

AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE
STUDENT, PARENT/GUARDIAN, STAFF, GOVERNING BOARD
AND COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS OF
WEST HAWAII EXPLORATIONS ACADEMY

EACH STUDENT AGREES TO:

- Abide by the policies and consequences set forth by WHEA staff.
- Display moral and ethical character and a **positive image** within the NELHA Host park (WHEA Campus) and while representing WHEA.
- Abide by behavioral and protocol restrictions when visiting NELHA tenant sites, the WHEA campus including other students' project areas, and other sites visited while representing WHEA before, during and after school hours.
- Work productively for the entire school day, and before and after school hours when necessary, for the greater good of team/class, and overall individual academic success.
- Work mostly out-of-doors on projects.
- Be responsible for a considerable portion of planning and organizing of WHEA functions.
- Complete "Helping Hands in the Community" (volunteer work). Hours are required per quarter:
High School: (8) hours Grade 8: (8) hours Grade 7:(7) hours Grade 6:(6) hours

STUDENT, PARENTS AND GUARDIANS UNDERSTAND THAT:

- The format for learning is primarily self-directed teams and projects.
- Students receive credit for classes including but not limited to Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, Business Computer Applications and Math. Students and parents/guardians are responsible for verifying credits earned as they apply toward graduation requirements and/or college entrance requirements.
- Students will be required to help maintain facilities, including daily sweeping, mopping, grounds pickup, etc. Students also do light building and plumbing for their projects, and use power tools.
- Enclosed classroom space is limited; students will mostly work outdoors.
- Transportation to and from school is the responsibility of the student, parent or guardian.
- The WHEA curriculum is a unique integrated hands-on curriculum. The main funding source is from the State of Hawaii. From time to time, students are asked to participate in studies to gather data on student performance (students remain anonymous). Parents and students agree to authorize that the results of these studies may be published and shared nationally.
- There will be a mandatory Lab and Activity Fee payable at the start of each school year. Fees will be used to buy general supplies for common use (tools, test kits, printing supplies, etc.) and to supplement field trip costs. WHEA may be able to help with some funding of specific projects through these lab fees, but project costs are ultimately the responsibility of students and parents/guardians.
- All activities on campus are subject to monitoring through surveillance cameras.

- WHEA is often the subject of news items and television programs. The school also has several web pages featuring students and school activities. **Parents and students acknowledge that signing this agreement grants permission for the use of student photos, likenesses, images, voices and/or school created work to appear on web pages and in other publications, broadcasts or programs intended to publicize and promote our school. Any objections must be submitted in writing to the Administration.**

WHEA students must abide by all regular administrative rules governing public schools, and special rules of the WHEA governing board. WHEA will abide by WHEA Discipline Guidelines which are aligned to the DOE's Chapter 19. Students who violate the discipline guidelines, or special provisions mandated by the governing board, will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action including, but not limited to dismissal, exclusion, and/or suspension under these guidelines. Students and parents/guardians should read and review the WHEA Discipline Guidelines carefully previously outlined in this handbook.

Specifically, a student:

- Must remain at least one hundred (100) feet from the ocean unless accompanied or permitted by a staff member.
- Must use power and/or welding equipment only with appropriate safety precautions and after proper training, while under appropriate supervision.
- May not leave WHEA property without proper permission.
- Must not drive improperly or illegally on NELHA ingress or egress roads.
- Must obey safety rules and report injury, incidents and accidents promptly.
- Must **never** maliciously or negligently damage, or otherwise interfere or tamper with any NELHA or tenant property, or other students' projects or property. Parents/guardians may be held liable for damages.
- **May not have access to the NELHA shoreline area. This is prohibited before school hours, and during school hours up to 2:45pm.** After 2:45pm students are no longer under the school's supervision.
- May not return to campus once they leave at the conclusion of the school day, including but not limited to waiting for transportation.
- May enter or visit NELHA tenant sites only when all these conditions have been met:
Visit is for official business, a specific request has been made by the tenant or administration or a student has obtained WHEA PCS staff approval

Actions For Violations:

At WHEA a student will be disciplined for minor violations as she or he would be at typical schools. **However, due to the special nature of the school and its relationship with NELHA and its tenants, and the community student expectations are held in high regard.**

NOTE: WHEAPCS maintains a "Zero Tolerance Policy" for illicit drugs, alcohol, weapons and violence. Students will be disciplined in accordance with the WHEA Discipline Guidelines.

Approved by the WHEAPCS GB: July 14th, 2021