



HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS (HAMS)

Non-profit Organization • 501 C (3)

Website: hamsiam.weebly.com

Volume 27; Issue 1

'O Na Leo i Waena ~ The Message in the Middle

Fall 2016

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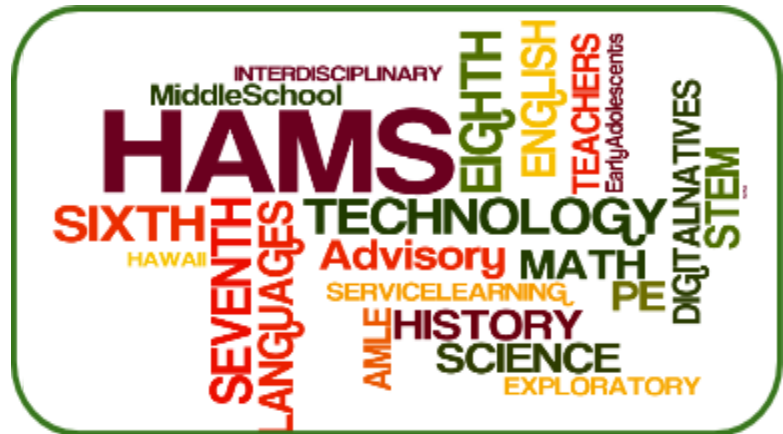
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Welcome to Middle Level Education!

President's Message - Fall 2016

Aloha Middle Level Educators!

As a new school year begins, supplies are purchased, classes are set-up and anxious students, parents and TEACHERS arrive on campus, there exists a sense of excitement that envelopes all! Middle level learners are hungry for new experiences and opportunities, and they shine their brightest when educators who understand them best, fuel those spirits through advisory, team-teaching, interdisciplinary practices, flexible grouping, alternative assessments, exploratory activities and our own love of learning ~ So let's feed their hungry minds and souls with possibilities and promise as we kick off the 2016-2017 school year!

With much appreciation for all that you do -

Sandy Cameli, HAMS President 2016-2017



Resources for Middle Level Educators



FREE Membership

www.amle.org



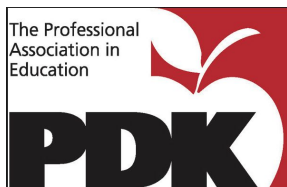
www.middleweb.com



www.edutopia.org



www.ascd.org



<http://pdk.sagepub.com>

HAMS Vision

Lighting and sustaining the torch of middle level education through the spirit of 'ohana

HAMS Mission

To be Hawai'i's middle level advocacy by promoting the vision and providing the knowledge and resources to those responsible for, and accountable to, each of our early adolescents.

THIS WE BELIEVE - REVISITING THE GOAL

As middle level educators it's important to revisit the purpose behind the mantra of [*This We Believe*](#) by reevaluating our own mission and vision statements at the school level. The Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE) provides a multitude of resources, voices and links to support the goal of providing exemplar experiences and opportunities for early adolescents. Additionally, teachers are familiar with mission and vision statements developed by school communities, but how many individual educators afford themselves the time to identify their own professional goals aligned with their beliefs? AMLE expanded the global mission to include *I-statements* affiliated with middle level advocacy in [*This I Believe*](#). Finally, Dru Tomlin - AMLE's Director of Middle Level Services provides invaluable insight through his webinar entitled, "[*Create a Great School: Middle Level Essentials & School Improvement*](#)" - which helps to guide middle level practitioners, leaders and stakeholders in supporting early adolescents in various learning environments.

And, while these are just a sampling of go-to resources supporting the ***This We Believe*** movement, HAMS invites all educators working with 10-15 year olds to focus on the whole child in any endeavor which supports their cognitive, social-emotional, physical and developmental growth in these formative years.

BRIGHT SPOTS & SHINING STARS

in Hawaii's Middle Schools



'Olelo Youth Xchange Competition

'Olelo Youth Xchange (YXC) Video Competition promotes student voices and perspectives for learning, health, the environment and various other topics (<http://www.olelo.org/yxc/>).

During the 2015-2016SY, the following middle/intermediate schools were recognized with awards and honors by 'Olelo Community Media.

First Place finishers in each category include:

Aliamanu Middle (*Public Service Announcement*)

Ewa Makai Middle (*Forest Health in Hawaii*)

Highlands Intermediate (*Peacemaker*)

Hilo Intermediate (*Mini-Documentary*)

Kailua Intermediate (*Animation*)

Kamakahelei Middle (*Taking Assessments Seriously*)

Kapolei Middle (*Short*)

Kawananakoa Middle (*Clean Water Hero*)

King Intermediate (*Traffic Safety*)

Maui Waena Intermediate (*News*)

Niu Valley Middle (*Start Living Healthy*)

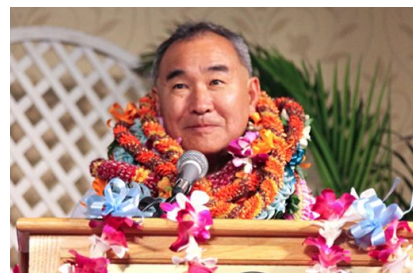
Kapolei Middle's Librarian Invited by White House



Congratulations to Librarian, Carolyn Kirio of Kapolei Middle School who was selected by The White House as a "Great Educator", and honored with other teachers nationwide at a ceremony in Washington, DC. She is the first educator in Hawaii to receive this honor!



2016 National Distinguished Principal



Congratulations to Principal Bruce Naguwa of Kapolei Middle School for being named the 2016 National Distinguished Principal by HEMSAA (Hawaii Elementary and Middle Schools Administrators Association) in April 2016.



Ewa Makai Middle School Teacher awarded \$2,500

Student Activities Coordinator, Vanessa Ching, recently received a \$2,500 grant as part of Farmer's Insurance, "Thank America's Teachers - 2016 Initiative"!



Professional Development Opportunities

Fall 2016: The 3-credit course – “Advisory at the Middle Level: Supporting Early Adolescents through School-level Advocacy”. **Begins: Aug. 13, 2016**

Course details:

- Online format with e-portfolio requirement
- Google Drive usage/familiarity required
- Supporting schools statewide - equity for neighbor-island teachers (20 participant cap)
- Dates: 8/13/16; 9/10/16; 10/29/16; 12/10/16
- Fee: \$100* for non-members/\$75 for HAMS members. (*Fee to include 1 year HAMS membership)

Course Information & Portfolio Requirements can be viewed at <https://pde3.k12.hi.us> , or for more information contact [Sandy Cameli@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:Sandy_Cameli@notes.k12.hi.us).

Annual HAMS Conference - Spring 2017

The Hawaii Association of Middle Schools (HAMS) will hold it’s annual conference on Friday, February 3, 2017. Location: Kailua Intermediate School

Keynote Speaker: Dru Tomlin, AMLE Director of Middle Level Services

Registration materials will be available Fall 2016

For more information contact: Karen Frato-Hildebrant % Kailua Intermediate School • 808-263-1500 or via email:

[Karen Frato-Hildebrant@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:Karen_Frato-Hildebrant@notes.k12.hi.us)

“Call for Session Proposals” to be posted Fall 2016

----- cut & return to HAMS -----

Become a HAMS member! Annual dues: \$25/year

Mail form & payment to: (Checks payable to: **HAMS or **DOE POs accepted**)**

Kathleen Nullet, HAMS Treasurer, % Kailua Intermediate, 145 S Kainalu Dr, Kailua, HI 96734

HAMS Membership Form - 2016-2017 SY

Name (first, last)

Position:

School/Office:

Preferred Mailing Address: (select one: home work)

Preferred Phone #:

Preferred Email:

(Optional) Feel free to share an example of "Bright Spot or Shining Star" from your school/office would you like to submit for a future HAMS Newsletter:

For HAMS Office use only:

Application Received: _____ Dues Paid: _____ Ck # _____