



## Ka Pilina: AIM Together Project Parent/Legal Guardian Consent Form (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students)

Aloha!

We are a team of researchers from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. We are inviting your child to participate in a research project that is focused upon improving math skills for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. Your child's school and your child's mathematics teacher(s) will also be involved in the project.

This research 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. The project has three goals.

- (1) To strengthen your child's interests and skills in Algebra.
- (2) To encourage and improve the application of math skills in areas of Science, Technology, and Engineering.
- (3) To help your child become more successful in math as he/she transitions into high school and later into college.

To achieve these goals, your child will use math in local context and learn Native Hawaiian traditions to solve math problems. Students will use math computer software for parts of their math lessons at school. Some evenings, there will be math events at your child's school where you will be able to see what your child is learning. During school breaks, your child will be invited to attend math camps that include field trips and hands-on math activities. All activities will be supported by college mentors from the University of Hawai'i.

Please read the following to learn more about what your child 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 to have your child be part of our Ka Pilina Project.

Sincerely,

Kiriko Takahashi & Ka Pilina Project Staff

## What happens if my child participates in the project?

### **Participation and Duration of the Program**

We ask your child to participate for one academic year. During the year, we will collect information about improvements in your child's math skills. This information will be collected through surveys, assessments, observations, and feedback. We will review their class grades. We will ask their attitudes towards math. We will also ask them to rate each activity that they participate in. If your child participates in all Ka Pilina activities, they will spend a total of about 700 minutes over the year answering surveys, taking math tests, and giving feedback. This will be out of approximately 6,000 minutes (100 hours) of project activities per year. This includes the use of math computer software in school, attendance up to 4 weeks of math camp during school breaks, and attendance to 2 math community events. Below is a list of the specific data that will be collected.

*Sample surveys and forms are available upon request; contact the Principal Investigator for copies.*

### **Surveys, Assessments, Feedback, and School Records:**

**I. Pre, Mid, and Post Surveys:** Your child will be asked to complete some written surveys. This will happen at the beginning, middle and at the end of the academic year.

1. **Background information:** At the beginning of the year we will collect information such as age, gender, and grade level. We will also ask about your child's previous and current math classes. This will take about 10-20 minutes.
2. **Experience in Ka Pilina:** At the middle of the year (January) and at the end of the year, your child will be asked about his/her experiences participating in the project. The questions will ask in general about mentoring, math computer software, math camps, and the math community event. This will take about 10-20 minutes each time.
3. **Attitudes Toward Math Inventory:** At the beginning, middle, and at the end of year, your child will be asked to answer questions about what he or she thinks about math. Each survey will take about 8-10 minutes.

### **II. Assessments**

1. **Standardized Math Test:** At the beginning and at the end of the year, your child will take one math test, either the GMADE: Group Mathematics and Diagnostic Evaluation or the Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills at school if his/her math teacher does not already give one at the beginning and at the end that is similar to GMADE. The math test will take one class period (up to 80 minutes) or will be taken after school or during lunch periods. The math test will not impact your child's grades in math or any other class.
2. **Short Math Assessment:** At the beginning, middle, and at the end of the year your child will be asked to complete a math assessment made by Ka Pilina project staff or using the math computer software used at school. It will focus on algebra skills and be used to check your child's improvement in math. This will take about 30 minutes each time. The math assessments we will collect will not impact your child's grades in class.

### **III. Activity Surveys and Feedback**

1. **Checklist after Lessons:** Project staff will observe your child's class up to 8 times during the academic year. We will watch how the teacher uses the math technology and math strategies. After the lesson, we will ask your child to fill out a checklist about what he/she learned. Each time, the checklist will take about 5 minutes.
2. **Math Computer Log:** Students will use math computer software at least 40 minutes per week. Also, your child's teacher will use the computer to teach math. The teacher may assign quizzes and homework that uses the math software. The software is referred to as an intelligent tutoring system. Intelligent tutoring systems that your child may use include I CAN LEARN, ALEKS, or iLEARN. These programs records the problems attempted and solved by each student. Using this information, the software figures out which topics the students have mastered and which topics need more work. We will collect the student information from the software every week.

In order to use the online math program, students must create an individual user account, which requires that they provide their name and their school's name and create a user ID and password. If students use the online program, they will be agreeing to terms of use for the I CAN LEARN, ALEKS, or iLEARN website. Copies of the software's terms of use and privacy policies are available upon request.

3. **Math Camp Survey and Feedback:** During school breaks (winter, spring, and summer), your child can participate in the Ka Pilina Math camps. Math camps provide informal learning about applying math to fields such as science, technology, and engineering. Students will go on field trips, interact with college mentors, and learn more about math in the real world. Winter and spring camps are about 1 week long depending on holidays. Summer camp is 2 weeks long. After each camp, your child will answer written questions about his or her expectations of math. Your child will also name the activity that was the most helpful during the camp. Each survey will take about 5 minutes. Additional Ka Pilina Math Camp information and the application to attend will be sent home with students close to the camp dates.
4. **Math Community Day Feedback:** Your child's school will team up with Ka Pilina staff to host Math Community Day. This event will be held once during Fall and again during Spring semester. After each event, your child will be asked to describe his or her experience on a feedback form. The form uses short answers and a scale. It will take about 5 minutes each time.
5. **Focus Group:** Your child may be selected to share thoughts about project activities in a 40-60 minutes discussion. This is called a focus group. It will consist of 6 students and will be held at the end of each semester (December/May). The focus group may be recorded. The digital recording will be transcribed into writing. The original digital file will be destroyed within 30 days after the end of the Ka Pilina project.

#### **IV. Data Requests**

With your permission, we will ask your child's school to share some information from your child's educational records. The project will request ethnicity data, math grades, class attendance, results of math tests, HSA math test result if available, ITS computer

program usage reports and test results, enrollment and completion of pre/algebra I courses. This will help us measure if Ka Pilina helped your child improve in math.

#### **V. Email**

By consenting to this project, you consent for your child to share his or her email address with the project. This will be used to communicate project related material to your child.

#### **Does my child have to participate?**

##### **You and your child's choice to participate:**

You can choose whether or not to allow your child to participate in this research project. Also, your child may choose to participate or not to participate. You and your child's decisions will not affect any of your child's grades. Your child can stop participating in this study at any time with no consequences.

#### **What will you do with the information collected? Are there any risks?**

##### **Your child's name and answers are private:**

We strive to maintain your child's privacy. When we report, write about, or present the results of our study, we will not use your child's name. We will also make sure that no personal information identifies your child.

##### **Possible risks if your child participates:**

We are required to tell you if there are risks for your child to participate in the study. There may be small risks.

(1) Your child may become stressed or tired from doing math tests and surveys.

We will make sure that your child can take breaks, if needed. We will talk to the staff or the teacher if participation becomes too stressful.

(2) There is a possibility that someone could find out private information about your child.

We will take strong steps to protect your child's privacy. A number code will be used instead of your child's real name. We will keep all of the study information in a secure location. It will be stored in a locked cabinet. All electronic files will be password protected. If any recording is used during the focus groups, the recordings will be destroyed at the end of the project.

#### **What are the benefits in having my child participate?**

##### **Possible benefits if your child participates:**

We think that your child and other students might benefit directly by participating in Project Ka Pilina. For example, your child might improve his/her math skills. He or she might become more interested in math and find math more relevant to daily life.

##### **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 please contact me directly:**

Kiriko Takahashi, Principal Investigator

[Kiriko@hawaii.edu](mailto:Kiriko@hawaii.edu) or (808) 956-4457

If you are concerned about the study or if you have questions about your child's rights as a research participant, please contact:

Human Studies Program, University of Hawai'i,

1960 East-West Road,

Biomedical Bldg., B-104,

Honolulu, HI 96822

Phone: (808) 956-5007 e-mail: [uhirb@hawaii.edu](mailto:uhirb@hawaii.edu)

**Ka Pilina: AIM Together Project**  
**PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN CONSENT FOR STUDENT PARTICIPATION**  
**PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN COPY**

I have read and understand this document. Researchers have answered any questions I have about project procedures. We have discussed any concerns.

I understand that our participation is voluntary. I have been told that I am free to withdraw my permission and to stop my child's participation in the research at any time, without penalty.

The researchers (who are named above) are responsible for the well-being of my child during participation in this study. I understand that my signature does not release the investigators or their institution from liability. In addition, my permission on this form does not waive any of my legal rights.

Please initial either "**NO**" or "**YES**" below and sign this form.

INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_ NO, I do not allow my child to participate in this research study.

INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_ YES, I allow my child to participate in this research study.

INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_ YES, I allow my child's school to release the following parts of my child's educational record for research: ethnicity, math grades, class attendance, results of math tests, HSA math test result if available, ITS test results and usage, enrollment and completion of pre/algebra courses.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Your Contact Information Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Child's Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Child's School: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional) If your child receives special education services:

(Optional) Does your child have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)?

Yes    No    Not Sure

(Optional) Does your child have a 504 plan?    Yes    No    Not Sure

**This copy is for you. Please keep.**

**Ka Pilina: AIM Together Project**  
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**RESEARCHERS' COPY**

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INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_ YES, I allow my child's school to release the following parts of my child's educational record for research: ethnicity, math grades, class attendance, results of math tests, HSA math test result if available, ITS test results and usage, enrollment and completion of pre/algebra courses.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Your Contact Information

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Child's Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Child's School: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional) If your child receives special education services:

(Optional) Does your child have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)?

Yes    No    Not Sure

(Optional) Does your child have a 504 plan?    Yes    No    Not Sure

PLEASE RETURN SIGNED COPY TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

Or  
KA PILINA PROJECT  
1410 Lower Campus Drive. Bldg. 171 F  
Honolulu, HI 96822