

Ka Lau

February 21, 2017

2016/2017, Issue 8



LCPCS to Renew Sexuality Health Education by Kaui Trainer, LCPCS Mental Health Counselor



As the on-site Mental Health Counselor, I have listened to many of our students' challenges regarding their perceptions, exploration and experiences of human sexuality. Many are having difficulties in creating and maintaining healthy relationships, exiting unhealthy relationships, identifying and stopping sexual abuse and/or sexual harassment via cyberspace, understanding developmental issues surrounding puberty, and maneuvering through the social contexts of dating and intimacy. There is also a desperate need for education regarding gender identity and gender expression. I am deeply saddened to report that among our student body, some have demonstrated a lack of compassion and civility towards those who are not cisgendered.

In response to this need for education, compassion and civility, I would like to incorporate a sexuality education curriculum from Advocates For Youth, one of the Hawaii DOE approved curricula, that has both in-school and at-home components. It can be found online at: <http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/3rs-curriculum>.

Our legislature approved and outlined the procedure by which families can consent to their child's participation in sexuality health education:

- Notification of sexuality health education will be sent to all parents/guardians with the opportunity to review the curriculum ahead of time
- Parents/Guardians will be given the opportunity to "opt-in" their child's participation
- For those who do not "opt-in," their child will receive alternate materials to work on (in a different location) while the sexuality health education takes place
- Sexuality health education shall be medically accurate, age appropriate and include information on: abstinence, contraception, and methods of disease prevention to prevent unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease, including human immunodeficiency virus.

It is imperative that our students are receiving factual, accurate, and age appropriate information and education regarding their development as human beings. We encourage the parents and guardians of our students to explore the curriculum and to take advantage of many of the resources available on the above website. It is also imperative that compassion and civility become a part of our school culture and that all students feel safe at school.

Please be on the look-out for the opt-in form which will be sent to you via your student. We will begin with Grades 6-9. We will need the form returned by March 2, 2017.

A Note from Director Garcia



Seaside 'Ohana members meet at the Pāpa'aloa Gym last weekend.

This has been an amazing week, where the community came together to get to know more about me and my vision for our school, and to get to know more about each other. Mahalo to students, parents, community stakeholders and staff who attended the two "Talk Story with the Director" community meetings. Over 100 individuals committed their Saturday and/or Wednesday evening to learning, sharing expertise, and voicing opinions and concerns in order to move us forward as a school. I appreciate their commitment to building community and improving student achievement. Thank you to everyone for your feedback on the directions we can take in distributing our Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds. Stay posted

for updates. I continue to be inspired by what I see and experience as authentic and meaningful collaboration that will help us to achieve our mission, and to position LCPCS as a center of positive activity, innovation and success in our community. Mahalo for all that you do on behalf of our students!

Varsity Boys Take on the Aged...

It began with a call from faculty member Scott Smith. "We the aged and infirm – I mean, the adults – are going to play a... basketball game with the student team this Friday..." And from there evolved a giant celebration of the completion of the 2016-2017 varsity basketball season. "Our players have worked very hard this year," said Coach Johnson. "They fought to keep their grades up, [and] they fought to compete with varsity teams from all over the island."



So last Friday saw a fierce but very entertaining game between the panting teachers and the seasoned team, plus half-time and after-game competitions involving kids from every grade level. There was plenty of noise, sign waving, and cheering, and the vibe was great.



"Thank you to all staff involved in the planning for this school-wide celebration!" said Director Garcia. "Many mahalos to the coaching staff for your amazing support and commitment to the students. Each of you has gone above and beyond the call of duty to assure their success as students and athletes. I have enjoyed attending games and being the "biggest" and loudest cheerleader."

