

Ms. Neason
is the best
teacher in the whole
White world!

Leilehua High School
Wahiawa, Hawai'i

The logo for Leilehua High School's mascot, the Mules. The word "Mules" is written in a stylized, cursive font with a thick yellow outline and a green fill. A yellow underline is positioned beneath the letters.



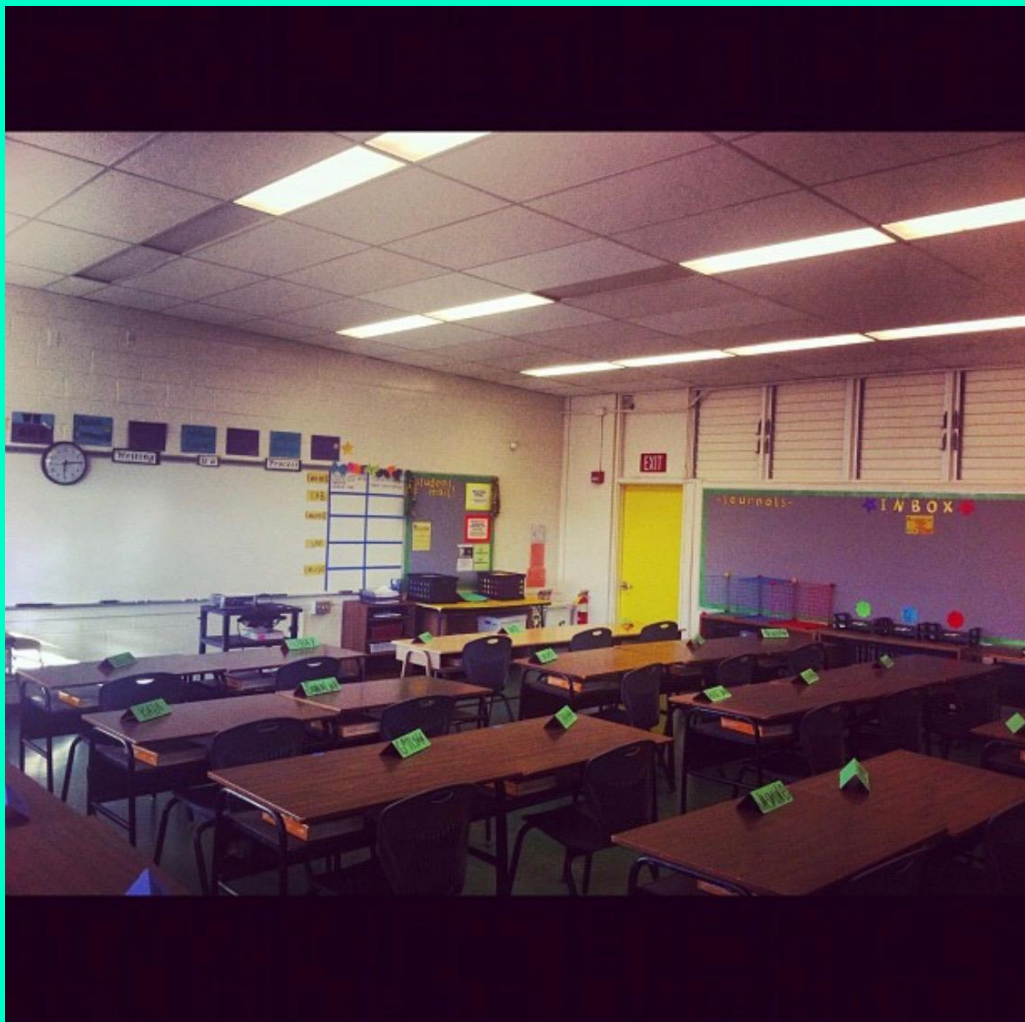
TEACHER → EDUCATION REPORTER

*What do teachers do that journalists also do?

-Ask a lot of questions!

-Teachers get coached, journalists get edited

-Both seek to learn, and then to educate



GETTING ACCESS

- Show up: school board meetings, sporting events, open houses, science fairs. Make your face known.
- Be hyper-specific when you can, and be honest about the framing of your story
- Clearly frame your visit as one rooted in a desire to understand and explain
- Get parents or teachers invested first, if possible**

ONCE YOU'RE IN

- Ask the teacher if you should introduce yourself to the kids
- Don't leave when the kids leave: talk to the teacher before and after a classroom visit, especially if you only have one day
- Time permitting, watch the same lesson two or three times. Take note of the adjustments teachers make between periods, and ask them to explain why they made the changes
- Keep in mind what it feels like when you meet someone who misunderstands the journalistic process
- Spend as much time as possible with teachers outside of school, even if it feels irrelevant to the story

MORE TIPS

-Ask to sit in on lesson planning sessions

-Attend a teacher training

-Talk to parents/kids in the class before you go, and after. Ask them what works for them and what doesn't. Then, ask the teacher the same thing.

-Go where the kids go

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