

INPEACE P-3 Mā'ili Focus Group

May 6, 2010

2:15 pm to 3:45 pm

Mā'ili Elementary School Abe's Classroom A-2

1. Handout:

Agenda, Minutes, P-3 Action Plan

2. Attendance:

Abe Kaneakua, Kindergarten Teacher

LaurieAnn Dunn, INPEACE P-3

Michelle Mahuka, INPEACE P-3

Jeannette Sunn, KS Preschool

Kanoe Renaud, INPEACE P-3

Stephanie Bellefeuille, Nānāikapono El

Parent Coordinator

Wendie Liu, DOE PCNC

Linda Asato, Community Member

3. Icebreaker

4. Review Observation of Kindergarten Classroom visit

5. Review of P-3

- a. Reviewed the first 3 meetings of group starting last year and the group's goals to address the P-3 vision and how to better support each other's programs. We reviewed progress we made over the year. Mā'ili Focus Group tasks completed: Wai'anae ECE flyer, site visit to Mā'ili Elementary Kindergarten classrooms, a few programs attended two family nights at Mā'ili Elementary, ECE program flyers posted in school display board that Annette Keanu (PCNC) manages. The focus group gave as much support as it could to get a brochure display in the schools office to advertise ECE program flyer but did not work out.
- b. What is P-3? Shared the P-3 action plan for the Wai'anae coast. The partners involved are like paddlers in a canoe. The partners involved on the administrative level and the school focus groups on the community level is a top down and bottom up approach to creating a continuum for education. P-3 is part of "P-20" (lifelong learning, womb-to-tomb) working together on a strategic implementation plan in 7 focus areas. Leadership teams include (1) complex area level, (2) elementary school PLC, (3) ECE PLC, and (4) a cross collaborative PLC (these are the P-3 focus groups). (PLC = Professional Learning Community)
- c. P-3 is similar to Promising Neighborhoods and the Ka Pua Initiative. They involve similar people. All initiatives view community as the basis for transformation and betterment of a community. All look to the strengths of a community, and build on best practices already at work in the community. They are not competing initiatives, but can work together as they all have the similar goal & vision to build on community strengths.

6. Example of Successful P-3 Related Experiences

- a. Transitions into K at Nānāikapono Elementary. Every April for the last 4-5 years at Nānāikapono Elementary, a prekindergarten test would take place upon registration. Steph (Nānāikapono Even Start teacher) sets up two testing dates and two kindergarten teachers test the incoming kindergarteners that already registered. While the children are tested, parents are with Steph for a parent workshop that covers shapes, numbers, and site words, then they receive a complete educational packet that they can work with their child during the summer to better prepare them for school before it begins. This is a key time to initially build a relationship with parents. Then K teachers will personally visit all the incoming K parents—meetings can be at their home or on the beach or at McDonald's, just not at school. Some parents feel like their child's school can be a negative place because of their negative childhood experiences. This home visit is key in building a positive relationship with parents that wins their support for the rest of the year. 4-5 years ago, up to 10 parents would come for parent workshops. Now, nearly every single parent (over 100) attend workshops and orientation nights.

This has extended to transitioning kindergarteners into 1st grade too. 1st grade teachers were asked what they're expectations of the incoming students were and Steph organized the parent workshop that she provides according to those expectations.

- b. Part of the success is incoming Kindergartener classroom visits before the school starts. In April/May, the child and parents are divided into groups, the kindergarten teacher reads to them, they tour the campus, are introduced to different people, lunch is provided, then they are enrolled into INPEACE Keiki Steps to Kindergarten (KSTK), a 2-3 week summer transition program, if the child has no preschool experience. During INPEACE KSTK breakfast and lunch are provided by Nānāikapono.
- c. Nānāikapono also participates in Family And Classroom Teachers (FACT). The grant provides supplies for bags given to 3rd -5th graders. The supplies include a dictionary and other class supplies. At Nānāikapono grades K to 5 attend FACT nights (except for 3rd grade).
- d. A resource Steph has used to develop family literacy games: www.childcareland.com (free printables).

4. Next Meeting

- a. August 12, 2010, 2:15-3:45 p.m. Abe checking if library is available. Focus group meeting is open to other teachers too.