



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
MANOA SCHOOL
3155 MANOA ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96822

July 23, 2021

Dear Mānoa 'Ohana,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! My name is Jason Okamoto and I am excited and honored to serve as your new principal. I would like to take this opportunity to share with you a little about myself. I have been an educator in the Department of Education for the past 18 years. I started my career as an elementary school teacher at Lanakila Elementary for 9 years, then I moved into the Honolulu District Office as a resource teacher for 3 years. I then transitioned into administration and worked at Kawanakoa Middle School for one year before moving to Roosevelt High School where I have served as vice principal for the past 5 years. I look forward to welcoming back all our Mānoa students and families!

As we embark on another noteworthy school year, I want to reassure you that our number one priority is the health and safety of our children, faculty and staff and remains at the forefront of our planning. I believe that having students back in school, face-to-face, is an important step to confronting our "new normal". At Mānoa Elementary where our vision is "*Giving Life to Learning*", it is important to remember that it is not only our curriculum and instruction that bring learning to life; it is truly the relationships and connections between one another that enable us to meet that vision. I am committed to working together to ensure our children have a safe and successful school year.

COVID-19 has continued to demonstrate to us that "the best-laid plans go astray", therefore I ask for your continued patience and flexibility as information and guidance continues to evolve daily. Attached

you will find our [Mānoa Elementary Health and Safety Handbook](#) which has information about our health and safety procedures, policies, and guidelines.

As a friendly reminder, here are some important upcoming dates:

- **Friday, July 30, 2021 & Monday, August 2, 2021:** Kindergarten Assessment and Parent Orientation. **Refer to Kindergarten Schedule*
- **Friday, July 30, 2021 @ 5:00PM:** Virtual Town Hall Meeting: *Re-opening Plans SY '21-'22*

WebEx link:

<https://hidoe.webex.com/hidoe/onstage/g.php?MTID=eda34a788b9cbb3b8900671e403cb2579>

- **Monday, August 2, 2021:** New student orientation. New students in Grades 1 - 5 ONLY.
- **Tuesday, August 3, 2021:** First day of school for Grades 1 - 5 students. **Kindergarten students, please refer to your schedule.*
- **Friday, August 13, 2021:** Virtual Open House

I look forward to meeting and working together with you this school year. Again, I thank you for your understanding, adaptability, and commitment to your child's physical, emotional, and educational well being.

Regards,



Jason Okamoto

Principal