



## RESOURCE RECOVERY • KA'ŌHAO 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 • MAY 2017

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#### KA'ŌHAO ELEMENTARY PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

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

Food waste recovered: 1,688 pounds. Effective May 1, 2017, Lanikai School (founded 1962) officially changed its name to Ka'ohao Elementary Public Charter School. Ka'ohao is the authentic Hawaiian place name for the area between Kailua Beach and Waimanalo Beach, and literally means "tying together," like the two ends of a lei... or the two ends of the Zero Waste symbol. Closing the circle has been the practice and passion of this school for the last three years, and it is so fitting to now have a name that honors the past, expresses our daily values, and defines our leadership role for the future. *Imua, Ka'ohao School!*

With the final compost pile harvested and gardens shut down for the summer, plans are being made for the next stage of the journey. Over July and August, irrigation will be placed for Ka'ohao Farm School, the front yard soil restoration project will be completed, a new green waste operation (The 10,000 Worm Project) will launch, the dishwasher will finally be installed, and the old condemned trailer will be razed to open new space. Good changes, all.

#### 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, some green waste • Technologies: thermal composting, vermicomposting

Food waste recovered: 1,714 pounds. May concluded the first full year of Resource Recovery at Ka'elepulu under the management of parent Lindsey Whitcomb, who received an engraved koa bowl for Volunteer of the Year as well as a book of compiled letters from every child in the school, describing what the program meant to him/her. The daily grind of collecting, composting, logging data and cleaning up often obscures the profound transformation that takes place in the hearts and minds of the kids who participate. With deepest gratitude and best wishes, aloha to Lindsey moving back to the mainland – the legacy will continue.

With compost made from this year's food waste, the long-defunct Ka'elepulu Garden Club will rise once again with help this summer from the UH Master Gardeners. The site is by far the best on the island. Raised beds will be repaired, plots will be weeded, soil amended. and plans solidified for a spectacular reincarnation come August.

#### KAINALU ELEMENTARY

Start: January 2017 • Number of students: 460 • Annual food waste: 16 tons • Food waste collection: 100% cafeteria breakfast and lunch • Other: 100% HI-5 cans and bottles • Technologies: thermal composting, vermicomposting

Food waste recovered: 3,379 pounds. We did it! In May, the initial compost array – twelve piles in all with 1,000 pounds of food waste in each – was completed. Over the summer the infrastructure for next year will be prepared for this huge, challenging, over-the-top. absolutely magnificent Resource Recovery operation.

#### COMBINED MAY 2017 TOTALS

Four-week period from May 1 through May 26, 2017. Includes 19 school days Ka'elepulu & Kainalu; 18 Ka'ohao

Total students participating daily: **991**

Total food waste recovered in May: **6,781 pounds**

**2017 total to date: 34,374 pounds (17.2 tons)**

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