



Basketball and Life Lessons: Boys' Varsity Basketball at LCPCS

Mark your calendars for Monday night! It's Blue and Gold night, and the LCPCS 'ohana would like to see a big show of support for the school and its varsity boys' basketball team. The last boys' basketball game of the season, against St. Joe's, will commence at 7:00 pm, Monday, February 2 in the LCPCS gymnasium. All are welcome!

Coach Bob Zellner, assistant coaches Jason Ignacio, Lance Rios and Nolan Flemming, and all eleven Seaside boys have been working hard to re-establish a strong basketball program. They got off to a good start in November, when they won the annual pre-season boys' basketball tournament held at the school.



The LCPCS boys' basketball team in November, 2014 with their tournament trophy. Back row, left to right: Coach Zellner, Assistant Coach Flemming, Royce Baun, Holden Wong, Kadan Stamm, Javier Pigott, Aasyn Datuin, Mayk Delacruz, Assistant Coach Rios, Assistant Coach Ignacio. Front row, left to right: Austin Parel, Kysen Datuin, Donald Wilbur, Kaleo Borling-Ibanez. Not pictured: Shaelyn Anderson, Inson Joseph, Anthony Carlos, manager, and Carina Solomon-Torres, manager.

a good person, about working hard, even when things aren't going your way, and about what skills we're learning through basketball that are going to help us be responsible community members."

Unfortunately, there weren't enough girls to form a BIIF basketball team this year, but Zellner is confident that will change. For now, several girls are helping support the team in various ways. And for younger kids, there's a basketball club. "The idea is to let the middle school kids come in and learn what it takes, to learn about the commitment," said Zellner. "So now the older kids are understanding that they have to be role models. It's really kind of cool to see the character development." Suffice it to say, both Zellner and Director Nahale-a are well pleased with the effect of basketball's life lessons on students at LCPCS.

Coach Zellner is the middle and high school math teacher, and has over 20 years of coaching experience, including two here at Laupāhoehoe. His experience and position as a teacher at LCPCS made him top candidate for the job, but both Zellner and Director Nahale-a are quick to credit the assistant coaches for helping to round out the leadership effort. Both Jason Ignacio and Lance Rios are Laupāhoehoe graduates, and Nolan Flemming is a former Laupāhoehoe student. "These guys understand where these boys are coming from," said Coach Zellner, "and can use their own experience to help them with life's choices."

Because it's about more than the game. "It's all about character building," Coach Zellner continued. The eleven boys on the team, grades 9 through 11, are held to high standards year round. "They are student athletes, and their academic development is the most important thing. Basketball is a vehicle to help them perform better both inside and outside the classroom. At every practice we talk about what it means to be

Blue and Gold Night

- Free admission for students!
- A student vs staff shooting contest and other fun activities
- LCPCS gear for sale, along with delicious concessions
- After-game ceremony to recognize players, coaches and volunteers

Calling all students, parents, staff, alumni and community members. Come show your support for LCPCS and be a part of the team! Game starts Monday, February 2 at 7:00 pm.

Calendar

- Monday, Feb 2, 7:00 pm—**Blue and Gold night, last varsity boys' basketball home game**, LCPCS gym
- Monday, Feb 2 and Feb 9, 6:00 pm—Family movie nights at the library, *Dolphin Tale 2*; second showing on Feb 9 for those who are attending Blue and Gold night on Feb 2
- Thursday, Feb 12, 5:00 pm—Town Hall meeting with Director Nahale-a, cafeteria
- Thursday, Feb 12, 5:00 pm—**Free health screenings**. Dr. Alice Davis (Associate Professor at the UH Hilo School of Nursing) and her Doctorate of Nursing Practice students will be available for health screenings that are free for all community members. Bring your keiki, kūpuna or yourself for a confidential visit with these nursing professionals. Dr. Davis and her students will be at LCPCS for free health screenings each month at the town hall meetings in the cafeteria.
- Sunday, Feb 15, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm—Funday Sunday at the Laupāhoehoe Train Museum. This event will be held on the third Sunday of every month, and will include craft and food vendors, music, FREE admission to the Train Museum, and, this week, a guest performance by LCPCS third and fifth graders at about 1:00 pm.
- Wednesdays, 3:00 to 4:00 pm—Continuous School Improvement meetings, admin conference room (see the Seaside Spotlight)

Paki's Kūkākūkā — Art, Music and Dance at LCPCS

Our new strategic plan emphasizes the importance of a holistic education. In fact, it embraces the idea that high academic achievement requires the presence of things like art, music, and dance, commonly referred to as "the arts." I couldn't agree more. Across our country, schools have been doing away with the arts as they struggle to meet state and federal mandates that are heavily weighted on test scores. At the ground level, this has little to do with philosophy. Most educators understand the importance of the arts, even as it applies to math and reading scores. The issue has more to do with resources. Schools are not getting any more dollars with which to meet higher academic standards. As schools are primarily measured through test scores, administrators sometimes feel they have no choice but to prioritize "academics" over the arts. I want our community to know that although we've had to take some short term actions to stabilize our budget, this has nothing to do with our commitment to music and dance and art. Our long term vision is one where the arts are not only available, but a fully integrated part of our program. This will take a little bit of time and a lot of effort, but we will accomplish it, together.

Seaside Spotlight — The CSI Team



L to R: Kaholo Dagman (Charter School Academic Officer), Counselor Karen Holderman, secondary Social Studies teacher Kurtis Sherer, third grade teacher Josie Harding, Academic Coach Mia Manzo, LCPCS Director Paki Nahale-a, Organizational Development Support Specialist Kahele Nahale-a, Jessica Kaneakua (Grant Proposal Writer/Data Coordinator/Program Administrator) and Mallory Lowell, UH intern. Not pictured: Student Development Manager Mike Akoye and Rebecca Kirk, community member.

Mahalo to our hardworking CSI team members!

CSI, or Continuous School Improvement, involves a diverse group of school stakeholders who monitor school programs by analyzing a variety of data. Team members then identify improvements to instruction methods and other practices both inside and outside the classroom. They provide a feedback loop, essentially, on everything from the budget to accreditation.

One of the group's products is the school's Academic Plan. The Academic Plan is designed to work alongside the school's Strategic Plan, which covers a broader range of factors, like building repair and maintenance, in addition to the school's academic goals.

The school's Academic Plan serves as part of its Title 1 application, so the team's work serves more than one purpose. Title 1 monies are Federal funds earmarked for schools where a disproportionate number of students live in some form of poverty. Title 1 schools may use these funds, along with others, to upgrade the instructional program for the whole school. At a school like LCPCS, Title 1 funds are crucial.

Members of the CSI team are volunteers, and anyone with an interest in seeing LCPCS succeed is welcome to attend. Meetings are held every Wednesday from 3:00 to 4:00 pm.