

May 30, 2019

Dear Mānoa School 'Ohana:

We're rapidly approaching the end the 2018-19 school year. Our students have worked tremendously hard to meet their academic targets and we've seen them grow into exceptional children with solid moral character and thoughtful dispositions. I am extremely proud of the many achievements and accomplishments of our Mānoa School students.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your cooperation in creating a school environment that nurtures, empowers, and inspires all students. Your generous monetary support, your willing participation as chaperones for school functions, and your precious time volunteering in a variety of ways is truly appreciated. A special mahalo to our Mānoa School APT who went above-and-beyond planning family-friendly experiences and providing much needed financial resources to our fabulous school programs.

It is always bittersweet to say goodbye to faculty and staff, individuals who we've all formed close relationships with over the course of many years. I am truly grateful to everyone who welcomed me to my new Mānoa family back in December following the departure of the beloved Mr. Higa. We also want to re-extend our gratitude and best wishes to Gay Turgeon who retired in January as our longtime school services coordinator. From our school's front office, we bid aloha to Joie Nishimoto and Jean Nishihara, two terrific clerks who moved on to pursue other opportunities. Our wonderful speech therapist Sara Morrison is moving back home to Atlanta, Georgia. We all wish her well in her future endeavors. Finally, we say goodbye to Gina Galmiche, our tremendous teacher who served as both curriculum coordinator and STEM teacher this school year. Mahalo Gina for the love that you bestowed on the children of Mānoa!

To our wonderful fifth grade students and those students leaving us, I would like to wish you much success as you continue your educational journey at your new school. Wherever you go, represent us well as Mānoa Tiger alumni and come back to visit. I'm sure your former teachers would love to hear back from you. For everyone else, we look forward to seeing you back in August. Have a safe and enjoyable summer break!

Very Truly Yours,

Mr. Kusuda