawaikini, 2008 has been a year filled with both challenges and successes. How we’ve worked to overcome these challenges has determined what kind of school we have. Behind this is our desire to perpetuate our language, to offer a truly exceptional education to our students, and to benefit our community. As we face the upcoming year, we are confident that, along with our community of parents and supporters, we will be able to work as a team to further the values that are inherent in the education we are providing. With hope and dedication to our efforts, we look forward to 2009 and to the many obstacles, victories, and blessings that it will bring.

APPENDIX A: LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD BIOS

Kawaikini NCPCS Local School Board

Anthony (Kimo) Perry (President) is the parent of a child who is currently attending the Punana Leo o Kaua'i Hawaiian Immersion Preschool. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Speech from Northwestern University, and an MFA in Creative Writing from Antioch University Los Angeles. An instructor and coordinator at Kaua'i Community College, he serves on the state board of ALU LIKE, Inc. and is actively involved with several Hawaiian organizations on Kaua'i.

Samuel K. Ka'auwai (Vice President) holds a B.A in Business Administration, Management and Accounting from The College of Idaho and Professional Diploma in Elementary Education from University of Hawai'i Manoa. Mr. Ka'auwai also has a Master of Arts (Major: Teaching, Specialization: Reading) from National University. He is currently the 4th and 5th grade teacher in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program at Kapa'a Elementary School, where he has taught for 12 years.

Corrina Sabala (Treasurer) is an immersion parent who has much experience in project management. She was manager for Kauai Humane Society non-profit thrift store for several years, worked as administration assistant and special event coordinator for the National Tropical Botanical Gardens and currently manages a business in Lihu'e.

'Alohilani Rogers is a Hawaiian language teacher licensed to teach in the state of Hawaii, and currently working as a second- and third-grade teacher at the Kula Kaiapuni o Kapa'a Hawaiian Immersion School. She also serves on the Board of Directors of 'Aha Punana Leo.

Dr. Liela Akiona Hew Nitta, Ed.D, holds a B.S. degree from University of Washington, an M.A.T. (Cognate Area Biology) from University of Idaho, M.Ed., Secondary Administration from University of Idaho and an Ed.D (Educational Foundations) from University of Hawai'i. She is currently the Principal of 'Ele'ele Elementary School and was past Vice Principal of Kapa'a Elementary School and Waimea Canyon School. She has extensive experience and expertise in the areas of teaching and lecturing and has received several honors and awards including Who's Who Among America's Teachers, Woodrow Wilson Fellow at Princeton University, Alu Like Kāko'o Graduate Scholar, and Kaua'i Teacher of the Year.

Ilima Apana earned a Bachelor's in Hawaiian Studies with an emphasis in Hawaiian Language from University of Hawai'i at Hilo. 'Ilima has a teaching certificate from Kahuawaiola Hawaiian Medium Education Teacher Licensing Program. She is currently the 2-3 Teacher for the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program at Kapa'a Elementary School.

Chris Town, M.Ed., is Co-Director of Kawaikini and a seasoned principal with over 38 years experience in Hawai'i public and private schools. Chris came to Hawai'i in 1970 to work as a teacher at Kapa'a Elementary. After teaching at Koloa Elementary School for seven years,

Chris moved on to school administration in a number of Kaua'i schools. As principal of Kalaheo Elementary for 14 years, Chris worked with his staff to bring about many innovative changes including school community based management. After earning his M.Ed. along with a cadre of his Kalaheo teachers in 1995, Chris moved on to become Kaua'i Deputy District Superintendent. After "retirement" Chris served in Colorado as a principal for 6 years where he implemented school-wide improvement and a school facilities renovation. Returning to Hawai'i, Chris served on O`ahu as a private school Director. Chris has extended family on Kaua`i, O`ahu and Hawai`i, including a brother, children, and grandchildren, two of whom will attend Kawaikini. Chris lives in Oma'o with his wife Devi.

Leialoha Kauahi, M.Ed., is a former principal and teacher who served in the Hawai'i Department of Education for 37 years. As a co-director at Kawaikini, Mrs. Kauahi is committed to achieving the following goals: mobilizing teachers, staff, students, parents and community around a vision of a school in which all students achieve; creating an orderly and safe school environment by setting high standards for discipline and attendance; helping students acquire the habits and attitudes necessary for more than adequate progress in school, college and life; providing a challenging academic curriculum and tailoring instructional strategies to meet the needs of all students; focusing on early childhood programs to increase children's chances for success; reaching out to help parents take part in educating their children.

Rev. Nani Hill is a native of Kaua`i who was born and raised in Hanapepe. She received a B.S. in Elementary Education and taught in California, Minnesota, and American Samoa. She returned to Hawai`i 16 years later to teach at Kamehameha School on O`ahu, and serve as regional manager for Kamehameha School's early childhood programs on Kaua`i. She also earned a M.Ed. in Educational Administration and a M.S. in Child and Family Studies. Retiring from Kamehameha School in 2000, Nani entered Yale Divinity School and earned a M.Div. in Religious Studies. She returned to Kaua`i and was called to Koloa Union Church in December 2003.

Kawaikini Advisory Board

Marie Bailey is an immersion parent, volunteer and speech/language pathologist. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in teacher education, a Master of Arts degree in Speech Pathology, and a Master of Arts degree in Early Childhood Education and is a nationally certified member of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. She is also past president of Ka `Ohana Punana Leo o Kaua`i, a non-profit parent support group affiliated with the Punana Leo o Kaua`i Hawaiian Immersion School.

Dennis Chun has a B.A. in Hawaiian Studies and an M.Ed from UH-Manoa. He is an immersion parent and longtime supporter of Hawaiian immersion education. Along with being active with the Polynesian Voyaging Society, he also the Chair of the Department of Hawaiian Studies at Kaua`i Community College.

Ian Costa is a native Hawaiian licensed architect. He currently serves as Planning Director for the County of Kaua'i.

Frances Leina'ala Dinnan holds a BA in Psychology and an M.Ed. in Counseling & Guidance. She is a graduate of KSBE and since 1983 has worked at Kaua'i Community College where she is currently the Director of Financial Aid. Ms. Dinnan is also a DHHL lessee and mother of two Hawaiian language immersion students. She is active in several Hawaiian and community organizations and is co-founder of Nā Leo Kāko'o, Hawaiian Immersion Language Support Organization.

Don Heacock has worked for the State DLNR Aquatic Systems division for the Island of Kaua'i for over 20 years and is familiar with all aspects of project-based learning. He is an aquatics biologist who will help design specific project-based curriculum dealing with marine or freshwater resources.

Janet Kahalekomo is a kupuna at Ele'ele School. She is active with many community organizations including the Kaumuali'i Hawaiian Civic Club and others. She is also President of the Native Hawaiian Education Council – Kaua'i Island Council.

Ezra Kanoho, a graduate of Kamehameha Schools, is a former Hawai'i state representative who served in the Hawai'i State Legislature for almost 20 years. He attended Kaua'i Community College and received an AS from Honolulu Community College. Along with his political activity, Mr. Kanoho has donated his time to such causes as the Rotary Club of Hawaii; Mayor's Task Force for Substance Abuse; Junior Achievement of Kauai; Kauai Chamber of Commerce; United Way of Kauai; and American Society of Safety Engineers.

Kehaulani Kekua is a Kumu Hula for Halau Palaihiwa O Kaipuwai and Executive Director of Ka'ie'ie Foundation, a Native Hawaiian non-profit organization perpetuating customary practices and Hawaiian art forms. She is a native Hawaiian born and raised in Anahola and a graduate of Kamehameha Schools.

Judy Lenthall has been the Executive Director of the Kauai Food Bank for the past seven years. She was educated at the University of Hawaii-Manoa and holds a B.A. in Psychology and Sociology, an M.A. in Sociology and a Certificate in Demography from the East-West Center. For over 20 years she's worked in the field of housing and planning for non-profit, for-profit and government sectors.

Warren Perry is a Native Hawaiian attorney who has practiced law in Hawai'i for over 20 years. He is a graduate of Kamehameha Schools, and has been active with many Hawaiian organizations, including ALU LIKE, Inc., the Royal Order of Kamehameha, and Pa Ku'i a Holo.

Edmond Renaud is a native Hawaiian and a licensed engineer in the State of Hawai'i. He has overseen the construction of Wilcox Hospital and many other large-scale projects in Hawai'i. Mr. Renaud was the Kaua'i County Engineer during and after Hurricane Iniki

where he played a major role in rebuilding the island infrastructure after the hurricane. He is the superintendent of the County of Kauai's Department of Public Works Roads Division.

Terri Russell has a BA in Finance and has been Chief Financial Officer for Ho'ōla Lāhui, a non-profit organization, since November 1997.

Tom Shigemoto is vice president of A&B Properties, a subsidiary of Alexander & Baldwin, Inc. Mr. Shigemoto was a former Planning Director for the County of Kauai and has been an active part of the local community, serving on the boards of such organizations as the Kaua'i United Way and the Kaua'i/Ni'ihau Islands Burial Council.

Supporting the Language of Kaua'i, Inc.

Nolan Rapozo (President) is a Vietnam veteran, parent of immersion school students, and retired Kauai Police Officer. He presently manages a family rental business and has an Associates degree in business administration.

Anthony (Kimo) Perry (Vice President) is the parent of a child who is currently attending the Punana Leo o Kaua'i Hawaiian Immersion Preschool. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Speech from Northwestern University, and an MFA in Creative Writing from Antioch University Los Angeles. He serves on the state board of ALU LIKE, Inc. and is actively involved with several Hawaiian organizations on Kaua'i.

Isa Segismundo (Treasurer) is an immersion parent and active member of the Kaua'i community. She is currently a board member for the Ka'ie'ie Foundation, and has organized and coordinated fundraising events for Halau Palaihiwa o Kaipuwai. She attended San Francisco State University and has worked as a business owner and an after-school program director for an Oakland, California based school, where she was responsible for budgeting, hiring, and planning and implementation of the program.

Leilani Spencer (Secretary) – Leilani is currently Kaua'i Coordinator for The Baby Hui Infants & Toddlers. Leilani has served on the Na Leo Kako'o and SLK Boards in multiple capacities for the past 5 years and is the parent of two children that have been enrolled for 8 years at Ke Kula Kaiapuni Hawai'i Hawaiian Immersion School.

Ezra Kanoho, a graduate of Kamehameha Schools, is a former Hawai'i state representative who served in the Hawai'i State Legislature for almost 20 years. He attended Kaua'i Community College and received an AS from Honolulu Community College. Along with his political activity, Mr. Kanoho has donated his time to such causes as the Rotary Club of Hawaii; Mayor's Task Force for Substance Abuse; Junior Achievement of Kauai; Kauai Chamber of Commerce; United Way of Kauai; and American Society of Safety Engineers.

Carol Lovell, is the former Executive Director of the Kauai Museum and a grandparent of a Kawaikini student. Carol is a recent member of SLK who brings much knowledge and experience in the non-profit world.

APPENDIX B: INDEX OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Kawaikini Advisory Board

Dennis Chun
Ian Costa
Frances Leina‘ala Dinnan
Don Heacock
Janet Kahalekomo
Ezra Kanoho
Kehaulani Kekua
Judy Lenthall
Warren Perry
Edmond Renaud
Terri Russell
Tom Shigemoto
Marie Bailey

Supporting the Language of Kaua‘i, Inc. (501c3)

Nolan Rapozo, President
Kimo Perry, Vice President
Isa Segismundo, Treasurer
Leilani Spencer, Secretary
Ezra Kanoho, Board Member
Carol Lovell, Board Member

Institutional partners

- University of Hawa‘i
- Kaua‘i Community College
 - ‘Aha Punana Leo, Inc.
 - Kamehameha Schools
- Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- Charter School Administrative Office
 - Punana Leo o Kaua‘i
 - UH School of Architecture
- Rural Development Project at KCC
- University of Hawaii College of Education
- Ho‘ola Lahui Hawai‘i / Kekukuilamalamaoho‘ola / Malama i na Pua
 - Leadership Kaua‘i
- Na Pua No‘eau Center for Gifted and Talented Native Hawaiian Children
 - Grove Farm Company, Inc.
- Supporting the Language of Kauai, Inc.

Other assistance provided by these Businesses and Organizations

- Hawaii Department of Education
 - Kapa‘a Elementary School
- Kauai Island Utility Cooperative
 - Atherton Foundation
- Queen Lili‘uokalani Childrens Center
 - Chiefess Kamakahahei School
 - Earthworks
 - Kalani Construction
 - Unlimited Construction
- Kukui‘ula Golf Course
- LIUNA – Local 368
 - ABE’s Recycling
 - Glover Inc.
 - Aqua Engineers
- Mauka Makai Tree Trimming
 - First Hawaiian Bank
 - Kealia Kai
 - Embassy Hotel
 - Lawai Beach Resort
 - Jas Glover, Ltd.
- Carbonaro CPA & Associates

Individual Partners & Supporters

- Mr. Dennis Esaki, Esaki Mapping and Surveying
- Mr. Stan Morinaka, Kauai Veterans Trucking
- Ms. Donna Aana-Nakahara
- Ms. Peggy Cha
- Sen. Gary Hooser
- Rep. Mina Morita
- Rep. James Tokioka
- Rep. Roland Sagum
- Mr. Sean Chun
- Ms. Molly Ka'imi Summers
- Ms. Joann Yukimura
- Mr. Wesley Langtad
- Haku, Leina'ala, & Nakoa Rivera
- Mr. Ed Renaud
- Mr. Steve Kyono
- Mr. William Arakaki
- Mr. Ernest Santiago, LIUNA – Local 368
- Dr. Maggie Cox
- Mr. Leland Nishek, Kauai Nursery
- Dr. Helen Cox
- Ms. Sabra Kauka
- Mr. Kalani Bright

Kawaikini would also like to thank the following community members for their simple acts of kindness and generosity that have been given to our school:

Ms. Christian Tressler	Mr. Aki Sinoto	Ms. Kani Brooks
Mr. Hughes Ebinger	Mr. Kalani Bright	Mr. Michael Lingaton
Ms. Dovey Silva	Ms. Nickie Rochfort	Joe & Kainoa Blevins
Mr. Kevin Mince	Mr. Anthony Vea	Mr. Ian Costa
Mr. Daniel Hamada	Mr. Gary Nitta	Ms. Cammie Matsumoto
Ms. Kani Blackwell	Mr. Mike Unebasami	Mr. Bukoski (Fire Chief)
Mr. David Iha	Mr. Calvin Shirai	Mr. Imai Aiu
Ms. Carol Bain	Mr. Keith Suga	Mr. Ian Miles
Mr. Isaiah Ka'auwai	Mr. Keith Ebinger	Mr. Cian Miles
Ms. Renee Hicks	Mr. Kelekoma	Mr. Rudi Schaeffer
Mr. Byron Tone	Mr. Kevin Town	Mr. Dan Yahata
Mr. Anson Chandler	Mr. Chris Kauwe	Dr. Shawn Kana'iaupuni
Mr. Glenn Naumu	Mr. Jonah Rapozo	Ms. Dee Jay Mailer
Ms. Dee Ann Rapozo	Ms. Katherine Kealoha	Mr. Keoni Inciong
Mr. Paul Endo	Mr. John Rodgers	Mr. Brian Hasegawa