



Mokulele Elementary School  
50 Years of Mokulele Pride  
Parent Newsletter



April 2015

Welcome to the Home of the Flyers!

Principal's Message

The Principal's Message

April 2015  
SY 2014-2015

Upcoming Events

Friday,  
April 3  
Good Friday  
NO SCHOOL

Friday,  
April 10  
\*Parent Coffee Hour  
745-830am  
In the Library  
\*Third Quarter Recognition  
Assembly

Wednesday,  
April 15  
\*Volunteer  
Appreciation  
Breakfast

April 21  
\*Earth Day

Friday,  
April 24  
\*Radford  
Complex Track Meet

Monday,  
April 27-May 6  
\*Book Fair

Wednesday,  
April 29  
\*Science Fair

Dear Mokulele Elementary 'Ohana,

Aloha! I hope we all had a wonderful Spring Break to get energized and ready for a fabulous final quarter of school. As we approach our April 29<sup>th</sup> Student-Led Conferences, I would like to personally invite our entire Mokulele Elementary 'Ohana to visit our STEM Celebration in the Cafeteria. We have an exciting afternoon planned in conjunction with the Book Fair in the library. Flyers will be forthcoming in Wednesday folders. I hope to see all of you there!

In April, one of the highlights involved our annual Radford Complex Music Festival at Radford High School where our school joins the other eight complex schools in performance. A special Mahalo to our wonderful music teacher, Ms. Amy Okinishi, for her dedicated efforts.

I would also like to acknowledge our school track team who have started training each morning in preparation for this month's Radford Complex Track meet on April 24<sup>th</sup> @ Mililani HS. To our devoted coaches, **Ms. Janelle Izutsu, Mr. Bill Laeha,** and **Mr. Kama McKeague, Mahalo** for getting our kids into shape!

I'd like to recognize all of you for your entries in our School Planner Art Contest. The First place winners are 6<sup>th</sup> grader **Gabby Rendon** and 4<sup>th</sup> grader **Charles Seagle**. 4<sup>th</sup> grader **Aaleah Saechao-Martho** took runner-up.

A Big Mahalo to all our families that participated in the Bread Fundraiser. Come to our next Parent Coffee Hour to witness the drawing for our prize winner and acknowledge our ticket sales winner.

Lastly, let me acknowledge all our wonderful students as we celebrate April's Month of the Military Child. We celebrate your resilience and wish you all a great month! If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to call or drop by to address any issues you may have regarding your child's education.

Mahalo,

Bart Nakamoto, Principal  
Mokulele Elementary





## VP Corner

Aloha Mokulele Ohana,

Welcome to the Fourth and final Quarter of this school year! We still have much to do, but we will accomplish all that is needed by pacing ourselves and prioritizing tasks.

For this quarter we have a new Habit of Mind (HOM) on which to focus: Creating, Imagining, and Innovating. This HOM dovetails perfectly with General Learner Outcome (GLO) #3: Complex Thinker. Now just how do we propose to teach this to our students? Believe it or not, we are already doing this in many ways. Creative writing and STEM projects are two that come to mind. Mindfulness is another initiative we promote that relates to both Creativity and Imagining, and yet another HOM, managing impulsivity.

We have mentioned the new SBAC state assessments several times in previous newsletters, and we want to refer to them again this month. These assessments are far more rigorous than any our students have attempted before. They are fully aligned to the Common Core State Standards, but contain an element of Rigor not experienced in other assessments. Although the number of items on the SBAC are much fewer than on the HSA, they require much greater depth of thought and more specific responses. Students will now be required to explain their thinking as well as refer to textual evidence when giving their responses. As with all new assessments, we expect to see an initial drop in scores. Then, as we all become more familiar with the nature of the assessment items and develop our students' skills appropriately, scores should improve over time. That which we persist in doing becomes easier; not that the nature of the thing changes, but our power to do it increases.

One exciting new initiative that is happening in the second grade is philosophical circles. All teachers in that grade level are teaching their students to form opinions about stories using evidence from the story and sharing those opinions through turn taking, mutual respect, and attentive listening. This is based on "fractured fairy tales", which present familiar stories told from a different perspective. For example, "The Wolf's Tale" in the story of the three little pigs. One prompt is "Who do you believe, and why?" These lessons require students to learn phrases such as "I understood what you said, and/but this is what I think" then give their opinion based on textual evidence. Following this, the student must select the number of the next respondent. This causes all students to be very attentive since they do not know who will be called upon next. This is a teaching strategy learned at an AVID conference, and is employed to better prepare students to compose written opinion pieces. Initial attempts to implement this strategy look very promising indeed, and give clear evidence that even grade 2 students can successfully form and express opinions while giving their peers equal opportunity to do so in a respectful manner. We are delighted with our 2nd grade teachers for taking this initiative, and encourage all our teachers to engage in safe risk taking in a similar way.

We also have two more Radford Complex interscholastic events for this quarter: the Music Festival on Tuesday, April 7 in Radford High School Gym featuring our 2nd grade students, and the Track Meet at Mililani High School stadium on Friday, April 24. We invite all parents to join us for these events to the extent that your busy schedules permit.

We thank all our parents for your support, trust, and confidence as we embark on our final quarter, and wish you all the best for this Easter season.

Mahalo,  
Peter Tovey  
Vice Principal



## Parent Coffee Hour

February coffee hour will be on  
Friday, April 10, 2015.  
7:45-8:30  
In the Library



### Mokulele Elementary School NOTICE & REQUEST FOR ACCOMODATIONS



If you are an individual with a disability, please contact the following personnel at 421-4180 to make arrangements for reasonable modifications and accessibility to school events at Mrs. Merrill Uno, SSC; or Mr. Bart Nakamoto, Principal. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your request. least 10 working days prior to the event:



## Grade Level News

Each month our **Grade Level News** will feature highlights about school life at Mokulele Elementary School. Enjoy finding out more about what happens at the Home of the Flyers.

### Kindergarten:

Kindergarten students are patiently waiting for Honolulu Theater for Youth's performance of "Happy" on April 20th. We are working hard practicing reading, writing, and math to prepare for first grade and Student Lead Conferences on April 29th. See you there!

### Grade 1:

The 1st graders enjoyed the field trip to the Waikiki Aquarium. We will be researching the different sea animals.

The students will be learning about the concept of force and recording data using our recycled cars.

### Grade 2:

**SPRING HAS SPRUNG!!!!** We are soarin' into the spring season and our final quarter. Our second graders will be going on an art adventure learning elements of art and will learn about these elements by having a special visiting artist: Ms. Quala Young and will be touring and learning about art at the Hawaii State Art Museum. We will also be learning about other famous artists of Europe

### Grade 3:

This quarter, the Third Grade students are reading stories that teach them that storytelling can take many different forms and serve many different purposes. The students are reading fables, folktales, poetry and historical fiction stories. As they read they will meet storytellers from around the world and will discover new ways to tell their own stories.

### Grade 5:

Ms. Luckie's 5th Graders are planting a vegetable & flower garden next week using their vermicast.





## Avid Corner

Aloha Mokulele 'Ohana.

We are now into the last quarter of our school year and are working hard to achieve our initial AVID certification. This involves a lot of documentation demonstrating that we are actually implementing the required processes on a school wide basis. Full AVID certification is a journey of several years, but we are well on our way already.

Congratulations to our student AVID winners for the past month: Crista Link, Tyler Thomas, Derek Pelekai, and Sanai Thornton. These students have demonstrated that they are thinking about college by wearing college attire on Thursdays each week, as scheduled in our school calendar. We would like all our students to become excited about the prospect of attending and graduating from college; therefore we encourage them to that end, and we believe it is never too early to start. After all, a journey of 1,000 miles begins with a single step. And our message to all students is that they can actually achieve the dream of attending college in the coming years. Furthermore, the AVID motto is "Decades of College Dreams." For many of our students it will be almost a decade before they attend college, so we want them to dream big now.

Once more, we'd like to become firmly grounded in our collective understanding of what the acronym "AVID" means. It stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. It is based on the universal principles of what the mind can conceive and the heart can believe, the person can achieve. When someone is determined to accomplish something, all stumbling blocks become stepping stones to success. By persisting with school wide implementation of AVID principles we will firmly embed them into our practice, students will eventually develop both buy-in and ownership of these skills and habits, and their college dreams really will come true.





# Congratulations to Our January VIP Members

### Kindergarten

Ms. Tahara: Talyn Steiner, Ryleigh Vance, Adriana Cruz Rivera  
Ms. Charos: Ethan Alveo Forbes, Julia Lopez, Arianna Wright  
Ms. Sambueno: Neviah Jones, Brooke Wilbanks, Seth Young

### First Grade:

Ms. Hatashima: Trent Corcio-Miranda, Julius Jones, Rachel Harris  
Ms. Shannon: Isabella Gatti & Gearge Wunderlin  
Ms. Nashiro: Hannah Young, Haidyn Knollenberg, John Grogean  
Ms. Masuoka: Mara Benedetti, Chloe Simmons, Aiden Golembiewski

### Second Grade:

Ms. Levenson: Kazlyn Lee, Jonah Aveline, Joshua Fiery  
Ms. Ng: Kyler Kurtz, Alexis Reynoso, Jacob Myers  
Ms. Derrick/Young: Krista Jones, Reagan Watson, Mackenzie Davis

### Third Grade:

Ms. Bonifacio: Dane Wright, Myles Gadlin, Aubrey Dixon  
Ms. Tagawa: Josalyn Hasbrouk, Talyssa Link, Morrison Pitre

### Fourth Grade:

Ms. Engleman: Laila Williams, Mya Webster, Issac Ah Leong  
Ms. Furukawa: Ferris Castor & Cecilia Smith

### Fifth Grade:

Ms. Luckie: Bryce Harn & Evan Ward

### Sixth Grade:

Ms. Izutsu: Krista Highly, Caleb Powers, Emmayra Baez

### JPO:

Mr. Davidson: Isaac Harris, Alyssa Jeffery & Jomari Felipe

### Troops:

Mr. Nii: Natalie Saechao-Martho, Aaliyah Origel, Aaleah Saecho-Martho

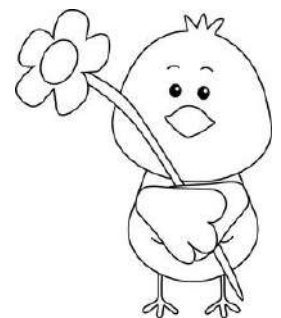
## Hail & Farewell

### Welcome to Mokulele...

-Julia Jane Lopez  
-Jaylen Coleman  
-Ashlyn Shaffer

-Reagan Prater  
-Tanner McBride  
-Dajra Bassut

-Jonathan Ibanez  
-Brooklyn Leahey  
-Tija Bassut



### Until We Meet Again...

-Deanna Snyder  
-Tristian Ortiz  
-Caleb Edwards

-Reed Smith  
-Daniel Ortiz  
-Emilee Gomez

-Nicholas Robles  
-Makaela Tello  
-Angelina Gomez

-Melody Gordon  
-Jocelyn Bayror  
-Landon Bounds

-Kira Mahoney  
-Trevor Hopkins  
-Jayson Cook



Mokulele Elementary School  
250 Aupaka Street  
Honolulu, HI 96818  
Joint Base Pearl Harbor

Phone: (808) 421-4180  
Fax: (808) 421-4182

### Vision

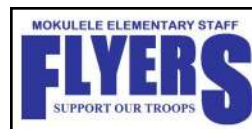
Mokulele Elementary School is a Tribes school where all learners succeed in a safe, positive place that values relationships and relevant learning.

### Mission

The mission of Mokulele Elementary School is to provide our students with the skills, knowledge and resiliency to be successful life-long learners in a rapidly changing world.

### Motto

“E malama, e a'o aku, e lawelawe me ke aloha” means  
“To care, to learn, and to serve with compassion.”



## Parent Community Networking Center Info

If you would like a **HARDCOPY** of the monthly newsletter please notify the PCNC or the front office. The newsletter can also be accessed on the Mokulele website as well.

If you would like to volunteer please contact me, Tiffany Wilson using the information below.

Email: [tiffany\\_wilson@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:tiffany_wilson@notes.k12.hi.us)

Phone: 421-4185

Tiffany Wilson, PCNC Facilitator



## School Community Council

The School Community Council is looking for a few good parents to come help represent the parent group for SCC. This is the time where your voice can make a difference. Upcoming meeting to be announced.

## Office Announcements

Please Join Hickam Elementary in the following Parent Information Nights

- **FOCUS Parent Info night on 5/5, and Read To The Rhythm Family Fun Night on 5/2**

**LAST DAY TO WRITE CHECKS WILL BE APRIL 15TH.**

- **THIS INCLUDES CHECKS FOR LUNCH ACCOUNTS, FIELD TRIPS, UNIFORMS AND ANY OTHER ACTIVITIES AT MOKULELE.**



## Let's Talk About STEM

The following information is from: [STOPBULLYING.GOV](http://STOPBULLYING.GOV)

Bullying can affect everyone—those who are bullied, those who bully, and those who witness bullying. Bullying is linked to many negative outcomes including impacts on mental health, substance use, and suicide. It is important to talk to kids to determine whether bullying—or something else—is a concern.

Kids who are bullied can experience negative physical, school, and mental health issues. and are more likely to experience:

- Depression and anxiety, increased feelings of sadness and loneliness, changes in sleep and eating patterns, and loss of interest in activities they used to enjoy. These issues may persist into adulthood.
- Health complaints
- Decreased academic achievement—GPA and standardized test scores—and school participation. They are more likely to miss, skip, or drop out of school.

A very small number of bullied children might retaliate through extremely violent measures. In 12 of 15 school shooting cases in the 1990s, the shooters had a history of being bullied.

Kids who bully others can also engage in violent and other risky behaviors into adulthood. Kids who bully are more likely to:

- Abuse alcohol and other drugs in adolescence and as adults
- Get into fights, vandalize property, and drop out of school
- Engage in early sexual activity
- Have criminal convictions and traffic citations as adults

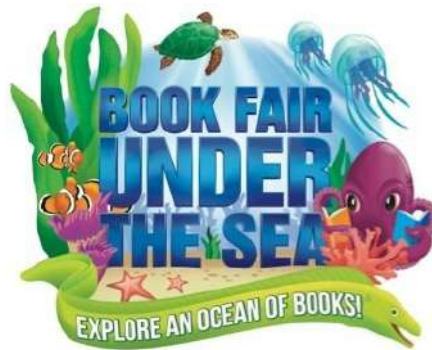


Kids who witness bullying are more likely to:

- Have increased use of tobacco, alcohol, or other drugs
- Have increased mental health problems, including depression and anxiety
- Miss or skip school



## News from the library!



Dear Parents and Families:

Reading for pleasure inside and outside of school has real and long-lasting benefits. It unlocks the power of information and imagination and helps children discover who they are. Here's what you can do to help children develop stronger reading skills and a love for reading:

- ◆ Set the example. Let children see you read.
- ◆ Have a collection of books in the home. Update this collection routinely to keep pace with changing tastes and reading skills.
- ◆ Support our school's Book Fair. Allow your children to choose their own books to read. Our Scholastic Book Fair is a reading event that brings to school the books kids want to read. It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our Book Fair and be involved in shaping your child's reading habits.

The Book Fair will be held in the Mokulele School Library from Monday, April 27, 2015 through Friday, May 6, 2015.

- ◆ All students will have the opportunity to visit the book fair and fill out a wish list. Parents are under no obligation to buy – and students know this.
- ◆ Sales tax (4.712%) will be added to each purchase. Shoppers may pay by cash, check (payable to Mokulele Elementary School) or credit card.
- ◆ All profits from the fair go to support library programs such as Accelerated Reader, new released books, yearly updated Nene nominated books, library book repairs and many more.

Before you visit the Book Fair, be sure to download the Book Fairs app to help you find the right books for your child. Also, if you're all booked up during Book Fair week be sure to visit the Book Fair online at [www.scholastic.com/fair](http://www.scholastic.com/fair)

Online information needed: Island: Oahu; City: Honolulu; School: Mokulele Elementary. Our Online Fair is available for an extended time from April 22 – May 05, 2015.

We look forward to seeing you and your family at our Book Fair!  
Mrs. Kawamura