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June 1, 2010

Welcome to the Middle School at Island Pacific Academy. If you are new to our school in the coming year, I am pleased that you will lend your talents and voice to the continued development of our school. We look forward to welcoming back our returning students as well.

Middle School is such an exciting time as it represents your first steps toward adulthood. It is during the middle school years that important steps are taken toward developing your identity, growing your emotional intelligence, and learning how to navigate social waters. Additionally, it is a time when childhood voices begin stretching and growing into those that will be used during the adult years. Those voices will be nurtured and honed in each of the academic disciplines through problem-solving, critical thinking, cooperative study, and public speaking. Study skills and time management will also be emphasized in each of your classes in order to support your eventual transition to Upper School.

In August, we have several opportunities for you to get to know your teachers and students in our middle school before school even begins. The August calendar highlights important dates, including mandatory parent orientations August 19 and 20. All parents, new and returning, must attend one of these two dates. Please see the "Save the Date" flyer for information on those events.

All students intending to participate in ILH sports in the 2010-2011 school year (Fall, Winter, or Spring seasons) must attend the *Student Athlete and Parent Meeting* scheduled for Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, at 6pm in the MPR. All fall sport practices statewide begin the end of July. Parents and students should be aware that a decision to miss early practices may result in the failure of a student to make a team or to play in the early part of the season.

On behalf of the Middle School Ohana, welcome to Island Pacific Academy. We look forward to an exciting and rewarding 2010 – 2011 school year.

Aloha,

James Nelligan  
Secondary Principal