



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

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

August 22, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

All Hawaii public schools statewide and Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) offices will be closed Thursday, August 23 and Friday, August 24, as Hurricane Lane approaches the islands as a powerful Category 4 storm. The anticipated effects of Hurricane Lane are expected on Oahu by 11 p.m. Thursday and the day after for Kauai. This will allow school communities and families time to prepare for the storm's impacts, school and office closures are already in place for **Hawaii Island** and **Maui County**.

Schools and HIDOE offices will reopen Monday, August 27, unless otherwise noted.

Schools on **Oahu** and **Kauai** have been added for the remainder of the week as emergency officials warn of dangerous storm conditions for all islands, including heavy rain, flash flooding, high surf and strong winds. The public can follow the progress of the storm on the Central Pacific Hurricane Center's website here: <http://www.prh.noaa.gov/cphc>

All after-school activities and programs including interscholastic athletic events remain canceled through the weekend.

As with any emergency-type situation, we are striving to balance the need for safety with our overall commitment to provide students and families with every sense of normalcy. Updates on school closures will be posted on HIDOE's website and on social media — Twitter and Facebook, @HIDOE808.

Families should have an emergency plan in place and prepare ahead of the storm's anticipated impact. The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) recommends individuals and families prepare an "emergency kit" with a minimum of 14 days' worth of food, water and other supplies. For other tips and for more information, please visit dod.hawaii.gov/hiema.

Your neighborhood school may be designated as an emergency shelter. Activation is initiated by counties in consultation with HI-EMA. You can connect with your county's emergency response resources at:

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Honolulu (Oahu) County: www.honolulu.gov/dem

Hawaii Island County: www.hawaiicounty.gov/civil-defense

Maui County: www.mauicounty.gov/70/Emergency-Management-Agency

Kauai County: www.kauai.gov/KEMA

Please work with your child's school to make sure that they have the most up-to-date contact information for your family.

Thank you for your support as we work together to ensure the safety of our students, staff and school communities.

Sincerely,



Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto
Superintendent

CMK:lc