Aloha!

We are researchers from the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa. We would like to invite you to take part in a research project on math. We have also invited some other middle and high school students. Some of your math teacher(s) are also taking part in the project.

Our project is called Ka Pilina: AIM Together. Ka Pilina means "connection" in Hawaiian. This project aims to connect middle school and high school students to math. Ka Pilina uses Hawaiian practices to teach math concepts. You will also use math computer software and try out hands on math activities. You can also work with a mentor who is a University of Hawaii college student.

The Ka Pilina research project has three goals.
1. Strengthen your interests and skills in Algebra.
2. Help you use math in your life and in science, technology, and engineering.
3. Support your skills in math as you go from middle school to high school to college.

Please read the following to learn more about what you will be asked to do for the research project. Please note that this year we are getting a late start, there will be no mid-year activities, those will begin academic year 2014-2015. We hope you will participate!

Sincerely,

Kiriko Takahashi & Ka Pilina Project Staff
What will I have to do if I participate and how long will it take?
The entire project will take two years total. We ask you to join the project for one year at a time. Some Ka Pilina activities happen during the academic year. Other activities happen during school breaks. The total time you will spend in answering surveys and taking math tests is about 700 minutes over the year. This will be out of approximately 7,000 minutes (100 hours) of project activities that include math camps and math events. During different activities, we will collect information about you and how the activities helped you or did not help you become better at math. Here is a list of what we collect from you:

I. Pre, Mid & Post Surveys
You will fill out a few different surveys at the beginning, middle and at the end of the academic year. At the beginning, we will have a survey about who you are, like age, grade, and gender. We will also have a survey called Attitudes Toward Math Inventory that asks about what you think and feel about math and math class. You will answer this 3 times at the beginning, middle and at the end of the academic year. In the middle and at the end of the academic year, we will also ask you about your experiences with the Ka Pilina project. Each survey will take about 10-20 minutes to fill out.

II. Math Tests
You may take 2 kinds of math tests if your teacher does not give something similar already. One is called GMADE: Group Mathematics and Diagnostic Evaluation or the Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills. This will be given in class at the beginning of the academic year and at the end of the academic year. It will be done as a whole class and takes about 1 class period (80 minutes). The other math test is made by project staff or from the math computer software. These will be given at the beginning, middle, and end of the academic year. This will take about 30 minutes each time. These tests scores will not affect your class grades. These tests will help us know how much math you know when you begin the project and how much you learned.

III. Activity Surveys and Feedback

1. Checklist after Lessons. We will come to your math class about 8 times during the year to see how you are learning math. We will ask you to fill out a checklist to tell us what you learned. The checklist will take about 5 minutes each time.

2. Math Computer Log
Each week, you will be asked to use a math computer program at least 40 minutes per week. Your teacher will help you with this. College mentors will also come from time to time to help. The computer program tracks how much time you spent on the program and how you do on the quizzes and homework. We will collect this information from the computer program.

In order to use the online math program, you will need to create an individual user account, which requires that you provide your name and your school's name. You will also need to create a user ID and password. If you use the online
program, you will be agreeing to terms of use for the website. Copies of the software’s terms of use and privacy policies are available upon request.

3. **Math Camp Survey and Feedback:** During Winter, Spring and Summer school breaks, you will be invited to Ka Pilina math camps. At the camps, you will learn how to use math in everyday life. You will see how math is also used in jobs about science, technology, and engineering. Sometimes we will have field trips. College students will help out with camps. At the camp, you will answer some surveys and provide feedback on activities you liked the best. This will take about 5 minutes each time. Camp information will be provided to you from your math/homeroom teacher closer to the camp dates.

4. **Math Community Day Feedback:** At your school, we will have a Math Community Day where Ka Pilina project staff, your teacher, and you will plan an event for your family and friends about math. This event will be held once during Fall and again during Spring semester. After each event, you will be asked to describe your experience on a feedback form. The form uses short answers and a scale. It will take about 5 minutes each time.

5. **Talk Story (Focus Group):** You might be asked to join a group to talk about the Ka Pilina project one time in December or May. It would be a small group of about 5 or 6 students. You will get to talk for about 40-60 minutes. This type of discussion is called a focus group. We might record the session using a digital recorder. The recording will be destroyed 30 days after the end of the project.

**IV. Data Requests**

We will ask your school for parts of your educational records. We will ask for your ethnicity, attendance, math grades, test scores, HSA test score if available, enrollment and completion of pre/algebra classes and ITS computer program usage reports and test results. This will help us to see how much you improved in math!

**Do I have to participate?**

**Your choice to participate:**

You get to decide if you want to participate in the Ka Pilina project. Your parent or legal guardian also has to say that it’s okay. You can stop participating at any time. You don’t have to have a reason to stop. There is no penalty if you stop and no reward if you participate the whole time. Your decision to participate or to not participate will not affect any of your grades.
What will you do with the information collected? Are there any risks?

Your answers are private:
We assign a code number to each participant. We will not share your name or personal information. Even when we report the results of our study, your identity will be hidden.

Possible risks if you participate:
We are required to tell you if there are risks to you for participating in our program. We think that there is a small risk. It's possible that someone could find out private information about you.

However, we will take steps to protect your privacy. All information will be stored in a locked cabinet. All electronic files will be protected with a password. If we record the discussion group, the recordings will be destroyed 6 months after the recording. We will also use a code instead of your real name.

What do I get out from participating in the project?

Possible benefits if you participate:
We think that you and other students might benefit by participating in Ka Pilina. You might improve your math skills.

Other people might also benefit from your participation, too. Researchers like us will figure out new ways to help students learn. Educators like your teachers may find ways to strengthen student math skills. This will improve your performance through middle school, high school, and college. So, future students will benefit, too.

Who is involved in the project?

Ka Pilina project staff are from the Center on Disability Studies, University of Hawai‘i Manoa. We are partnering with Ewa Makai Middle School, Ilima Intermediate School, James Campbell High School, and Kamakau Laboratory Public Charter School.

Ka Pilina staff include:
Kiriko Takahashi, Kelly Roberts, Hye Jin Park, Justin Toyofuku, and University of Hawaii Manoa graduate research assistants
If you have any questions about this form or the project, you can contact me below or you can also talk to your teacher.

Kiriko Takahashi, Principal Investigator  
Kiriko@hawaii.edu or (808) 956-4457

If you are concerned about the study, or for questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact:
Human Studies Program, University of Hawai`i,  
1960 East-West Road,  
Biomedical Bldg., B-104,  
Honolulu, HI 9682  
Phone: (808) 956-5007 e-mail: uhirb@hawaii.edu
Ka Pilina: AIM Together Project
STUDENT ASSENT TO PARTICIPATE
STUDENT COPY

Please check in the YES box or the NO box for each line below:

I understand the information on the consent form:      YES ☐      NO ☐
I have answers to my questions:                      YES ☐      NO ☐
I know participation is decided by me:               YES ☐      NO ☐
I know I can stop participating at any time:         YES ☐      NO ☐

Please check YES or NO below:

YES ☐  I agree to participate in this project. I know my parent or guardian must also agree.
NO ☐  I do not agree to participate in this project.

If you said YES, please answer one more question.

YES ☐  I also agree to have my school share the following parts of my educational record: ethnicity, attendance, math grades, test scores, HSA test scores if available, enrollment and completion of algebra I/II classes, ITS computer program test results and usage.

NO ☐  I do not agree to share my school record.

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Sign your name here: _______________________________   Date: ______________
Your Name (please print): ______________________________________

THIS COPY IS FOR YOU!
Please take it and share it with your family.
Ka Pilina: AIM Together Project

STUDENT ASSENT TO PARTICIPATE
PROJECT COPY

Please check in the YES box or the NO box for each line below:

1. I understand the information on the consent form: YES ☐ NO ☐

2. I have answers to my questions: YES ☐ NO ☐

3. I know participation is decided by me: YES ☐ NO ☐

4. I know I can stop participating at any time: YES ☐ NO ☐

Please check YES or NO below:

YES ☐ I agree to participate in this project. I know my parent or guardian must also agree.

NO ☐ I do not agree to participate in this project.

If you said YES, please answer one more question.

YES ☐ I also agree to have my school share the following parts of my educational record: ethnicity, attendance, math grades, test scores, HSA test scores if available, enrollment and completion of algebra I/II classes, ITS computer program test results and usage.

NO ☐ I do not agree to share my school record.

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Sign your name: _______________________________ Date: _____________

Your Name (please print): ________________________________________________

School: _____________________________ Grade: ______

Homeroom Teacher: ______________________________________________________

Your email: _____________________________________________________________

This copy is for the project.
Please give this copy to your teacher!