



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT

March 3, 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s):

The Hawai'i State Department of Education (HIDOE) continues to monitor the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) situation. HIDOE remains in contact with the Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH), the Governor's office and relevant state agencies to ensure proper prevention measures and plans are in place.

This update provides information that in the event a student or staff member contracts COVID-19, we will work closely with the DOH to enact a response protocol for the safety and security of our students, families and staff.

We want to ensure you that on-campus precautions are being prepared. Maintenance and facility staff are following specific cleaning procedures to effectively clean common areas and classroom surfaces. School Health Assistants and Hawai'i Keiki nurses are being trained on how to properly respond if or when a student becomes ill.

Additionally, HIDOE is following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) travel guidance. All school-related travel and programs related to Warning Level 3 and Alert Level 2 countries are suspended until the CDC lowers its travel advisory to Watch Level 1. This includes summer school enrollment and non-essential visitors on campus from these countries. We appreciate your understanding that guidance from the CDC may change suddenly.

This is a quickly evolving situation. We will provide information and updates on our website at: [http://bit.ly/HIDOE\\_COVID19](http://bit.ly/HIDOE_COVID19). In preventing the transmission of respiratory illnesses, HIDOE would also like to advise schools and families to follow CDC guidelines:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing, before eating, and after going to the bathroom;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth;
- Stay home when sick;
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash; and
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

Thank you for your patience through this process. We appreciate your kind consideration and help with our collective efforts to protect the health and safety of our schools and school communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phyllis Unebasami".

Phyllis Unebasami  
Deputy Superintendent

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