



Hawaii Association of Middle Schools Pre-Conference Learning Labs October 15th 2010

Partnership with the Department of Education
Kamehameha Schools/Kapalama Campus 8:00 – 2:15

This year we will be featuring “Learning Labs” at the pre-conference. The Learning Labs will be two and half hours of middle school curricula, using “best practices” and developmentally appropriate middle school hands-on learning. Teachers will have a good idea of how they can fit the lessons or unit into their own classrooms.

We have four Learning Lab sessions. The following facilitators have already committed to sharing their expertise to administrators as well as middle school teachers:

1. Algebraic Reasoning for Adolescents

Presenters: Cory Bennett

The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics calls for middle grade students to flexibly use algebraic concepts, procedures, models, and representations as a way to think mathematically. However, algebraic fluency requires frequent, “hands-on” experiences grounded in real life scenarios. In this lab, we will explore several standards-based activities that promote algebraic reasoning and how they lead to conceptual understandings for adolescents.

2. Service learning and Effective Microorganisms for a “Genki” (vital, healthy) Hawaii

Presenters: Hiro Nago and Linda Uehara and Maryanne Kobayashi

EM (Effective Microorganism) is a mixture of beneficial micro organisms that students, parents and community can use to recycle kitchen waste and do other projects which benefit our environment. Become aware of EM’s role in bioremediation, addressing environ-mental problems in Hawaii. Make and take EM Bokashi to begin your own investigations.

3. Web 2.0

Presenter: Kamehameha Middle School Technology Teacher, Allan Tamayose (Kapalama Campus)

Learn how to integrate technology such as pod casting, Smart Boards, and blogs in the curriculum to assist students in developing the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in a global, technologically driven society and workplace.

4. Title: The Power of Digital Storytelling

Presenters: Margot Adair, Joann Skudlarick , Maryknoll Middle School

Learn how recreating stories from historical fiction can bridge and integrate language arts and social studies, resulting in greater appreciation and affective understanding of past events. Replacing reports and board and binder projects that cover major periods in American history, digital storytelling allows students to retell stories by stepping into the shoes of characters. In the process of researching and writing stories that put them into the scenes, 8th grade students discover common themes among the characters and themselves: the growing pains of adolescence and the challenges to attain the “American Dream.” Stories are created through literature sharing circles, team collaboration, writing scripts, developing digital formats via computer slide presentations or videos, and public speaking or dramatic interpretations.

Presenters will show the process, the outcomes, and the student assessments of utilizing this form of learning. Digital storytelling can be applied to other disciplines and other grade levels.

5. Title: Principal as Curriculum Leader

Presenters: Michael Harano, Principal and Washington Middle School’s Leadership Team

“Washington Middle School started on its school improvement journey by adopting Learning in Overdrive as its standards based lesson or unit planning process. In planning for and implementing this school wide leadership initiative, we came to value the expertise and leadership of our teachers who

stepped forward and embraced the challenge of taking charge of our own professional development. The LIO Coaches continued the journey by developing the next year's school wide initiative, Responding in Overdrive, building upon what we had learned and addressing a specific student deficit on the Hawaii State Assessment: response . Understanding the need to develop content specific lessons and units of instructions, leadership of the school wide staff development initiative was transferred from the coaches to the Department Chairpersons, who implemented Mapping the Overdrive and the creation of "I can" statements. Working with SchoolRise, the Department Chairpersons planned and implemented Improving in Overdrive, our current school wide initiative that introduced the Instructional Improvement Cycle to our teachers." Michael Harano, Principal at Washington Middle School. Come hear more about Washington Middle School from Mike and his leadership team.

6. Title: Smart Board Classroom Application

Presenters: Kamemameha Teachers: See teachers in action using the Smart Boards with their students.

HAMS Pre-Conference October 15th, 2010 Kamehameha Middle School 8:00 – 2:15

Please write below your choices, e-mail or fax the form back to:

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