## Bilingual Education At KANAKA

Kula Aupuni A Kahelelani Aloha (KANAKA) Public Charter School (PCS) aka Niihau School of Kekaha (NSK) has existed in its current form since May 1999. The genesis of the School, however, occurred in 1993 when parents from the Niihau community residing on Kauai initiated a home school program for students whose primary language is the Niihau dialect of Hawaiian.

The program implements a bilingual education program to improve the performance our students by instructing them in the English language to raise their functional skills in the western dominated world. Niihau Cultural values and language are preserved using the language they live Niihau Hawaiian.

The current program known as Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha, PCS uses place based and projects based learning to reinforce Hawaiian cultural values. Technology is blended with traditional learning techniques to increase English, language arts, mathematics, science and social studies skills.

The school provides focus on learning through multidisciplinary community based education with an emphasis on the acquisition of English (reading & writing skills) while sustaining the Niihau Hawaiian language and culture...



Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha Fully Accredited for Grades K-12 by the Schools Commission of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)

Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha PCS P.O. Box 610 Kekaha, Kauai, HI 96752

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**KANAKA** Cultural Connections

The bilingual education program at KANAKA started as home schooling from the Kekaha Pavilion. May 1999 marks the start of our school. During our first fourteen years we accomplished many new and exciting things. We continually evaluate our students to assess their level of performance for Math and English skills of reading/spelling/writing. We set a course of action based upon the results. Preservation of the Niihau Language and Culture is the key that unlocks.

#### Currently In Good Standing - Unconditional Accredited By Western Association of Schools and Colleges

#### Hawaiian Performance

Above Average (1999) to Superior (2013) **English Performance** Far Below Average (1999) to Met AYP status SY 05-06-Met, SY 06-07, SY07-08-Met SY 08-09, Distinguished Award, SY 09-10-Met, SY10-11-Met, SY11-12-Met

#### **Mathematics Performance**

Far Below Average (1999) to Met AYP status SY 05-06-Met, SY 06-07, SY07-08-Met SY 08-09, Distinguished Award, SY 09-1-Met, SY10-11 Met

#### Staging Levels

K-3 (2000) now K-1(2013)
Reading, writing, math, science, and phonics
Place/Projects based Hawaiian studies
4-7 (2000) now 2-5 (2013)
Reading, writing, math, science, and typing programs
Place/Projects based Hawaiian studies
8-12 (2000) now 6-8 (2013)
Common Core standards emphasis,
Place/Projects based Hawaiian studies
Now 9-12 (2013)
Common Core standards emphasis, College Prep



KANAKA Haumana at Kui Ka Lono

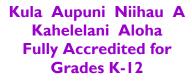
Our mission is to educate our youth so that through self-determination they will be able to shape their own future and that of the Niihau community KANAKA serves. KANAKA continues to raise the level of literacy, education, and awareness of this native community by reinforcing cultural values through the Niihau language and teach them to function independently in a western society through English. KA-NAKA continuously strives to raise the level of student involvement by offering community based activities, insight into community issues, including economics and governmental affairs. Through these experiences KANAKA students will be prepared to represent their indigenous population in matters that affect their lives and the lives of generations to come.

We believe that our students will survive and thrive by becoming highly skilled bilingualists: Rich in the Niihau language, hula and culture; Skilled in English the language of commerce and politics. With these skills KANAKA Graduates will have a mature voice in society, clearly articulating the needs of this very unique native population. The KANAKA Niihau philosophies and values will be expressed in ways that are truly representative of the indigenous people of *Hawaii nei*.

### A Bright Future for KANAKA

Many new things are projected for KANAKA. The following are just a few of the many things KANAKA is currently working on that we hope will bring our approach to Bi-lingual education to the world.

- Program instruction from Highly Qualified Certified teaching staff in Elementary, Language Arts, Social Studies, Science and Math teachers. All Core Subject Teachers are HQT. Hawaiian Studies with Oniki Kumu Hula, Hawaiian Language Arts and Authentic Niihau Dialect.
- Public Charter School facilities in the planning stages. Supported by Kanaka Aupuni A Niihau Aloha (KAANA) and KANAKA.
- Status as a nonprofit organization since 2001 for under IRS regulations and determination as a 501(c)3.
- Additional teaching staff made possible by the grants from OHA and other Hawaiian cultural organizations.
- Physical health, cultural education and physical education.



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