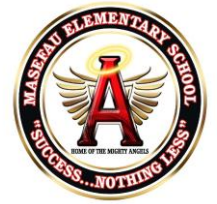




FROM THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

AMERICAN SAMOA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA



VOLUME 11, ISSUE 9
12 OCTOBER 2015

~Weekly Updates~

*"If the Plan Doesn't Work, Change the Plan but Never the Goal."
"A le taunu'u tapenaga, Sui tapenaga ae aua le suia lona taunuuga."*



MASEFAU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-HOME OF THE MIGHTY ANGELS

Situated in the Eastern district ascending up to the mountains half a mile from Fagaitua High School, take a right turn which leads straight to the villages of Masausi and Sailele. The drive is a sight to marvel because of the lush green mountainsides and panoramic view of the warm Pacific Ocean. Masefau Elementary School is one of many elementary schools participating in this year's Accrediting Commission for Schools, ACS WASC Accreditation process. Through several committee discussions they were able to understand why many of the parents were unable to attend school functions and meetings. As a result, an Outreach Program was formulated and the school's administration set out to go out to the villages of Masausi, Sailele and Masefau. The Outreach Program occurred, 30 Sept 2015 for the villages of Masausi and Sailele, 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the evening and on 1 Oct 2015 for the parents of Masefau. Information disseminated regarding the School's Improvement Plan-(SIP), student handbook, ASDOE Five-Year CSBIP (Comprehensive School Based Improvement Plan), and everything that had to do with educating a child attending Masefau Elementary School. According to Principal, Mr. Asofa'afetai Pulu, "It was a success! Ninety-five percent of the parents attended the Outreach Program." Principal Pulu continues to connect and encourage all parents, community, government and business leaders to stay the course in joining alliance to support the needs of the school and actively engage in their children's education. As their school motto clearly states: **"SUCCESS...NOTHING LESS"**.



Masefau Elementary School Outreach Program 2015. Proud parents of Masausi, Sailele and Masefau. (Courtesy photo: Masefau school administrators.)

ASDOE TEAM VISITS NUS-NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SAMOA

Deputy Fa'auifono Vaitautolu, Assistant Director's Samasoni Asaeli-Secondary and Diana Ameperosa-Teacher Quality, along with Director of Education, Vaitinasa Dr. Salu Hunkin-Finau, traveled on 24 Sept 2015 to Samoa and meet with the Minister of Education, Magele Mauiliu and Vice Chancellor/President of NUS, Professor Asofou So'o. Vatinasa Dr. Salu Hunkin-Finau stated, "We are interested in a Bachelor in Secondary Education with an emphasis in the content areas specifically in Math, Science, English and trades. Further, we're interested in a certification of high school teachers teaching out of content." The meetings were productive and the department is looking forward to working with NUS in the very near future.

LE FETUAO SAMOAN LANGUAGE CENTER-HONOLULU



Executive Director and Founder, Elisapeta Alaimaleata of Le Fetuao Samoan Language Center, and staff members Eddie Danielson, Deborah Stanley and Moana Melendez meet with DOE Director Vaitinasa Dr. Salu Hunkin-Finau, Monday 5 Oct 2015. The Dual Language Program presentation shared to the Fono Leaders and media in recent weeks was conveyed to the group, in alignment with ASDOE 5 year CSBIP. Foase Fano and Sipaea Sonona of the Dual Language and Samoa Studies Division accompanied

the visiting team to Tafuna Elementary School where they had the opportunity to observe classroom sections teaching the dual language. Debriefing and exchanging of ideas followed shared by the accomplishments, challenges and roll-out of the Dual Language Program for the next 4 years. For more information on the Le Fetuao Samoan Language Center, please visit their website at www.lefetuao.com.