

Makua Hālāwai English Language Testing Discussion led by Kaano'i Walk

Sept. 5 2018, 5 pm Hale 'Aina

Attendees: Konrad Heather, Analu K-Aloha, Loyal Kekahuna, Crystal Branco, Kehau, Jeri Asuncion, Waianuheia Walk, Brittany Akiu, Karmela Quiroga-Verhaaf, Nanyne Hong Smith, Oriana Coleman, Anuheia St. Laurent, Kahea Faria, Kacie Ho'okano, Vivian Wong, Noelani Kauahikaua, Ka'ano'i Walk

Links:

[Ka Papahana Kaiapuni](#) [Kaiapuni Framework](#)

[BOE Policy 105-8 "Ka Papahana Kaiapuni"](#)

- 1896 laws say Hawaiian language schools would not be supported by government
- Punana Leo parents pushed for education in Hawaiian to continue thru elem & above
- Kaiapuni is a model for other indigenous language revitalization
- BOE Policy-foundation of Kaiapuni is to strengthen Hawaiian culture/language.
- Concerns: Need of English test? Not prepped as parents? What are the value & risks of English language tests? Will it enrich the Kaiapuni experience? How is the data being used?
- Historically at our school, money allocated on behalf of Kaiapuni to teach students in English. Got pulled out of Kaiapuni curriculum to be put in remedial English classes.
- We choose Kaiapuni, not English. Like administering a Hawaiian Language test to English students. Creates confusion, labels on kids. Learning vs. Language barriers (ESL). They have never been taught in English, setting them up for failure. There is a bigger picture when introducing English testing. Self esteem issues if they don't do well, which may be expected b/c they never had formal instruction in English
- English introduced in 5th grade. School not addressing struggles in Hawaiian Language Arts--no support, yet offering tutoring in English readily during Kaiapuni blocks.
- Each ohana makes the best decision for their keiki. Parents can always refuse.
- Understanding language acquisition is important before making these decisions.
- Kumus see that if they are strong in their 1st language or language of instruction, they will grasp other languages like English easily. There is data that when Kaiapuni student's olelo Hawaii is strong, it is much easier to do well w/ additional languages.
- Is there a test prep? Or kids just thrown in to test? Do they get extra time? Who are the experts on this?
- Is iReady made for immersion? Is it a good diagnostic for Kaiapuni?

Further questions: Ka'ano'i Walk kwalk@hawaii.edu