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News Release

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Noxious odor reported in Waimea

WAIMEA – A field of weeds west of Waimea Canyon School is suspected to be the source of a noxious odor that permeated the area early this morning.

Several students and a teacher who experienced dizziness and headaches were taken to Kaua'i Veterans Memorial Hospital to be checked as a precautionary measure, while others were sent home. Their condition is not known at this time.

Firefighters from the Waimea station, the fire department's Hazmat team, and police officers responded to a 9:36 am call regarding a noxious odor.

In addition, state Department of Health and Syngenta officials responded.

At about 11:40 am, several piles of weeds in a field west of the school were discovered that authorities suspect might be the source of the noxious odor reported earlier.

At a meeting held at the school at around noon, officials asked Syngenta representatives to take the piles of weeds away and dispose of them.

An official from the state Department of Agriculture is scheduled to fly from the Big Island to Kaua'i tomorrow to meet with Syngenta officials.

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