



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
WAIMANALO ELEMENTARY & INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL  
41-1330 KALANIANA'OLE HIGHWAY  
WAIMANALO, HAWAII 96795

12/22/2010

Aloha Jed Gaines,

As Principal, we are constantly solicited to bring "programs" into our school that will do all sorts of "wonders" for the good of the school. Needless to say I was optimistic about the Read Aloud America Program. However, the first staff introductory meeting set me straight. From the start you and your staff lit a much needed fire under my staff and really got them excited about Reading. We were looking for a program that was exciting, fun and more importantly something that would draw the families to the school. Your program did just that!

The six sessions drew close to over 290 participants per session! While this might not seem a lot, let me put this in perspective for you. During one family event in the past, we had a total of four families attend the event. For a school that was looking to increase parent involvement and getting parent excited about reading, the Read Aloud America Program was the shot in the arm which we so desperately needed.

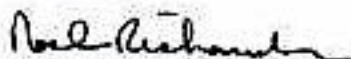
I would like to share with you just a few of many comments from the role groups who attended RAP.

Parent: "It has brought back my passion of reading."  
Teacher: "Great enthusiasm with the entire community."  
Student: "I wish RAP could stay forever."

I could go on and on with positive comments and experiences from the RAP session. If your school is looking for a way to: increase family participation, increase family's understanding about the importance of reading and or an event just to bring families together for a educational fun filled wholesome night, then the Read Aloud Program is just what your need!

I would like to personally thank Jed Gaines for developing this program and bringing his love of reading to the schools of Hawaii. RAP delivered on every aspect. Thank you RAP for bringing our school and community together, but more importantly instilling the passion back into reading!

Sincerely,

  
Noel Richardson  
Principal