

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NU'UANU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3055 PUIWA LANE HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817 PHONE (808) 595-5422 FAX (808) 595-5425

March 20, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians of Nu'uanu School,

As stated in our 4th Quarter Reopening Plan parent letter dated March 12, 2021, upon return to school on Monday, March 22nd, all students will CONTINUE with their 3rd quarter schedules – Blended Learning (Cohort A & B) and teacher-led distance learning programs. Beginning Monday, April 5th, we will be transitioning all Cohort A and B students in <u>first and fourth grades only</u> to daily face-to-face/inperson learning.

On March 19, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released new guidelines regarding physical spacing in school classrooms. Under these new guidelines, the agency is now stating that maintaining at least three (3) feet physical distancing in classrooms is safe as long as students and teachers are wearing appropriate facial coverings and other layered mitigation strategies are in place.

As the result of the new CDC guidelines and reviewing our current enrollment numbers for respective grade levels, we will be able to manage having <u>kindergarten</u> and <u>second grade students</u> also return to school for face-to-face/in-person learning starting on Monday, April 5th. This means that all Cohort A and B students in kindergarten, first grade, second grade and fourth grade will physically attend school Monday thru Friday for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year.

Due to large enrollment sizes, there will be no change for third and fifth grade students who will continue with their Cohort A & B schedules.

Distance Learning

We will continue to honor the contract signed by parents agreeing that their child will remain in this distance learning program for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. Therefore, first, second, third, fourth and fifth grade students enrolled in distance learning with Ms. Miguel and Ms. Tupper will continue with this arrangement.

Students who are currently receiving distance learning instruction from their kindergarten, first, second and fourth grade **homeroom teachers** will move to the Department of Education's recommended <u>K12 Learning Solutions online program</u>. Through this online program, students will work independently and at their own pace to complete lessons and activities. **There is no direct teacher instruction for this online program.** Kindergarten, first, second and fourth grade homeroom teachers will no longer be providing distance learning instruction and will focus on their face-to-face/in-person students.

Furthermore, for parents who feel uncomfortable with the move to face-to-face/in-person instruction, they may switch to the <u>K12 Learning Solutions online program</u>. Please contact Principal Ned Uemae at 595-5422 **by Thursday, March 25, 2021 by 12:00pm** to register for the K12 Learning Solutions online program.

Finally, as more students return to school for face-to-face/in-person learning, we ask for your assistance with the following:

- Performing daily wellness checks using the following guidance: <u>Return to School Work and Daily Wellness Check</u>. If your child exhibits any of the COVID-19-like symptoms, please have them remain at home and follow the DOE criteria for returning to school.
- 2. Individuals who have been directed by the Department of Health or their primary care physician to quarantine should not come to campus. If someone in your household has been tested for COVID-19, please contact Sally Moses, our school health aide, before coming to campus.
- 3. Please drop off and pick up your child at their designated staggered times to assist us with following our layered mitigation strategies.

Thank you for your continued support and patience as these constant changes require us to adjust our plans accordingly. Please contact me at (808) 595-5422 or email me at Ned.Uemae@k12.hi.us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Ned Uemae

Ned Uemae Principal