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Academy educators connect to technology

One-hundred educators from 42 public and private schools from throughout the Island descended on campus on September 9 for the annual **iTeach808 Conference**. This year's event focused on how teachers can provide effective learning experiences for students by integrating technology throughout all areas of curriculum.

The day kicked off with an inspiring keynote presentation by **Michael Fricano II**, a technology integration specialist at Iolani School who has received international and national recognition for his work. A Google-certified trainer, Fricano focused on how attendees could "*Become the Ms. Frizzle of Today: An Introduction to Virtual Reality.*" He demonstrated and shared some of the exciting and groundbreaking new tools available to bring the world to "life" for students.

Inspired already by Fricano's session, participants then attended three different workshops they selected based their unique classroom needs.

Academy educators who conducted iTeach808 sessions this year included **Kevin Allen, Amanda Bobbitt** and **Alyssa Myers**.

This conference is sponsored by the Academy, in conjunction with the **Augustine Educational Foundation**. The Lower School's **Laurel Oshiro** is the force behind the success of the Academy's iTeach808 Conference.



Michael Fricano II, this year's iTeach808 keynote presenter, demonstrates some of the ways to "view the world" using new technology. During his presentation, he discussed the popular book adventures of Ms. Valerie Frizzle and her students, who went on exciting field trips to unusual places, such as inside the human body and to places in the past, via "The Magic School Bus." Fricano equated that today's technology tools, including virtual reality, fills the role of the Magic School Bus, opening up the universe for students.

From the Head of School

FAMILIES WELCOMED TO COMMUNITY



The athletic calendar is loaded this weekend with cross country, kayaking, volleyball and riflery. Bowling and tennis were this afternoon.

The Academy 'ohana is looking forward to hosting a social gathering for the Academy's new families on campus from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, September 24.

This event has proven to be an outstanding way for our new members of the school community to meet other parents, teachers and the outstanding members of the Parent Organization. Most of the activities will be designed under a theme of "getting to know you."

On another note, the Academy extends its condolences to the family of former Parent Board member, Dr. Niki Libarios (above). As the father of Joy, Niki participated fully in the life of the school. A celebration of his life will be on September 30 at New Hope Oahu on Sand Island.

Enjoy the weekend with your family!

Betty White

Aspiring engineers tackle tower of ice cream

The three- and four-year-old students in **Carrie Knebel's** class quickly became adept in the field of "kindergarten engineering" during a recent activity. Using colorful ice cream cones, they attempted to build the tallest tower possible which was sturdy enough not to fall over!

The aspiring engineers researched and studied various towers before beginning construction. And, tapping into their critical-thinking skills, they came up with their own, unique, custom design and "drew-up" a blueprint.

Despite a few cone crashes during construction, the determined students kept trying until their tower was successfully engineered.



Juniors initiate Freshman sisters into High School

The *junior* and *Freshman* classes participated in an honored Academy tradition, **Freshman Initiation Week**, from September 11 to 15.

Initiation Week activities serve to welcome the ninth graders to the High School community and, equally important, help the students form fellowship bonds that extend across class levels.

This year's Initiation focused on party-themed activities, with each day holding a special surprise for the freshmen, care of their "Big Sisters," the juniors.

The daily activities led up to the week's "big finale," the eagerly-anticipated initiation assembly on September 15. The Gymnasium was filled with cheers as the festively-costumed freshmen took center-stage, performing spirited dance routines which had been carefully choreographed to party music by the juniors.

The week was organized by **Junior Advisor Leilani Asuncion** and her **Class Council** with assistance from **Kimberlee McCoy**, the freshman advisor.



TOP: The juniors and freshman "sisters," Victoria Zembik, Christiann Arakawa, Hailey Kekumu and Ivana Salon, proudly display their classes' solidarity; **BOTTOM LEFT:** Freshman Kadee Waki and her classmates show their spirit during an upbeat medley of music matching their bright, neon accessories; **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Junior Council President Eden Arthur and Vice President Sophia Brittin prepare special notes penned by the juniors and attached to a sweet treat for distribution to the freshmen; **BELOW:** A group of freshmen express their excitement and energy during a routine to "Party In the U.S.A.."



First graders enjoy 'āina at Hawai'i Nature Center

The first graders reinforced their understanding of habitats during a visit to the **Hawai'i Nature Center** on September 8.

There, they explored the Center's three different habitats – *stream*, *forest* and *meadow*, taking in the flora and fauna in each.

During the visit, the students netted fish and shrimp residing in the stream, listened to the birds and other area sounds in the forest and loved catching grasshoppers in the meadow.

They also built a "waste-free" lunch, learned the basics of composting and discovered ways to live sustainably to better take care of the 'āina and keep the Earth clean.



Commemorating and praying on 9/11

The Academy community observed "**Patriots' Day**" in honor of the events of **September 11, 2001**

this past Monday.

In their grades seven to 12 Theology classes, the students, including (*below*) sophomores **Reagan Ramirez** and **Leilani Ostrowski**, reflected on the historic events of the day and expressed their

thoughts and prayers using colorful sticky notes.

The **High School Student Council** collected these and carefully placed the notes to create "works of art" around campus. The aim of the effort was to encourage the school community to remember the victims and their families and the significance of the day.

