2016

A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF HAWAII’S EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY

— retiring LMW Supt. John Brummel

Jan

- McKinley High students and faculty honor one of its most accomplished alumni by dedicating its library to Sen. Daniel K. Inouye.
- Waipahu High science teacher Michael Sana, right, is presented the prestigious Milken Educator Award and $25,000.

Feb

- Kaimuki High students conduct important research the University of Hawaii’s Stream Bioassessment Protocol to assess the health of Palolo Stream and the Ala Wai Watershed.
- The Hawaii State Board of Education (BOE) approves the adoption of Next Generation Science Standards.

Mar

- Hawaii P-20 data reveal a four-point increase in students earning dual credits via the Early College program, comparing the Class of ’15 & the Class of ’13.
- HIDOE wins key grants: An Assessment for Learning Project grant to the Office of Hawaiian Education to design a culturally accurate assessment of student success, and a New Skills for Youth plan.

Apr

- Kaunakakai Elementary on Molokai celebrated the completion of a hybrid solar air conditioning project (33 units, 18 classrooms) organized by 6th grader Leonahe Crivello in partnership with NextEra Energy Hawaii and Maui Electric Company.
- Kailua High opens a state of the art Natural Science Lab.
- Waimea High Principal Mahina Anguay wins the Masayuki Tokioka Excellence Award.

May

- The Annual Financial Audit for the prior fiscal year shows HIDOE continues to be responsible in oversight of its funds.

Jun

- In preparation for the World Oceans Day gathering at the United Nations in New York, Supt. Matayoshi and apprentice navigator Jenna Ishii meet with students and educators who presented messages of Mālama Honua to deliver to master navigator Nainoa Thompson.

Jul

- Stevenson Middle dedicates a two-story Science & Technology Center with three labs for Physics, Biology and Earth & Space science classes, and two STEM labs that can be converted into a large room with an observation deck for special events or competitions.

Aug

- President Obama honors Hawaii’s Eliza Akana Yoshida, Stan Mesina, Alicia Nakamitsu and Bryan Silver with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.
- Annual ACT results show more Hawaii’s public school graduates are meeting college readiness benchmarks, up two points in math, one point in English and Science.

Sep

- Employee, Manager and Team of the Year: Lowell Kalani Spencer, Francis Santa Monica, the Windward District Office Autism Team.
- Noelani El and Helemano El are named National Blue Ribbon Schools for growing academic excellence and making progress in closing the achievement gap.
- Hawaii’s public school students exceed the nation in gains on the Advanced Placement exam.

Oct

- Washington Middle math teacher Sung Man Park, below, is named Hawaii’s 2017 State Teacher of the Year.

Nov

- The U.S. Department of Education awards grants to three states including Hawaii to improve data collection of Asian American Pacific Islander students and to help identify effective practices to close achievement and opportunity gaps through data analysis.

Dec

- The BOE adopts the updated Strategic Plan. The student-centered plan will guide HIDOE from 2017-20.
- HIDOE and UH-Manoa’s College of Engineering enter into a formal partnership to create a college-focused pathway for high school students.
- HIDOE and the Hawaii Dental Association join forces to provide oral health services for students who need it.