July 8, 2020

Dear Mānoa School Ohana:

As we commence our new school year unlike any other in recent memory, I want to extend my warmest greetings to new and returning families alike and express my sincerest appreciation for everyone’s patience as we thoughtfully craft the path to which our elementary campus will safely reopen.

Recent news, both locally and nationally has painted an alarming picture of rising community spread of the coronavirus. The topic of how our public schools should reopen has weighed heavily on the minds of education decision makers and families all across the country. The difficult choices we make are done so in uncharted territory, but know that we’re doing our best to balance health, safety, academic, and socio-emotional needs of the children along with the safety and well-being of our entire faculty and support staff.

I am pleased to announce that, with the cooperation of our amazing teachers, we will be able to open up our school year with all students on campus, every day, during normal school hours. That being said, there will be significant modifications to school procedures to create a collective culture of shared responsibility with health and safety concerns on the forefront of everyone’s mind. A detailed reopening plan will be made available shortly.

For the first nine days of school starting Tuesday, August 4 through Friday, August 14, students in Grades 1 through 5 will be on campus for half-days from 8:00 am till 12:15 pm. Kindergarten students will start on campus in smaller groups starting Thursday, August 6 and Friday, August 7. Of note, our cafeteria will serve lunch daily and there will be no A+ after-school care available during this period. Parents will need to make arrangements for child pickup immediately at 12:15 pm. From August 17, all students will report to school from 8:00 am till 2:15 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and 8:00 am till 1:30 pm on Wednesdays. A+ after-school care will also begin at that time.

Amist these uncertain times in the age of COVID-19, know that we are committed to providing the best possible educational experience aligned through our mission of nurturing, empowering, and inspiring our keiki. On behalf of the entire staff here at Mānoa School, thank you for sharing your children with us. We all look forward to seeing all of you in August.

Sincerely,

Ryan Kusuda
Principal