



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

October 12, 2020

Dear Mānoa School Ohana:

I hope all of you were able to enjoy your fall intersession break. We now embark on our plan to phase students back into our physical classrooms. Starting Monday, October 26, Mānoa School will welcome back our keiki in kindergarten, first, and second grades. In order to decrease in-person class sizes, we will be implementing a rotating A/B schedule for those particular grade levels. Students assigned to group A will come to campus on Mondays and Thursdays from 8 am till 2:15 pm. Students assigned to group B will come to campus on Tuesdays and Fridays for the same time duration. On the days when an assigned group is not on campus, they will have their distance learning classes with our music, PE, Hawaiiana, and technology resource teachers. Wednesdays will also serve as a common distance learning day.

For grades three through five, classes will continue as distance learning through the end of the second quarter. Students in the 100% distance learning option with Acellus will also continue through the end of the quarter. For our returning K-2 families, please be on the lookout for information regarding what group your child is assigned to. We will also be holding an online townhall meeting on Thursday, October 22 at 5:30 pm. This will be a very important meeting for our K-2 families. If you are unable to attend, a recording will be made available to watch from the school website. The link to attend this meeting is

<https://hidoe.webex.com/hidoe/onstage/g.php?MTID=e819261ea386fcca9b2b7cc4233d5ef64>

As guidance for our school's health and safety protocols is constantly evolving, I would like to highlight one particular update found on page 8 of the DOE Return to Learn: School Reopening Plan [Health and Safety Handbook](#) (version 8, dated 10/9/20). It states that masks **shall** be worn when entering and exiting the school campus, during campus transitions, in the cafeteria, in the classroom, and in the health room. It does specify certain conditions when masks are allowed to be removed. For example, the protocol states that students may need temporary breaks so long as a 6-foot distance is maintained.

Additionally, the handbook states *"There are exceptions for face coverings/masks due to physical or mental health conditions with a note from a U.S. licensed physician, APRN, or PA. Chapter 19 regulations will be implemented for students who refuse to wear a mask."*

In order to comply with this new mask policy, I am asking families who have children with an underlying condition, either physical or mental, that prohibits the use of a mask to please contact your child's physician and discuss whether or not a mask exception is needed. If, in consultation with your child's physician a waiver to the mask policy is warranted, please submit to the school a note from the doctor that states so.

In order to give families who have children in Kindergarten through grade 2 time to meet with their child's doctor, I am asking for doctor's notes to come into the office by Wednesday, October 21. If you have any questions, please contact me at [ryan.kusuda@k12.hi.us](mailto:ryan.kusuda@k12.hi.us)

Sincerely,

Ryan Kusuda  
Principal