

Ka Lau

May 4, 2015

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Elementary Students Ready for Ho'olaule'a

This year's spring Ho'olaule'a (formerly May Day) will feature only the elementary students, but mark your calendars, because the kids have been working hard, and this year's program is going to be a treat. In partnership with the Big Island Dance Council, and with funding provided by Hui Kāko'o O Laupāhoehoe, LCPCS has brought in Kumu Iwalani to teach hula this spring, and she has been working with the excited students on their performance. Teachers and helpful parents are busy creating costumes, and ti leaves are in high demand.

There will be hula kahiko and hula 'auana, mele (songs), and chants focusing on the island chain, its special features, activities, monarchies and native plants. The show will start at 9:00 am in the LCPCS cafeteria on Wednesday, May 6. For \$6, parents and others are invited to join the keiki after the program for kālua pork and cabbage, rice with lomilomi tomato, pineapple chunks and haupia. Parents are asked to sign up at the front office by tomorrow, May 5, if they'd like to stay.



3rd graders at dress rehearsal Thursday



Camping!

A number of LCPCS students, including the entire 10th grade, will have a chance to go camping as part of their environmental studies. Former LCPCS science teacher Franny Brewer is still on the scene, honoring commitments she made to the students last fall. On May 12 and 13 she will be taking interested secondary students to Hakalau NWR to learn about native species and ecosystems, identify native bird and plant species, plant some native trees, collect data on tree phenology, and learn about the threats to Hawaii from climate change.

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New Laupāhoehoe points

In partnership with the National Archery in the Schools Program, LCPCS physical education teacher, Adam Zopel, has brought the sport of archery to LCPCS. The program promotes student safety, physical education and participation in the life long sport of archery. Mr. Zopel, as a certified archery instructor, feels that archery is a great way to improve student motivation, attention, behavior, attendance and focus. His qualifications have resulted in a loan from the program of 8 compound bows, 100 arrows and five foam targets. Currently, secondary students are using the equipment, but Mr. Zopel says that he hopes to expand the program to upper elementary students next year, and possibly set up a competitive club.



Calendar

- WEDNESDAY, May 6, 9:00 am – MAY DAY Celebration at LCPCS cafeteria
- Wednesday, May 6 – Save First! Deposit Day
- Thursday, May 7 – 4th and 5th grades to Dolphin Quest
- Friday, May 8, 5:00 to 9:30 pm – BBQ/Dance for high school
- Tuesday, May 12 – K and 1st grade to Dolphin Quest
- May 12-13 – Secondary environmental science students overnight to Hakalau
- Thursday May 14 – 4th and 5th grades to Kalōpā Park
- Friday, May 15 – whole school, scoliosis screening
- May 18-19 – 10th grade overnight to Kanakaleonui Bird Corridor
- Thursday, May 21 – 2nd and 3rd grades to Kalōpā Park

Thursday, May 7 is National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day. The Hawai'i Children's Mental Health Matters Campaign Committee lists the following basics for a child's good mental health: unconditional love from family; self-confidence and high self-esteem; the opportunity to play with other children; encouraging teachers and supportive caretakers; and safe and secure surroundings.

Some signs that may indicate the need for assistance include: a decline in school performance; constant anxiety or depression; hyperactivity; frequent disobedience or aggression; and frequent tantrums and nightmares. For more info, call 487-8785.

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On May 18 and 19 she will be taking the 10th grade to work on an ongoing restoration project in the Kanakaleonui Bird Corridor. This is the third year this class will make the trip, so they are getting a feel for the continuity of watershed restoration. They will camp at 8,000 feet (brrr!), and work and learn hard. The goal is to connect the lands participating in the Mauna Kea Watershed Association project with the Hakalau NWR to provide native birds with a corridor in which to move as climate change puts pressure on their environments.



LCPCS students on one of last year's environmental science outings.

Seasider Spotlight



Kurtis Sherer

Social studies teacher Kurtis Sherer is honored this week for spearheading an experiential learning approach for LCPCS secondary students this year. He had a lot of help from Franny Brewer and others, of course, but Mr. Sherer went the extra mile to help design and implement the projects. We thank him.

Mr. Sherer grew up in California, and came to Hawaii on a baseball scholarship to UH-Hilo. He has ties here, though. His great grandparents were Portuguese, and lived for awhile on the Hāmākua Coast. He enjoys surfing, playing music, hiking and camping.

His theory on teaching? "Before you can teach, you have to really get to know the students," he said recently. "You have to see where they're coming from. That's the first step."

Governing Board Nominations Due

Aloha Seaside Community,

It is election time for the Governing Board at LCPCS. One great aspect of being a charter school is that we are able to select our leadership from within our own community, allowing decisions to be made by people vested in the community. The State law that allows us to be a charter requires that several members of the board be elected.

This year we will elect new board members in four areas: staff, faculty, parents/family and community.

Nominations can be submitted on the attached form. Nominations are due May 12, 2015. Nominations can be submitted via email to governingboard@lcpcs.org or postmarked to the school at: P.O. Box 189 Laupahoehoe, 96764 by May 12, 2015.

Elections will take place at the school on May 19, 2015. More details on elections will be posted by May 15, 2015.

LCPCS Governing Board Nominations

I, _____ (optional) hereby nominate:
(Indicate first and last name of each nominee)

_____ for Staff

_____ for Faculty

_____ for Parent/Family

_____ for Community

Signed _____ Date: _____

