BOARD OF EDUCATION GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING March 17, 2011 State Librarian's Report

1. Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month Library Programs

April is Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month, and the Hawaii State Public Library System is partnering with Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii to present special Family Story Time programs in six of our libraries. The attached flier includes the full schedule and information about the programs. Free goodie bags with information for parents and McDonald's coupons for children will be distributed following the programs, while supplies last.

2. Nene Award Ceremony, March 24



The Nēnē Award was established in 1964 as Hawaii's own "children's choice" book award, and children in 4th through 6th grades vote at participating public and school libraries for their favorite fiction book written by a living author within the last six years. Last year's Nēnē Award-winning book was *Found* by Margaret Peterson Haddix, who will be coming to Hawaii to receive her award at a ceremony on March 24 from 10 – 11 am at the Ward Theaters. Each year's Nēnē Award ceremony provides a wonderful opportunity to see children who are excited and inspired by books, and awards will be presented to students who participated in Essay, Poster, Digital Arts, and Performing Arts contests. The Nene award reading promotion

program is supported by the Hawaii State Public Library System, Hawaii Department of Education, Hawaii Library Association, the Hawaii Association of School Librarians and other organizations.

3. State and Federal Tax Forms are Available at Most HSPLS Libraries

Hawaii State Tax Forms are available at all our public libraries once again this year, courtesy of a continuing partnership between the Hawaii State Public Library System and the State Department of Taxation. Most branches have Federal tax forms as well. Hawaii state tax forms, Federal forms and forms from other states may be accessed around the clock remotely via our online database LegalForms. This database may be accessed at www.librarieshawaii.org: under "e-Resources" click on "Other Databases," scroll down to click on "LegalForms," then click on the appropriate link to individual state or federal tax offices. Library staff will supply forms, but are not trained to assist with tax questions or preparation.

4. Tax Check-Off Box Campaign

Since 2004, Hawaii taxpayers have been able to support Hawaii's public libraries by donating \$2.00 from an individual state tax return or \$4.00 from a joint return. Over the years, thousands of taxpayers have donated \$500,000 to HSPLS, and these funds have enabled us to purchase books published about Hawaii as well as additional copies of many children's books and other materials. These funds have allowed us to purchase materials which we would otherwise be unable to provide for our patrons, and we encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity to make a donation to Hawaii's public libraries. Mahalo to all who have donated in the past.



5. Waialua Public Library Programs and Services

Waialua Public Library Branch Manager Tim Littlejohn earned the Friends of the Library of Hawaii Librarian of the Year Award in 2002. He joins us this afternoon to discuss programs and services at his library.



Join us in April for Family Story Time

Free Goodie Bags

Kick-off at the **Hawaii State Library** (586-3510) Saturday, April 2, 10:30-11 a.m.

with special guest readers HPD Chief of Police Louis Kealoha and Miss Hawaii 2010 Jalee Fuselier

Kaimuki Library (733-8422) Sunday, April 3; 10:30-11 a.m.

Kalihi-Palama Library (832-3466) Tuesday, April 5; 9-9:30 a.m.

Hawaii Kai Library (397-5833) Thursday, April 7; 10:30-11 a.m.

Kapolei Library (693-7050) Thursday, April 14; 10:30-11 a.m.

Hickam AFB Library (449-8299) Wednesday, April 20; 9-9:30 a.m.

Liliha Library (587-7577)

Thursday, April 21; 6:30-7 p.m.

Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks (655-8002) Wed., April 27; 10-10:30 a.m.

If you need a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations at a public library, please call the library two weeks prior to the program.

Sponsored by the Child Abuse Prevention Planning Council. For more Information contact Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii

after Story Time

with great information for parents and free McDonald's coupons for kids, while supplies last. Special thanks

to Palolo McDonald's.

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BOARD OF EDUCATION GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2011

WAIALUA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Aloha! I am Tim Littlejohn, Manager of Waialua Public Library

Located on the North Shore of Oahu, known to many as "the surfing capital of the world," Waialua Public Library and neighboring Kahuku Public and School Library are two public libraries serving a geographical area nearly half the size of rural Oahu. Waialua Library serves three elementary schools, one intermediate and high school, two private schools, five preschools and a large number of home based students. As a fortunate recipient of a Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Grant, the library has received new computers, a printer and software for public use.

Waialua Public Library is the smallest public library on Oahu, and we have worked with Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) administrators to maximize operational efficiency. Despite the Library's size, the Friends of Waialua Library has over 500 members, making it the largest friends affiliate group in the entire state. In 1997, Waialua Public Library was selected as the best small rural library by the Public Library Association and the Waialua Friends were selected as the best small friends group by the Friends of Libraries USA. In that same year, the library and staff received awards from the Governor and Hawaii State Legislature as well as the Board of Education. In addition, Waialua Public Library has formed vital partnerships with organizations that allow it to be an integral part of community activity through a variety of meaningful programs and services. These partnerships include: The Friends of Waialua Town; Waialua Coffee; Waialua Community Center; Waialua Bandstand; Waialua District Park; the Waialua Lions Club; Waialua Shopping Center; and the Haleiwa Arts Festival.

Library programs include: weekly Children's Story-Time and Craft Activities; Toddler Time; and Computer Instruction for individuals and groups. Each month, there are also Book Discussions; Book-Sales; and Writers' Discussions. Adult, Young Adult and Children's Art Shows are featured each quarter; and Photography and Author's programs are featured annually.

In addition, our library, in partnership with the Waialua Lions Club, helps judge storytelling contests at the Haleiwa and Waialua Elementary Schools, and St. Michael's Schools during special annual school assemblies. Children recite favorite stories, told vividly from memory in front of hundreds of people. Winners receive gold, silver and bronze medals. With over 65 years to date, this major storytelling contest is the oldest program on the North Shore of Oahu.

Faced with high unemployment and financial hardships since the downturn in the economy, more people are turning to public libraries to use the Internet and other library resources to collect information to aid in their employment searches. For example, users can create resumes, write cover letters and submit online employment applications. It is not unusual to hear someone waiting to go online say, "I'm looking for a job," or "I need to take a test" or "I need to apply for food stamps, can you help me?"

Recognizing the importance of customer service, and in an effort to be sensitive to those in need, Waialua Library staff and volunteers strive to provide a welcoming atmosphere, by being responsive to each user at all times.

The North Shore Community is a cohesive group, full of residents with big hearts and minds that care about each other, the environment, and important causes, including Waialua Public Library. In 2008, after hearing all of the publicity about budget cuts adversely affecting Hawaii's Public Libraries, North Shore area residents, organizations and businesses generously donated money to the Friends of Waialua Library.



From L-R: Tim Littlejohn, Sean Wingate-Triple Crown of Surfing and Marge Russell-President of Waialua Friends

That same year, the Friends of Waialua Library wrote a letter to the community in support of the Library and HSPLS. The letter was distributed through a direct mailing campaign, which generated hundreds of letters, which were sent to the Hawaii State Legislature. As a result, our library also received substantial monetary donations.

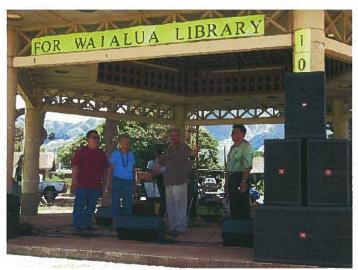
In 2009, local musician and composer Jack Johnson donated \$25,000 to the Friends of Library of Hawaii on behalf of Waialua, Kahuku and the Hawaii State Public Library System.



Jack Johnson (center) at the Children's Art Show
Also pictured from Left: Leta Mamizuka and Sissy Van Kralingen

In 2010, realizing the State's budget shortfall, a community fundraiser was planned to benefit Waialua Public Library. On June 19, 2010, from 10:00am – 2:00pm, there was a benefit concert for the Library held at the Waialua bandstand in the park across the street. This fundraiser was sponsored by the Friends of Waialua Town in partnership with the Friends of Waialua Library.

The day was filled with the Summer Reading program, a story-time and craft activity, plus bake and book sales. Entertainment was provided by: Bla Pahinui; Kalei Gamiao; the Abrigo Ohana; and, the Waialua Hula Halau. Speakers from various organizations and elected officials gave proclamations and praise to Waialua Public Library and its community of supporters. The Waialua Friends were commended for their effective lobbying in favor of their Library and the overall HSPLS.



Waialua Friends President Marge Russell (second from left) accepts Proclamations from State Senator Robert Bunda (third from left), State Representative Michael Magaoay (right), and Honolulu City Council member Donovan Delacruz (now State Senator). Pictured on left: Tim Littlejohn.

It was announced that the Hawaii State Legislature worked together to restore close to \$3,000,000 in funding to support the state library system. This welcome relief has allowed HSPLS to eliminate the furlough days that closed all our libraries and to begin filling some of our public service positions. The HSPLS budget is one of the smallest of the State Departments, yet it serves the entire population of Hawaii, including residents and visitors from all walks of life. Many library customers have stated that public libraries offer the greatest value for the taxpayer's dollar.

The greatest compliment a public library can receive is when its community comes together to meet, plan, organize and implement a major fundraiser to support it, and the best asset of a community is its residents – especially residents who choose to volunteer their services. Volunteers are essential to our success, and their contributions of time and talent in sponsoring such major events demonstrate their dedication and commitment to Public Libraries.

The next time you are enjoying the unique shops and restaurants, as well as the natural beauty, of the North Shore of Oahu, we hope we will have the opportunity to welcome you at Waialua Public Library.

Mahalo