



ISLAND INSURANCE

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## News Release

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## Mililani Waena Elementary Principal named as finalist in \$25,000 School Leadership Award

**Dale Castro, principal of Mililani Waena Elementary School** was named a finalist in the **2011 Masayuki Tokioka Excellence in School Leadership Awards**.

One Hawaii public school principal will receive \$25,000 (\$15,000 towards a school project of his or her choice and a \$10,000 personal cash award). The recipient of this year's award will be announced at the Public Schools of Hawaii Foundation dinner on April 29, 2011 in Honolulu.

The award, which is named after Island Insurance founder Masayuki Tokioka, is underwritten by the Island Insurance Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Island Insurance Companies. 11 public school principals from across the state are finalists for this year's award which recognizes outstanding school principals across the state and their efforts to provide high-quality learning opportunities for their students.

A principal for eight years, five of which have been at Mililani Waena Elementary School, Castro believes in the value of teamwork and capitalizing on the diverse and unique strengths of the school's staff members. To support this vision, he implemented a systems approach to unite the faculty at the school and to facilitate a collective investment in student learning and achievement.

(more)

“Principal Castro has not only remained focused on providing quality education in the classroom but also motivating learning among his teachers by developing them into leaders,” said Ashley Kitabayashi, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Mililani Waena Elementary School. “By believing in the potential and recognizing the strengths in his staff, he has inspired teachers with the confidence to assume leadership responsibilities – ranging from grade level chairs to content area facilitators.

The Island Insurance Foundation was established by Island Insurance Company, Ltd., Hawaii’s largest locally owned and managed insurance carrier, offering a full range of property and casualty protection. Founded in downtown Honolulu in 1939, Island Insurance has been serving Hawaii’s families and businesses for over 70 years and is the only Hawaii-based company to be recognized as one of the Top 50 property & casualty insurance companies in the nation by the Ward Group for three consecutive years. Island Insurance has earned financial strength ratings of “A” (Excellent) from A.M. Best Company and an “A” (Strong) rating from Fitch Ratings. For more information, visit its website at: [www.islandinsurance.com](http://www.islandinsurance.com).

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