

# KALIHI UKA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Newsletter

Home of the Eagles

2411 Kalihi Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 · August 1, 2016



Kalihi Uka Students are Enthusiastic Active Learning Engaged and Successful!

## Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Students, and Friends of Kalihi Uka Elementary School (KUES),

Welcome back to the 2016–2017 school year! I hope you have had an enjoyable summer and took time to rest and rejuvenate for the upcoming school year. Whether you are returning, or just joining our Kalihi Uka Ohana, I want to invite you to actively participate in the many learning opportunities available this year. Throughout the year, you will hear the phrase, “Take the EAGLE challenge...!” to propel us into action. An ongoing EAGLE challenge involves making our school vision a reality: *Kalihi Uka Students are Enthusiastic, Active Growing, Learning, Engaged and Successful!* Parents and guardians can also take the EAGLE challenge to get more involved with our school this year!

I also want to welcome our new and returning staff. We are delighted to have Mr. Justin Taomae (Gr 3/Rm 208) and Ms. Avis Moriyama in (Gr 1/ Rm 104) join our faculty. We are also very fortunate to have Ms. Julie Ledgerwood, as our CISL vice-principal for SY2016–17.

This year, KUES is pleased to host Parent Literacy Workshops. Our first parent “Meet and Greet” will be on August 18 at 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. in Room 102. Parking for the “Meet and Greet” will be available on the field. Please stop by and learn how to support your child’s development during these early years of school, see old friends, and make new ones!

As most of you know, parking is very limited and all of the parking spaces in the lot are reserved for employees so they may start classes on time. Please use the designated area on Nihi Street for student drop-off and the surrounding streets for parking. The field will be open August 1–12 for parents who need to walk their students to class.

This year promises to be exciting. Your child will be setting personal and academic targets, so

## Our Mission in Brief

To provide quality curriculum and instruction in a safe and nurturing learning environment through:

1. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
2. Collaboration
3. Global Awareness



## Upcoming Events

### August

- 8-12 Online Applications for Free and Reduced Meals, Room 102
- 10 Open House: 5 p.m. ELL Parents/ 5:15 Sign In/ 5:30 Program
- 18 Meet and Greet: Room 102 7:30 a.m.
- 19 Holiday: Statehood Day - **NO SCHOOL**
- 24 After School Reading Club Starts

### September

- 5 Holiday: Labor Day - **NO SCHOOL**
- 14 Picture Taking Day (Free dress)
- 19 PC Day - **NO STUDENTS**

### October

- 7 First Quarter Ends
- 10-14 Fall Break
- 17 Students return to school
- 24-28 Parent-Teacher Conferences, Early Release

## MEAL TRACKER SYSTEM

We will continue to use the Meal Tracker system for our school lunch program. Deposits and adult breakfast purchases must be made in the office. Please make sure funds are available in your child's account to cover your child's breakfast and lunch purchases. Everyone, including those who bring home lunch, should fill out a Free and Reduced meals application (See article on Free and Reduced Meal Applications).

## SAFETY FIRST!

- Please use caution when entering and exiting the campus.



- Lawn parking will be open until Aug.12 for parents of our younger students.
- After 8/12 please use the Student Drop-Off Zone on Nihi Street.
- Students under age 8 must use child safety/booster seats when riding in a vehicle.
- Children are not allowed to ride as passengers on mopeds.

## INTRODUCING....

Ms.Avis Moriyama  
Grade 1 Room 104

Avis Moriyama taught English in Japan for two years. Last year, she was at Aina Haina School working with 2<sup>nd</sup> graders. Ms. Moriyama loves to travel and take photos.



Mr. Justin Taomae  
Grade 3 Room 208

Justin Taomae comes to us from Kuhio Elementary where he taught Grade 1 & 5. He is looking forward to working with the wonderful staff of Kalihi Uka and getting to know the students and parents here. Mr. Taomae coaches varsity wrestling at Punahou School.

Ms. Julie Ledgerwood  
CISL Vice Principal

Julie Ledgerwood taught Special Education and Social Studies at Niu Valley Middle School before serving as a Vice Principal at HSDB (the Hawaii School for the Deaf and Blind). Ms. Ledgerwood is part of the Certification Institute for School Leaders (CISL) on her way to becoming a certified DOE administrator. She is looking forward to engaging with students, parents and family members and getting to know the staff and community better. She loves to ski, play golf and is a fan of the Denver Broncos and the Golden State Warriors. She believes in Living Pono” -- leaving each day better than she found it.



## **OPENING DAY PACKET**

The office has prepared an informational folder of important forms for you to review, fill out and/or send back to school. Inside you will find:

- School Calendar – post at home
- Kalihi Uka School Student/Parent Handbook – review with child
- Free and Reduced Lunch application– complete, sign and return
- Student Internet User Agreement – review, sign and return
- Student Publication/Audio/Video Release Form – check, sign and return
- KUES Emergency Card – fill out and return
- McKinney–Vento Act MV1 form
- Hawaii DOE Chapter 19 Handbook – for your reference
- Parent Family Involvement Policy
- Complaint Procedures
- Family Education Rights and Privacy Act
- Equal Opportunity Education Pamphlets

### **Free and Reduced Meals Applications -- Go Online for Faster Results**

Free and reduced meal applications are available online at [EZMEALAPP.COM](http://EZMEALAPP.COM). You do NOT have to submit a paper application IF an online application is submitted. To help parents submit online applications, a mini-computer lab will be set up in Room 102. Ms. Grace will be at Room 102 from 7:15– 8:15 a.m. during the week of August 8–12 to assist parents with logging into the website.

Helpful hits for online applications:

1. Student must be enrolled in a DOE school
2. Enter the legal names and correct birthdates
3. Non-DOE (charter, private, or college) students should only be listed “in the household”.
4. For each adult, enter:
  - a. Gross earnings (before taxes or deductions) and
  - b. How often the amount is received (do not use hourly wages).
5. If applicable, enter the total income of all Child Household Members in STEP 4. If child has no income, leave STEP 4 blank.
6. The electronic signature must be that of an adult in the household.
7. If applying with SNAP or TANF case number:
  - a. Select SNAP or TANF in STEP 1 Benefit Type and enter authorized case number and name of recipient.

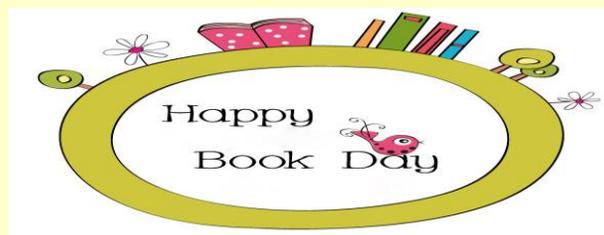
- b. After listing the students in STEP 2, the application will skip to STEP 5: Electronic Signature. Adult must sign.
  - c. If error message: “The Electronic Signature does not match what was entered...” appears; delete and retype signature, making sure there are no extra blank spaces at the beginning and/or end of the first and last names.
8. A confirmation number appears when the application is submitted. Write down this number for future reference.
  9. Once the application is processed (up to 10 working days) the school will send home a results letter with your child.

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider.

### KALIHI UKA SCHOOL IS A WELLNESS SCHOOL

Please **DO NOT** bring cake, cupcakes, candies, balloons, and goodie bags to celebrate birthdays in the classroom.

Birthday Parties can interrupt class time, cause “sugar rushes/crashes” and may trigger food allergies/sensitivities. Instead, a class gift, like a book, would be greatly appreciated. Children can create or fill out a special bookplate saying the book is from them in honor of their birthday. We also recognize book donors in our newsletters.



Here is how our new healthy alternative Birthday Book Celebration Program works:

- Complete and return the form below to notify your child’s teacher of your interest in celebrating your child’s birthday with an appropriate book that he/she helped to select to share with his/her class or the school
- Purchase and bring the selected book in on your child’s special or agreed upon celebration day (please let us know if recommendations can be suggested)
- A special book plate honoring your child’s birthday and donation will be placed in the book during their scheduled celebration

- Your child's Birthday Book will be read by a person of his/her choice to his/her class in celebration of their special day
- The Birthday Book will then be added to the library of your child's choice- either their class library or the school's library
- School Library donations will be displayed as a featured book for the remainder of the month
- The birthday child will be given the opportunity of borrowing their special book



**Kalihi Uka Elementary School's Birthday Book Celebration Program**

*I would like to celebrate my child's birthday this year by participating in the school's Birthday Book Celebration Program!* (Please submit to your child's teacher at least 1-2 weeks in advance)

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher/Room: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred date of celebration: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Book being donated: \_\_\_\_\_

Book being donated to (select one):

\_\_\_\_\_ Class Library      \_\_\_\_\_ School Library

Name of special reader being requested (Teacher? Principal? Parent?, etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_

**You are invited...**

**KALIHI UKA SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**

Date: Wednesday Aug. 10

Where: Cafeteria

Time: 5 p.m. ELL parents meet upstairs

5:15 Sign in begins, light snacks

5:30 Program

6:00 Classroom Visits

6:50 End

Please join us! Hear about our programs and learning progress.  
Meet teachers and learn about expectations for your children's classes.

### Uku Policy

Beginning this school year the Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani Complex Area has adopted a new procedure to address ukus (head lice) in school. A letter with detailed information will be coming home shortly. If you need assistance regarding treatment please contact our health aide 305-6222



### CALL FOR CAMPUS MONITORS



Global Awareness is a key part of Kalihi Uka School's Mission Statement. Global Awareness includes participating in citizenship activities by giving back to the community. One way for students to do this is by being a campus monitor. Morning Campus Monitors supervise students outside the classroom before the start of school. They reward positive behavior with Gotcha Tickets and remind students to follow the rules. Recess Campus Monitors are assigned stations during the lower grade recess to assist younger students who leave the playground to use the restrooms. Some monitors are assigned to the play areas to remind students to play safely and to lend a helpful hand (sometimes that means turning a jump rope).



This year we are asking students to sign up for duty for specific days of the week. Students who volunteer to be morning monitors can select between 1-5 days a week. They must arrive before 7:30 a.m. to check out their vest and clipboard. Students may also volunteer to serve during the lower grade recess. If your child is in Grades 4-5, please talk with him or her about becoming a Campus Monitor. Monitors must maintain positive behavior which includes getting homework done and being a role model for other students. They must also receive teacher approval. If you have any questions please contact Inga Park Okuna at 305-6221.

## Attendance is the Key to Success

We all want our children to succeed. When children do well in school, we know they will be able to have better options in their lives. They can get scholarships and go to college. They can get good jobs. One of the most important things parents can do to help children lead successful adult lives is to enforce regular school attendance. If children miss 10% of the school year, they can suffer academically. They end up missing almost an entire month of classes! In fact, recent studies are showing that being absent even two (2) days a month is considered “chronic absenteeism” and has a negative impact on learning. Students who are absent over 14 days are considered chronic absentees. Some parents don’t realize that attendance in kindergarten and first grade is vital. Studies show that kindergarten and first grade students who have poor attendance struggle academically in later years. They often have trouble mastering reading by the end of third grade. Math achievement is especially sensitive to attendance. Attendance affects test scores and graduation rates. We need to set positive school attendance habits in preschool, kindergarten and throughout elementary school years so children will continue to value school attendance in middle and high school.

Kalihi Uka School faculty and staff are dedicated to helping every child do well. We can’t do that if students aren’t in school. If children are struggling with learning, the only way we can help them is if they are in school.

### **What Parents Can Do To Help**

1. Get your child to school on time every day. If a delay is unavoidable, it is better to be tardy than to miss a full day of learning.
2. Follow the school’s guidelines and attendance policy. Report excused absences immediately.
3. Check homework and sign their planner.
4. Schedule 11 hours of sleep for your child.
5. Keep updated on school events and announcements.
6. Limit the amount of time your child misses school. Schedule family events and appointments with your child’s school schedule in mind.

7. If your child has a fever of 100.3 or higher, keep them home for 24 hours after the fever breaks.
8. Plan ahead.
9. Promote good health. Exercise, eat healthy foods, limit TV and Video games to weekends. Make sure they eat breakfast at home or in school (7:15–7:40 a.m.)
10. Create a positive and peaceful home environment.
11. Communicate regularly with teachers and the school.