



# RLSMS Newsletter

Stevenson Middle School - News, updates, and announcements

April 2024

## Principal's Message

Dear Stevenson Ohana,

As we head into the final stretch of the school year, I wanted to take a moment to update you on a few key things happening at Stevenson Middle School:

### Celebrating Success:

- Student-Led Conferences (SLCs): Congratulations! All SLCs have been completed. We hope these conferences provided valuable insights into your student's academic and social progress.

### Looking Ahead:

- Hawaii State Science & Engineering Fair: Three pairs of students (6 students) will be participating in the State Science Fair from April 1 to April 3, 2024. We wish them well as they continue sharing their science fair project with a wider audience.
- Student Travel: Learning beyond the classroom. Mrs. Segawa and Mrs. Talaecai chaperoned our Space Campers during Spring Break. They traveled to Alabama to deepen their learning about space, aviation, and robotics. Another group of students will be heading to our Nation's Capital and surrounding areas on a Zoni tour chaperoned by Dr. Pratt and Mr. Ellis. Not only will students be able to deepen their understanding of our history, but experience the "Mainland" culture and engage in interdisciplinary units of study.
- Music in the Air: Our band is gearing up for the Oahu Band Directors' Association - Parade of Bands on April 5. Our orchestra will be performing for the first time in the Hawaii American String Teachers Association - Parade of Orchestras on April 13 at the Michael Nakasone Performing Arts Center in Pearl City. Then there is the Punchbowl Music Festival on April 16 and 17 at the Hawaii Theatre. These are great opportunities to hear how they've progressed and a prequel to the end-of-the-year band and orchestra concert scheduled for May.
- Parents only: Our inaugural parent book club will start with the book "How to Talk so That Kids Will Listen" and "How to Listen so Kids will Talk." These sessions will be on Fridays in April and lead by Mrs. Araki and Mrs. Nakamura. Space is limited to 15 so act quickly if you want to learn with us.

### Important Dates:

- State Testing: Science State testing for grade eight (8) will be taking place between April 8 and April 12, 2024. Please encourage your child to get a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast on testing days.

We're excited to see all that our students accomplish in the final quarter! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher or counselor.

Mahalo,  
Laurie



# General Announcements

## 8th Grade Awards and Promotion Ceremony

**\*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\***

Thursday, May 30, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m.

School Cafeteria

More information is forthcoming!



## Donations Needed for 8th Grade Class Day

Ti Leaves - any color



(preferably deboned)

Kukui Nuts



to make hū (kukui tops)

Bamboo BBQ skewers



Please drop off all donations by April 15, 2024, at the front office.

Mahalo!

# General Announcements (cont.)

## Summer School 2024 Registration


 For Stevenson Middle School Students (currently enrolled or new AND enrolled)

Join us for engaging and enriching summer learning experiences!

Dates: June 3, 2024 - July 2, 2024

Time: 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM

### Why Summer School with Us?


 **Interactive Learning:** Explore exciting subjects through hands-on project based learning

activities and projects.

 **Small Class Sizes:** Personalized attention to ensure every student's success.

 **Digital Skills:** Develop essential technology skills for the future.

 **Creative Arts:** Unleash your creativity in our arts and crafts workshops.

 **Music:** Get a jump start or deepen your musicality through our summer band sessions.


### Key Information

 **Location:** Stevenson Middle School

 **Meals:** Both breakfast and lunch will be available. Lunch break is 11:00- 11:30 am

 **End-of-Program Celebration:** Join us for a fun celebration on July 2, 2024.

### Registration Details:

 Register by May 15, 2024, to secure your spot! Register for one (1) of the following:

- Project Based Learning Summer Program, 8:00 - 12:30 PM
- Beginning Band, 8:00 - 10:00 AM
- Returning Band Students 10:30 - 12:30 PM



Use **QR Code** to register

Registration opens on April 1st at 3:00 PM.

 For more information, visit our website at [rlsms.k12.hi.us](https://rlsms.k12.hi.us).

# Office Messages



## Student Absences

Parents may either call (808) 307-3300 or submit an online form to report a student's absence by 8:30 a.m.

To submit online: go to our school website, [rlsms.k12.hi.us](https://rlsms.k12.hi.us), click Forms from the homepage, then click Absence Request Form.

If absences are not reported, a robocall will be sent out.

## Meal Accounts

In-person deposits are cash only and must be made at least one day before it is needed in the account.

Deposit Drop Box is located at the front office counter. Loans will not be issued.

Parents may call the school to inquire about balances at (808) 307-3300.

We highly encourage parents to register at [ezschoolpay.com](https://ezschoolpay.com) to monitor the student's account, make credit card payments (for a small fee: \$0.13 convenience fee + 1.99% transaction fee) and set low balance reminders.

## School Uniforms

- Uniforms are not being sold at the front office. Please order uniforms on the school website.
- Students **MUST** be in uniform daily.



# Registrar's Corner



## Parents of 6th and 7th Graders

If your child is not returning to Stevenson Middle School for next school year, please notify Stevenson Middle School's Registrar's Office of your change. For example: moving to the mainland, foreign country, to another school district, or accepted to a private school.



## Parents of 8th Graders

If you are moving to the mainland or foreign country after this school year, you need to notify Stevenson's Registrar's Office of this move. Paper work must be prepared for the next school and we need to remove your child's enrollment from the Hawaii DOE High School.

If your child has been accepted to a private school and you will not attend a Hawaii DOE High School next year, you must notify Stevenson's Registrar's Office of your change. Paper work must be prepared for the private school and we need to remove your child's enrollment from the DOE high school.



## 8th Grade Students Applying for a GE to Roosevelt High School

Roosevelt High School will have a lottery in early April for the selection of next year's GEs, you will be notified after the April lottery of your GE status. If you have any questions regarding your GE application, you will need to call Roosevelt High School.

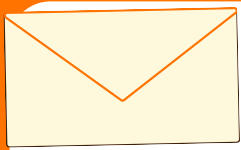
# Registrar's Corner (cont.)

## For All Students: Private School Applications

Please work with your counselor. Stevenson Middle School will not be responsible for sending Private School applications.



Parents/Guardians are responsible for obtaining the proper documents and sending their applications to the private school. Parents are responsible for all duplicating costs, please allow 2 days for any duplicating request.



## For All Students: Change of Address, Phone #, Email address

If you have a change to your physical/mailling address, phone number, or email address you need to complete and submit an official Student Information Update Form (SIS-II) For physical address changes, attach a current proof of residence (rental agreement, utility bill, mortgage statement). Student Information Update Form SIS-II and Proof of Residence Acceptable Documents handout can be downloaded off the Stevenson Website: [rlsms.k12.hi.us](http://rlsms.k12.hi.us). Turn in completed forms and documents to the school office as soon as possible.

## The Importance of Up-to-Date Records

It is very important that we have your correct physical and/or mailing address for the following reasons:

- To receive SPECIAL School mailings.
- To receive Report Cards.

It is very important that we have your correct phone number and email address for School Personnel (Teachers, Counselors, or Administrators):

- To contact you for any concerns, updates, emergent notices regarding your child.
- To inform you of important school notices and updates.

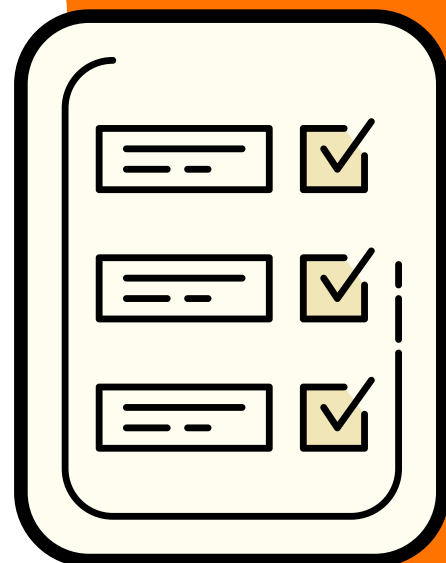




# Registrar's Corner (cont.)

## Report Cards

- 3rd Quarter Report Cards will be distributed through AA on April 3, 2024.
- 4th Quarter Progress Reports will be distributed through AA on April 24, 2024.
- 4th Quarter Report Cards will be mailed on June 13, 2024.



## Middle School Promotion

All students must earn a unit in each core area of English, Math, Social Studies, and Science to earn a promotion to the next grade level.

Any student failing a core class will be **RETAINED** at the end of the school year.

A total of 12 core subject units must be earned for promotion to grade 9.

If attending summer school to make up a failed core subject, the student and/or parent will be held responsible for bringing the final summer report card to the Stevenson Middle School Registrar's Office to gain promotion and/or insure proper course credit. Promotion to the next grade must be done before the start of next school year, August 5, 2024.

Parents/Guardians of any student in danger of failing a core subject, should consult with their Counselor as soon as possible.

Counselor for Students Last Name A-L: Tricia Araki 307-3333

Counselor for Students Last Name Lu-Z: Christopher Heaton 307-3332

# 8th Grade

## Junior Scientists

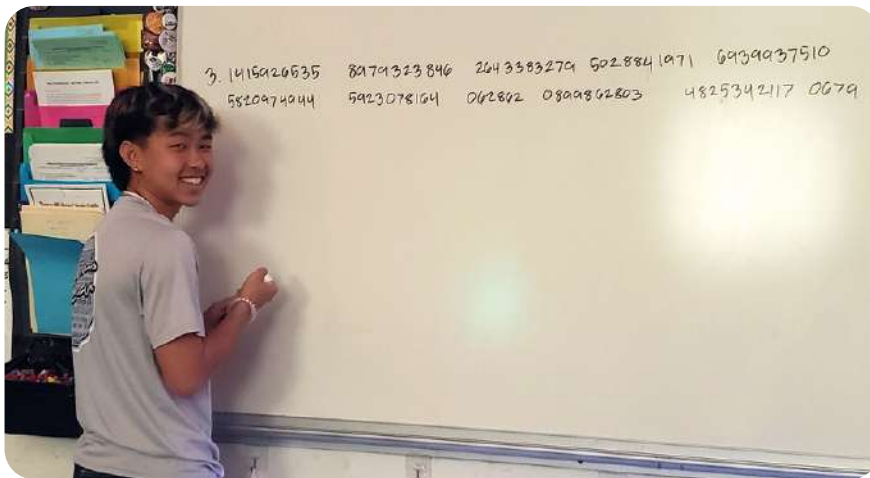
Six of our junior scientists are headed to the Hawaii State Science and Engineering Fair at the Blaisdell center!



Public viewing will be Wednesday, April 3, 2024 from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

## Pi Recitation Competition

Congratulations to all 8th graders who participated in Dr. Pratt's Pi Digit Recitation competition. Last year's record of 209 digits of Pi (held by Cedric Jones) was smashed this year by Tomoya Ishida, who correctly memorized and recited 231 digits of Pi! WOWZA.



1st Period Winner - Kauloa Tabura (231)

2nd Period Winner - Aidan Pacis (22)

3rd Period Winner - Tomoya Ishida (231)

4th Period Winner - Evan Maneja (18)

5th Period - no entries

6th Period Winner - Preston Harada (141)

7th Period - no entries

Honorable mentions - Paepae Manoa (119),  
Luke Rosa (92), David Chen (80)

We hope everyone was able to celebrate Pi Day (3/14) by sharing some pie and solving some math problems together.

Dr. Andy Pratt





# 6th Grade

## English

Aloha Families,

This quarter students will be learning within the context of the Narrative Reading and Writing genre. Our unit from a piloted version of Amplify ELA will be taken from "Dahl and Narrative".

Unit 6A: Dahl and Narrative:

In this unit, students begin with narrative writing to quickly boost their interest and confidence and to learn the foundational skill of focus. Students then apply their new observational focus to some lively readings from Roald Dahl's memoir *Boy*, and learn how to work closely with textual evidence.

A caregiver letter of the overview of this unit will be given to students to take home. It will also be posted on our ELA GoogleClassroom for easy reference. I look forward to working with students to help build their literary skills and deepen their appreciation for different pieces of fictional readings, and Creative Narrative writing!

**Core texts your student will read:**

- *Boy: Tales of Childhood* by Roald Dahl

**What my students will do/learn:**

- Students complete narrative writing exercises in which they "slow down the moment," using observational details to focus on and develop small moments from their own experiences.
- Students learn key classroom routines, including the sharing routine, during which classmates respond to shared writing by noting one effective way the writer used language or details or evidence.
- Students read and discuss Roald Dahl's recollection of his experiences as a schoolboy in England. As they read his memoir *Boy*, they analyze how he uses detail to convey the range of emotions—from excitement to fear—that he felt.
- Students write consistently throughout the unit, developing their idea or claim about the text and providing textual evidence.
- Students write an end of unit essay responding to the following prompt: Whom does Dahl describe as causing more trouble: the boys or the adults? Use details from one moment in the book to show who is really causing more trouble.

Sincerely,

Ms. Amano

# CTE & STEM



## Honolulu Festival

7th & 8th grade STEM students visited the 2024 Honolulu Festival and made genki balls that will be thrown in the Ala Wai in efforts to clean up our watershed.

Maria Brewer

## ICS Showcase

7th grade CTE students had the opportunity to learn about UH Manoa's ICS program. Professors visited our school and had students try out the newest technologies.



Maria Brewer





## ESOL Developing and Literacy

Hi Students and Families,

This Quarter in ESOL students will be using the National Geographic Lift Curriculum which will cover Unit 3: Overcoming Fear. All ELs in this class will have co-taught lessons with two EL teachers for this entire unit.



Lessons are designed to activate prior knowledge, increase writing and speaking opportunities, and build student academic vocabulary usage and reading comprehension. At the end of the unit students will show

their mastery of skills through a Collaborative Poster Presentation, and a Written Performance Task to show knowledge of the academic vocabulary on "Phobias", and the ways in which people overcome their fears.

We have combined our ESOL classes for the Literacy and Developing levels of language proficiencies according to WIDA Levels of language development. We are excited to see the students engage in the lessons and persist in using their Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing skills this quarter!



Sincerely,

Ms. Amano, Ms. Kashimura, and Mr. Oh

# ESOL (cont...)

## ESOL Emergent

Hello Students and Families,

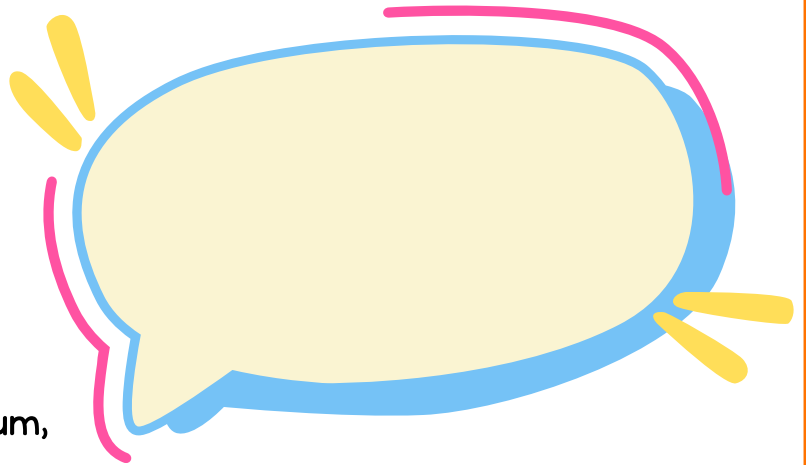
This quarter in ESOL Emergent, students will be working on National Geographic Lift: Foundational curriculum. In these lessons, they will learn how to annotate texts, ask questions about readings, and do short written comprehension responses.

In two of the days of the week, students in ESOL Emergent will work in Centers to develop skills in Phonics through the Phonics for Reading (PFR) curriculum, and practice phonics and fluency in Reading and Speaking through the Imagine Language and Literacy (ILL) program, and iReady Reading to supplement their foundational skills in literacy.

We look forward to seeing the continued growth in our students as they develop language skills in all domains of WIDA, Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.

Sincerely,

Ms. Amano, Ms. Kashimura, and Mr. Oh



# Stevenson Band and Orchestra

## Band and Orchestra Camps

March 26 and 29



On Kuhio Day March 26 and Good Friday March 29, our Band and Orchestra students experienced their camps! They spent the day learning from professional musicians and specialists on their instruments and even got full group lessons from Mr. Gregg Abe of Roosevelt HS Band and Professor Joseph Stepec of the UH Manoa Symphony Orchestra! They topped their day off playing bonding games as planned by their wonderful student band and orchestra officer leaders!



## Niu Valley Music Olympics March 30

Great job to our band percussionists **Kayla Kakesako** and **Isaac Matsumoto** who bravely competed in the Niu Valley Music Olympics on Saturday March 30 with both solos and duets. **Congrats to Isaac for taking home 5th place in the Jr. Solo division! Proud of you both!**



## Upcoming Events

We hope you join us!

- **Friday April 5th Band Parade of Bands Perf. at Moanalua HS 5:20pm**
- **Saturday April 13th Parade of Orchestras Perf. Michael Nakasone PAC. 4:20pm**
- **Punchbowl Music Fest. Beg Band Nite Perf. Hawaii Theater April 16 6pm.**
- **Punchbowl Music Fest. Adv Band Nite Perf. Hawaii Theater April 17 6pm**



# After School Activities



## National History Day

Twelve students will be competing at the National History Day State level competition in April. This will be their third competition.

Stevenson held our school level history day in January. Students then advanced to the District level competition which was in February.

Recently, Dr. Pratt shared that we will have twelve students advancing to the State level. As explained to students, competitions aren't about winning. It's about investigating and researching topics that are of interest to them and to follow their questions.



From one of the projects: Honouliuli internment camp

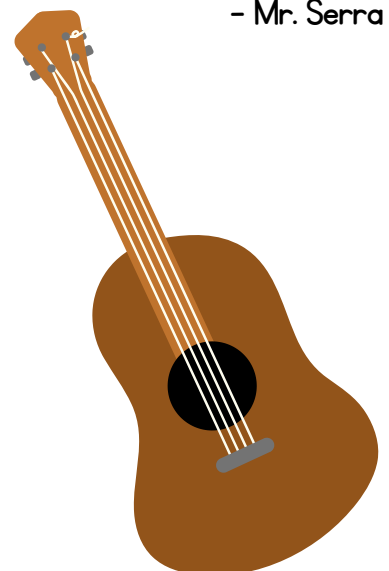
As a school our evidence of effective teaching and instruction is demonstrated when students expand their skills and knowledge, applying their learning opportunities beyond the classroom. We all wish our junior historians well!



## Ukulele Club

Congratulations on a great Spring performance!

- Mr. Serra



# Stevenson APT

Save the date for **Campus Beautification** on Saturday, April 20th!



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday  
April 20th, 2024

## Stevenson Middle School APT Campus Beautification Day



## Important Dates

- April 1, 2024 - Summer School Registration Opens
- April 3, 2024 - 3rd Quarter Report Cards
- April 8 to 12, 2024 - Science State Testing for 8th Graders
- April 9, 2024 - RLSMS SCC Meeting #5
- April 24, 2024 - 4th Quarter Progress Reports



For more information and up-to-date info visit our Website

<https://www.rlsms.k12.hi.us/>

