

**Hawaii Baptist Academy Middle School  
09-10 Expansion of the FLEX Program**

In the May 11, 2009 Weekly Bulletin, we informed you of possible exposure of our students to potentially dangerous off-campus criminal activities which may occur during unsupervised times after-FLEX.

Currently, HBA middle school provides an optional FLEX program providing classes for students to explore interest areas from 2:15 to 2:55 p.m. expanding their learning opportunity time. All but a few students take advantage of this program each semester. During different athletic program seasons, up to 70% of our students may participate in sports activities from 3:00 p.m. and ending at various times. Other students are able to go to the Learning Center (library) on the high school campus till 4:00 p.m. to study or to complete research. Otherwise, middle school parents are expected to make arrangements for the travel and care of their child after the end of the FLEX classes; sports activities; or the close of the Learning Center at the high school. Travel home by school bus is also available for a fee. Information is available at the HBA Business Office.

It is a fact that middle-schoolers left to their own devices between the times of 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. have a higher likelihood of being involved in trouble. Yet, there are often a number of students at any one time that are waiting to be picked up well past 4:30 p.m. Many parents out of necessity must work long hours and it is understandably difficult but the concern for the safety and student supervision increases when the middle school office closes at 3:45 p.m. Though security is available 24 hours, they are not trained to care or supervise students.

The school is offering to expand the FLEX Program to address student and family needs if sufficient interest is found. The expansion would increase the FLEX hours to 5:00 p.m. and have teacher(s) and an aide for the class. Currently, it would be located in the MPR at the Middle School Campus estimated at \$400 per student each semester. Students would have a quiet place to study and receive homework support. A time to relax, learn and play together could also be offered i.e. WIE station(s); learn to play chess; improve on computer skills or learn web/digital design, robotics or Christian hula and other high interest areas etc.

Please complete the following *Interest to Register* and turn them in to the MS Front Office by June 3, 2009.

Cut on dotted line and return to Front Office by June 3, 2009.

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**Interest to Register for Expanded FLEX Program**

My child's name is \_\_\_\_\_.

- I'm interested in hearing more about this expansion of the FLEX program for my child. I would be willing to consider paying for the program to be self-sustaining.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Expand FLEX program to 4:00 p.m.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Expand FLEX program to 5:00 p.m.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Expand FLEX program to 6:00 p.m.
  
- I'm not interested in expansion of the FLEX program and will make other make arrangements for the travel and care of my child after the end of the FLEX classes; sports activity; or the close of the Learning Center at the high school.

If you should have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the principal at 595-6302, drop by the office or email catta@hba.net. **Middle School Office Hours** are from 7:15 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Appointments can be made for non-office hours.