

# **RESOURCE RECOVERY** • KA'OHAO PROTOCOL

A partnership of Windward schools working cooperatively in the pursuit of waste reduction, soil restoration, and applied environmental education. All members participate annually in the U.S. EPA's Food Recovery Challenge and adhere to strict, safe, standardized operational procedures.

SUMMARY • FEBRUARY 2017

## LANIKAI ELEMENTARY PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Start: January 2014 • Number of students: 330 • Annual food waste: 8.5 tons • Food waste collection: 100% cafeteria lunch, campus-wide snacks • Other: 98% HI-5 cans and bottles, green waste, paper, cardboard, mylar • Technolgies: thermal composting, vermicomposting, bokashi

Food waste recovered: 1,681 pounds. In February, STEM teacher and garden manager Mr. Parker Sawyer established a 1/8-acre farm plot on Lanikai's campus that will be tended by 6th graders conducting field trials on a number of crops. A \$2,000 grant from Whole Foods paid for an irrigation system and sensors that beam into an app moisture content, temperature, pH and other key information – very high tech! Lanikai's Resource Recovery program provided 100% of substrate for starts, soil amendments and fertilizer.

Mr. Sawyer has nearly completed CTAHR's GoFarm program, enabling Lanikai School to make the leap from school garden to working farm, while developing extremely valuable relationships with the local ag community.

#### **KA'ELEPULU ELEMENTARY**

Start: August 2016 • Number of students: 201 • Annual food waste: 8.5 tons • Food waste collection: 100% cafeteria breakfast and lunch • Other: 100% HI-5 cans and bottles, green waste • Technologies: thermal composting

Food waste recovered: 1,481pounds. Ka'elepulu's Resource Recovery manager Lindsey Whitcomb took a leadership role following HB 1577 through three House committees, attending hearings, soliciting testimony and keeping everyone updated. HB 1577, sponsored by Rep. Chris Lee, sets up grant monies within the Department of Agriculture that schools can access to initiate composting operations on their campuses.

Three Ka'elepulu 5th graders delivered their own compelling testimony in person before the Education Committee at the Capitol, and were thrilled when every member voted "aye" and the bill was passed!

#### **KAINALU ELEMENTARY**

Start: January 2017 • Number of students: 460 • Annual food waste: 18 tons • Food waste collection: 100% cafeteria breakfast and lunch • Other: 100% HI-5 cans and bottles • Technologies: thermal composting, vermicomposting

Food waste recovered: 3,149 pounds. At the rate of over a ton-and-a-half of food waste per month, Kainalu's hot composting operation will yield far more rich compost than can be utilized in their AINA garden and school landscaping. They are promoting the Kainalu Compost Club, an investment opportunity open to all. For \$20/share and one hour of volunteer time helping to harvest finished compost, members earn a ROI of two buckets of compost (a \$20 value). Members can earn additional compost by volunteering in a variety of activities that support the Kainalu Resource Recovery operation.

The Kainalu Compost Club informational flier (attached) is being circulated widely throughout the community.

### **COMBINED FEBRUARY 2017 TOTALS**

Four-week period from February 6 through March 3, 2017. Includes 18 school days.Total students participating daily: 991Total food waste recovered in February: 6,311 pounds2017 total to dat

2017 total to date: 12,984 pounds (6.49 tons)