

NEIL AMBERCROBIE
GOVERNOR

Rachelle Matsumura
PRINCIPAL



KATHRYN MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

ART SOUZA
COMPLEX AREA SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HONOKAA HIGH AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

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Senator Jill Tokuka and Representative Sylvia Luke
Finance Chairs
Hawaii State Senate
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Senators Jill Tokuda and Representative Sylvia Luke,

I'm writing to express my support of the GIA application for the Stone Soup Leadership Institute (Sustainable Hawaii Youth Leadership Initiative), and their funding request for the **Sustainable Resolution Implementation Education Toolkit**.

The passing of the Sustainability Resolution (HRS 178 & SCR 192) was an exceptional and forward-thinking effort by one of Hawaii's high school seniors, Trevor Tanaka to ensure his Hawaii's students gained an understanding of the principles of sustainability and its importance to their future.

Thanks to the leadership of Senator Tokuda and (former) Representative Denny Coffman, the Resolution passed in just six months. However, it has yet to be implemented. The Toolkit is a free, easy-to-use resource for Hawaii's public school educators to integrate into the Sustainability Resolution into their education curriculum.

Creating the Toolkit allows educators to easily integrate lessons on sustainability into their curriculum, and gives them the tools to prepare our youth for a bright future, leading our state in a positive direction towards a more sustainable future. We are committed to helping in the planning stages to provide feedback and assist in shaping a toolkit that can help prepare and inspire Hawaii's youth to fulfill the workforce needs of the future.

One of my students, Kamele Sanchez a Honokaa High and Intermediate School 2015 graduate has previously participated in SHYLI's programs: Job Shadow Day/Design Sustainable Hawaii Forum/Youth Leadership Summit. She is currently attending Colorado State University majoring in Ecosystem Science and Sustainability. Her participation in SHYLI complemented my Natural Resources and Agriculture Program. As my student one of her projects involved mapping and gpsed our native landscape section of our farm. Kamele also volunteered for the Kohala Watershed Restoration Project.

As my student of mine, she clearly demonstrate the love of the aina and commitment to it.

Honoka'a High & Intermediate School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups-ESE only. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Principal, 45-527 Pakalana Street, Honoka'a HI 96727 (808) 775-8800

This school year my program have partnered with Maui Economics Development Board's StemWorks program and I will be infusing STEM into our Agriculture and Natural Resources Program. This webpage have links to sample projects of what my students do in our classes: tinyurl.com/honokaaagstemworks

Hawaii's educators and non-profit organizations realize that ALL citizens should be knowledgeable about sustainability so our people will be better prepared to make sustainable decisions in our daily lives – at the supermarket as well as in the voting booths. We also must be prepared for the increasing challenges of climate change to our precious islands.

Members of Hawaii's business community recognize that industry advances and developments in green industries are critical growth areas for Hawaii's future. It is imperative that our students are prepared to pursue educational opportunities and jobs in these fields. Without any basic understanding of sustainability, it becomes unlikely that they are prepared for those opportunities.

The Institute's work with Hawaii's young people, educators, companies is inspiring. Seeing the excellent work they do connecting youth on the island to real experiences and opportunities for their futures, we are confident that Stone Soup Leadership Institute and SHYLI will create a truly robust and inspiring educational tool for teachers and students alike. I strongly support this GIA grant proposal.

Mahalo and we look forward to your support for this timely initiative.

Sincerely,

Manuel Jadulang
Honokaa High and Intermediate School Agriculture
and FFA Advisor
tinyurl.com/honokaaagstemworks