Let’s Return Mākaha Strong 2020-2021
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Dear members of our Mākaha Elementary School community,

This “Let’s Return Mākaha Strong” document covers a number of items in anticipation of the start of the 2020-21 School Year on August 17, 2020. With just a few weeks until the school year begins, I want to share more about the work we are doing to prepare for our return to the classroom. This document is a living document which will be updated regularly. “Let’s Return Mākaha Strong” will be anchored to our Website and will serve as a reference guide and source of information. But first, I want to express my appreciation for your efforts.

I cannot overstate my gratitude, and the gratitude of many others here at Mākaha Elementary School, to those employees who continue to work on campus every day, keeping it clean, secure, accessible and beautiful. I also want to thank our Cafeteria Workers, Educational Assistants and Office Staff who helped to cook and distribute thousands of meals since the Pandemic began in March. Our celebration of your dedication did not stop when the slow reopening of our City/State began. We do not take your tireless care, empathy and professionalism for granted. You are extraordinary people and practitioners.

Finally, I want to thank all of you who continue to work and learn from home. Between spouses, partners, parents, rambunctious children, bothersome siblings, and energetic pets, I want to acknowledge you and the isolation blues that have affected so many of us. Continuing to show up virtually, no matter how difficult, is making a difference. Thank you for staying Mākaha Strong.

What we know & what we are working to learn

Clearly there is a lot we do not yet know about the new school year. We do not know if the community spread on Oahu will change enough to allow for relaxed social distancing guidelines, nor do we know if a potential rebound of the virus will prevent us from seeing the school year through.

But there is also a lot we do know, including just how much you — our students, staff, and faculty — want to get back on campus. No one wants that more than I do. Know that we do not have all of the answers you seek, but we are hard at work to get there. With just a few weeks until the start of classes, every working day is critical.
Return to the classroom – I have heard from many parents and students who are grateful to learn that we intend to have some type of in-person classes when we begin the new school year on August 17th. But I have also heard from some parents with concerns that they, or someone they live with are at-risk. We will make every effort to accommodate these needs. As soon as we have more information, we will share it.

Faculty members are developing options for in-person and remote delivery which, in many cases, will be happening simultaneously. Similarly, we have some faculty members who will not be able to teach in the classroom this fall because they or someone with whom they live is at-risk.

Classroom logistics – The 6-feet of social distancing mandate will require the majority of classes to have limited capacity. This will force us to change our scheduling. More will come in our next version of this document.

Our scheduling effort is an enormously complex task that is not yet completed. We are working as quickly and efficiently as we can, while trying to minimize disruption to learning.

Public health safeguards – Local, state and federal guidelines may change between now and the start of the new school year. But we are prepared to follow them. We may decide to go above these guidelines, depending on what our own community’s needs are. To reiterate, we are requesting that all people on campus wear face masks and to maintain social distancing indoors and out, with a few exceptions.

Dates to watch
August 10, 2020  Kindergarten Orientation (Virtual Only)
August 17, 2020  First day of school for students (Distance Learning for All for the first 4 weeks)
COVID-19 is a virus spread from person to person, primarily from respiratory droplets or by transferring virus from surfaces and objects to mouth, nose or eyes. While many aspects of the virus are not yet understood, the most effective measures against transmission are quarantining and contact tracing for those who are infected, as well as social distancing and frequent hand washing for the general public. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Hawai‘i State Health Department also recommend face coverings when not able to maintain a distance of more than 6 feet. Additional guidance for minimizing the spread of COVID-19 at home and in school settings is available from the CDC. https://www.cdc.gov.
ABOUT OUR APPROACH

At Mākaha Elementary we have a passionate and committed staff who recognize the ideal environment for meeting our students’ academic and social emotional needs happens when interacting face-to-face. We also value maintaining a safe and healthy school and Wai‘anae community. Our Let’s Return Mākaha Strong plan for the 2020-2021 school year will serve as guidance for your ‘ohana as we navigate the changes that may occur over the course of the school year.

Through the collective efforts of our Pandemic Response Team, we have outlined our Let’s Return Mākaha Strong plan to include recommendations from the State Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Education’s Guidance for Reopening the Schools. Although we cannot predict the changes ahead of us, rest assured our staff remains committed to our Mākaha Elementary Mission, Vision and Beliefs. We will work together to ensure a safe, healthy, and successful year.

*This plan was prepared with the most recently available information at the time it was published.

Mission
Mākaha Elementary School will create a school community and culture that supports learning through effective instruction, standards-based classrooms, and an array of opportunities that impact student achievement and the development of the whole child.

Vision
Mākaha Elementary School is a community of learners who inquire, reflect, and apply knowledge to become responsible, well-rounded individuals.

Mission
The Mākaha Elementary School community believes that: 1) Every student will learn. 2) The support of our students’ needs (academic, social, emotional and physical) is essential for success. 3) All stakeholders (students, parents, faculty, staff, and community will work together as a team.)
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

At Mākaha Elementary we value the health and wellness of our students, families, staff and larger Waiʻanae community. Our Let’s Return Mākaha Strong plan is guided by the principles listed below and incorporates feedback from families.

Safety
Our highest priority is the health and wellness of our Mākaha Elementary School community and the Hawaiʻi community at large. Our Let’s Return Mākaha Strong plan adheres to the guidance set by the Hawaiʻi Department of Health (DOH), The Centers for Disease Control Prevention (CDC) and Department of Education (DOE) Guidance for Reopening the Schools. Aligning our plan with these guidelines set forth, works toward creating the environments where powerful teaching happens, students feel safe, and learning takes place.

On-Campus Instruction
At Mākaha Elementary we acknowledge that teacher-to-student and student-to-student face-to-face interaction best supports student achievement and social emotional learning. We will work hard to ensure our students are given every opportunity to learn in this model while adhering to all guidelines set by DOH, CDC and DOE.

Academic Coherence and Excellence
Our goals are to support our student’s needs (academic, social, emotional, physical) because it is essential for their success. We will create and adjust the structures and systems necessary to ensure seamless learning occurs regardless of the method of delivery.

Flexibility and Adaptability
Regarding the 2020-2021 school year, things are going to look different and change often. More than ever, schools and families must work in partnership to ensure the academic and social success of all our keiki. We plan to provide as many on campus opportunities as possible but in the event we are unable to, it is likely students will receive a mixture of on-campus and/or virtual instruction and support.
THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF FAMILIES

Families play a vital role in successfully navigating this pandemic. We must work together to stay safe and healthy and support students so they can thrive academically. We will work with families to adhere to safety measures on campus as well as at home. The number one safety measure is to keep a child home if they are sick. To support this effort, we will provide helpful information in our student handbook, orienting students and families to a Covid-safe campus. If your contact information changes, please notify the school so that we can provide you with the most current information.

If you have any questions or concerns please email our Student Health Aide Brenda Abaro at brenda.abaro@k12.hi.us or Dayna Mersberg BSN, RN at cntr.dmersberg@k12.hi.us. You can also reach them by calling 808-307-7400.

Click here for student handbook or go this website https://bit.ly/MESHandbook.

All visitors and parents are to report to the office to obtain a visitor’s pass.
The details of what we (Board of Education) are going to do to reopen schools is at the forefront of everyone’s mind. A very important aspect of this, however, is how are we going to do it. I would like to ask that the Board consider encouraging everyone to do it by applying three principles: **Give Hope**, **Act with Kindness**, and **Work toward Togetherness**. These three principles are not new or additional requirements our schools and employees will need to add to their already full plates. They happen across our state every day and they describe some of our state’s greatest strengths. We can express our concerns without violence. We can hold different beliefs without hating each other. We are not perfect, but our state has amazing and uncommon qualities. Our schools have practiced and exemplified these principles, no matter what new buzzword or eduspeak term is used to describe them. All this resolution does is to call these principles out in simple, easy to remember terms to help guide us all through the difficult times we will go through together.

**Give Hope**
We cannot start from a place of fear; we must give hope to students and to each other. By giving hope to students and helping them achieve their goals they in turn give us hope as the future of our world.

**Act with Kindness**
This is a stressful time. We have all experienced a great deal of change and some level of loss. We must show empathy for each other. Kindness creates a sense of community and serves as a bridge between hope and togetherness.

**Working toward Togetherness**
The task that lays in front of us is large and looming. There is no way we can do everything that needs to be done unless we do it together. Understanding and recognizing the importance of our relationships with each other and the impact of our actions on others will help us to strengthen our community to get through this together.
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Mākaha Elementary remains committed to fostering community connections and relationships. Now, more than ever, we want to come together to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of our students and families. The following are programs that will be available to our Mākaha community.

Keiki Pantry: The Hawai‘i Foodbank launched its first Food 4 Keiki School Pantry program in May 2018. The School Pantries provide after-school snacks for students, as well as additional family food bags to take home. Information regarding this program will be forthcoming.

FARM Programs: Our partnership with Hoa ‘Āina o Mākaha will continue into our 2020-21 SY. As information is released we will update information regarding programs and potential supports for the community.

Meal Program: Mākaha will once again offer free breakfast and lunch to all of our students. We are waiting for guidance from our School Food Services Branch before finalizing our distribution plan. We will keep you informed.

Distance Afterschool programs: This section is under construction. We are in contact with our Community Partners and will share program information when it becomes available.
COVID-19 MONITORING

Members of the Pandemic Response Team* will check-in daily to monitor health indicators reported by the State of Hawai‘i’s agencies as well as our school community. We will monitor the number of COVID-19 cases in the state; the number of students and employees on campus who report illnesses; the number of people with recorded fevers through our thermal imaging stations; attendance and a host of other data points that will factor into our community’s daily health status and inform any actions our school will take. We will monitor and analyze these indicators for predictive trends and anomalies. Recommendations made by the Pandemic Response Team and any changes to our health protocols will be shared with our community.

GENERAL HEALTH STATUS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Our overall goal will be to calibrate our school operations and instruction to the public health conditions present at the time. Based on recommendations from the Pandemic Response Team, Mākaha Elementary will issue an update to the overall health risk status of the School in the form of a five-tiered Color Code system –

![Color Code]

The Color Code will be shared on the Mākaha Elementary School website, and any changes in status (e.g. Green to Yellow or Yellow to Orange) will be communicated to families. To support the need for families to have as much information as possible, we will also send out a weekly email with important updates and information that parents need. At all times, we will strive to provide families with as much preparation time as possible for any potential changes to our risk status.

Depending on health conditions at the time, Mākaha Elementary may open the school year at an elevated level of alert. We may also choose to begin school with more stringent safety protocols in an effort to orient our community to the new safety standards.
Mākaha Elementary has created a five color-coded system to help define the health status of our campus environment. These tiers provide general guidelines for activities on and off campus.

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<tr>
<th>Level of Alert</th>
<th>STAY AT HOME (Major Disruption)</th>
<th>SAFER AT HOME (Moderate Disruption)</th>
<th>ACT WITH CARE (Minor Disruption)</th>
<th>RECOVERY (Minimal Disruption)</th>
<th>NEW NORMAL (No Disruption)</th>
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<tr>
<td>General Conditions</td>
<td>● Poorly controlled community transmission on O‘ahu&lt;br&gt;● Multiple new infections in the school community&lt;br&gt;● State Health Department, Mayor or Governor has issued stay-at-home orders or otherwise closed all schools</td>
<td>● New infections increasing on O‘ahu&lt;br&gt;● Several possible cases in school community&lt;br&gt;● Families, faculty and staff struggling to adhere to safety protocols&lt;br&gt;● Waning epidemic control</td>
<td>● Infections low but starting to increase on O‘ahu&lt;br&gt;● Possible cases in school community&lt;br&gt;● Families, faculty and staff not adhering as closely to safety protocols&lt;br&gt;● Uncertainty in government epidemic control</td>
<td>● Infections remain low on O‘ahu&lt;br&gt;● No known cases currently at school&lt;br&gt;● Families, faculty and staff closely adhering to safety protocols&lt;br&gt;● Confidence in government epidemic control</td>
<td>● Treatment and/or natural “herd immunity” and/or vaccine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Environment</td>
<td>● Campus is closed except for essential faculty and staff.&lt;br&gt;● Distance learning for all students.</td>
<td>● Distance learning will continue.&lt;br&gt;● Face to face instruction if provided for vulnerable learners for whom online learning is not appropriate in compliance with CDC and DOH guidelines.</td>
<td>● Distance learning will continue.&lt;br&gt;● Face to face instruction is provided for vulnerable learners and early grade levels (K-2, SPED, PreK) in compliance with CDC and DOH guidelines.&lt;br&gt;● Face to face is allowable for all other students.</td>
<td>● Face to face instruction allowed for all students in compliance with CDC and DOH guidelines. Blended learning and distance learning may be used to reduce the number of students on campus to enable social distancing.</td>
<td>● All students are all back on campus. HIDOE will continue to monitor the public health situation for any changes.</td>
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The health and safety of our community is our highest priority. The following is a list of safety measures that we are planning to put in place, regardless of our alert level.

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<th><strong>Face coverings</strong></th>
<th>Students and employees are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings inside throughout the school day. Please bring in your own cloth or reusable face cover. If you are unable to obtain your own face covering the school will provide one for you.</th>
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<td><strong>Physical distancing</strong></td>
<td>Movement on campus will be controlled and directed to reduce the mixing of students. In classrooms, students will be seated 6 feet apart to minimize transmission risk but allowed to interact more closely for limited periods with additional safety measures and greater supervision in place.</td>
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<td><strong>Cohorts and decreased mixing of students</strong></td>
<td>An A/B schedule will keep students in smaller, consistent groups during the day called Ohana Bubbles. This will reduce the risk of viral transmission and allow for discrete cohorts to quarantine in the event of infection without requiring that the entire campus close and shift to distance learning.</td>
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<td><strong>Hand hygiene</strong></td>
<td>Students and faculty will follow a regular schedule of hand washing or use of hand sanitizer throughout the day. Hand sanitizer dispensers will be available in every classroom and outside every building entrance to ensure regular access.</td>
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<td><strong>Enhanced cleaning/dischinfection schedule</strong></td>
<td>Daily cleaning practices will be compliant with CDC recommendations, including the types of cleaning products used and the frequency of cleaning. Special attention will be paid to the cleaning of high touch surfaces throughout the day.</td>
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<td><strong>Health screening</strong></td>
<td>Families are asked to monitor their household members for symptoms, including fever, and avoid bringing sick children to school. Regular temperature and symptoms screening will be conducted for all students and visitors to campus. Students with symptoms will be separated from other students and parents/guardians will be contacted to arrange pick-up. Another room on campus has been prepared to aid students who are sick or being monitored if the health room has reached max capacity.</td>
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<td><strong>Updated sick policy and enforcement practices</strong></td>
<td>Rules regarding sick policies for students and employees will be enhanced and strictly enforced to minimize the number of sick people on campus, as well as to allow continuity of learning from home for mildly ill or asymptomatic students. More details about this sick policy, including what symptoms to check for and who to notify if sick, will be shared later this summer and detailed in the student handbook.</td>
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<td><strong>Quarantine and contact tracing</strong></td>
<td>If a student or employee contracts the virus, we will comply with and support the Department of Health’s efforts to contain the virus, which may include contact tracing or quarantine. Provisions will be made to support the continuity of learning from home during quarantine periods.</td>
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<td><strong>Cafeteria/ Food service</strong></td>
<td>We will continue to offer Breakfast and Lunch to all students this school year. It may end up being a Grab and Go if we move to Distance Learning. Students who are on campus for face to face instruction will grab their meals and either eat in the cafeteria or in an area that safely complies with social distancing guidelines. As always students are welcome to bring their own home lunches to school as well.</td>
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### Other safe classroom practices

Teaching methods will be adjusted to minimize shared equipment or learning materials between students; Classroom practices will reduce transfer of objects between home and school and touching of other students’ personal belongings; Infrastructure will be put in place to minimize surfaces which cannot easily be disinfected.

### Self care and well-being

Pedagogy and classroom practices will provide greater attention to student mental health and well-being to build resilience and cope with the stress or anxiety students may experience in this pandemic context.

### Excursions and camps

All off-campus excursions and camps will be suspended.

### Visitors on campus

All visitors to campus, including parents, will be screened upon arrival. In elevated states of alert, visitors may be required to make an appointment prior to arrival. These provisions will not apply to parents simply picking up their children. Please review the screening checklist prior to your arrival on campus. You can find the symptom checklist by clicking on this link, [Makaha Visitor Health Screening](https://bit.ly/MESVisitorHealthScreen) or going to this website https://bit.ly/MESVisitorHealthScreen.

### Travel policy

Families should avoid all unnecessary travel. If a student travels outside the state for any reason, the family must notify the School and the student must self-quarantine upon their return for 14 days. Provisions will be made to support continuity of learning from home during quarantine periods.
Elementary School Ohana Bubble
Decreasing Exposure to COVID-19

Practice Good Habits

Stay home when you are sick.

Wash hands when entering the classroom and frequently throughout the day.

Stay 6 ft apart.

Wear a mask when physical distancing cannot be done.

Use Caution

Classroom bubbles should stick together when outside the class and not mix with other class bubbles.

Avoid

Avoid unnecessary visitors to the classroom. Any visitor must wear a mask.

Remaining inside your Ohana Bubble
1. decreases the number of people that students and staff are exposed to throughout the day
2. decreases the number of contacts exposed if a case is diagnosed within the bubble
3. does not eliminate the risk of COVID-19 but helps reduce the spread
**Screening Information**

Students and staff must stay home if they are feeling sick to stop the spread of illness. To protect our students and staff we will be screening our students on a regular basis. The purpose of screening would be for general symptoms of illness. We will have designated employees to perform the screenings. We will be using temporal infrared thermometers to perform the temperature check.

Upon arrival, all individuals may be asked some questions and observed (from at least 6 feet away) using the following symptom checklist:

- feverish or unusually warm (temperature of 100.4 degrees and above)
- coughing/sneezing
- sore throat
- shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- headache/stomach ache/nausea
- muscle pain/unusual fatigue
- new loss of taste or smell

Students will be sent to Health Room if any these symptoms are present. The School Health Aide will contact parents/guardians. If pick up is needed, student will be placed in a safe location until they are picked up.

**Hand-Washing and/or Sanitizing Routine**

There will be hand-washing or sanitizing stations available at the entrances of school, inside the classrooms, and in all meeting areas (e.g. cafeteria, library, offices).

- All faculty, staff, and students will wash or sanitize their hands frequently. Such as upon arrival to campus, before and after meals, after bathroom use, after coughing or sneezing, in between classes, and before dismissal.
- Hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol will be used and hands should be washed with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- We will adequately supply restrooms, sinks, and sanitizing stations with soap, sanitizer, and paper towels, etc. on a regular basis.

**Visitor and Related Services Personnel Screening Information**

To protect our students and staff we will screen all visitors to Mākaha Elementary. The purpose of screening would be for general symptoms of illness. You can find the symptom checklist by clicking on this link, [Makaha Visitor Health Screening](https://bit.ly/MESVisitorHealthScreen) or going to this website https://bit.ly/MESVisitorHealthScreen. If you are employed by the State of Hawai‘i and performing related services, but you are not a member of our Mākaha faculty you may be asked some questions using this checklist [Related Services and Staff Checklist](https://bit.ly/RelatedSvcsStaff). You can find this information by going to this website, https://bit.ly/RelatedSvcsStaff.
During the week of July 20-24, 2020, families of grades 3-6 students were mailed information about their child’s group A or B placement. Room assignments for all students are posted and available to view on the bulletin board in front of the office. Furthermore, our bell schedule has changed a little. School will start at 7:45 daily and end at 2:00pm Monday through Thursday. On Friday instruction will end at 11:30 with Grab-and-Go Lunch from 11:30-12:00 pm.

The initial start date for school was set for Thursday, August 6. On July 30th, the State Board of Education approved a recommendation to delay students’ return to school to Aug. 17. There will be no school on August 6-14. The first day of school is on August 17, 2020. Group A students are scheduled to attend on campus while group B will complete instruction online.
CLASS GROUPINGS

We have selected Model C, which is a combination rotation learning model (hybrid of face to face and distance learning).

Kindergarten to Grade 2
 Students in grades K-2 will attend school face to face everyday. In order to reduce the amount of people in a single classroom, we plan to divide classes into smaller groups. This focus on smaller groupings in the lower elementary grades is designed to support our youngest learners, who will need additional assistance with social distancing and hygiene routines. In order to avoid the mixing of class groups, the movement of students between classrooms will be limited throughout the day.

Grades 3-6
 The class sizes in Grades 3 – 6 will remain comparable to current class sizes, but classrooms will be configured to allow for social distancing. Students in grades 3 – 6 will attend in an A/B rotation. For example, if your child is assigned to group A, he/she will attend school on Mondays, Wednesdays, and alternating Fridays. He/She will participate synchronously online Tuesdays, Thursdays, and alternating Fridays. We are finalizing work on the class assignments and A/B groupings. This information will be posted on the bulletin board in front of the office on July 29, 2020.

Students receiving Special Education, 504, and ELL services
 Our students who receive special education, ELL, and 504 services will attend school face to face daily.

Distance Learning
 We understand that distance learning is a new concept. Makaha Elementary School can offer online training sessions to those in need. In addition, we have sent out surveys and will continue to do so in the future to get your input and feedback. Please visit our website, https://Makahana.nwcomplex.org/, to get the most updated information.
Curriculum
We have selected Model C, which is a combination rotation learning model (hybrid of face to face and distance learning).

Social Emotional Health
Second Step is the Social Emotional Learning Curriculum we use at Mākaha Elementary. This program is geared toward nurturing social-emotional competence, development of foundational learning skills and academic success. Particularly in the areas of empathy, emotion-management, and problem-solving. Second Step along with their Bullying Prevention Unit supports a safe and fun learning environment for all students.

Distance and Online Learning
Students will have access to a variety of educational platforms and programs to continue their learning while away from the classroom. Below are the major platforms being used at Mākaha Elementary. Click on each logo to access their homepage. Please contact your child’s teacher for more information regarding how these and other programs will be used in class.

* Teachers will continue to receive training on how to implement effective distance learning practices.
Distance and Online Learning Devices

Mākaha Elementary is willing to provide your child with a device if you are in need.

Students Pre-K through Grade 3 will each receive an iPad to access their assignments online and join in virtually. Students in grades 4 through 6 will receive a chromebook to use at home. These devices are to be used strictly for school purposes only.

To better support all MES students academic progress through this pandemic, you will be alerted to complete surveys. Please complete these as they help inform us of the changing needs of our school community. Please complete our newest survey (opened on August 7) MES Wifi Survey.
GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL VISITORS

Under normal circumstances Makaha Elementary School welcomes visitors to campus. The COVID-19 pandemic is a difficult time for all of us. Times have changed quickly and dramatically due to the virus. Safety is our number one priority, and we must do everything we can to prevent the spread of this disease and protect our students, faculty, and staff. To minimize risk, our new Visitor Protocol puts strong limits on visitors entering our school during this time. We encourage parents and visitors to complete any school business electronically if possible or call the office at 307-7400 to schedule an appointment.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT WE WILL FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES LISTED BELOW TO PROVIDE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL

- Arrive wearing a mask
- Sanitize hands upon entry
- All visitors should complete a self-check before entering a school building. Visitors with fever greater than 100.4, congestion, dry cough, breathing difficulties, sore throat, chills, headache/stomach ache/nausea, muscle pain/unusual fatigue, new loss of taste or smell, traveled outside of the state within the last 14 days and/or have been potentially exposed through close prolonged contact with a person who has or is suspected to have COVID-19 should NOT enter our school buildings or offices.
- Submit to a health screening questionnaire
- Comply with social distancing norms. All in-person meetings must allow participants to distance themselves at least six feet from another person or person(s)
- Schedule an appointment beforehand whenever possible.
OFFICE STAFF PROCEDURE

Provide Visitor Health Screening questionnaire to those who will stay on campus for more than 15 minutes. If visitor does not want to complete questionnaire or answers YES to any question on the checklist, please contact principal, Mr. Wade Araki or administrator in charge.

1. Welcome visitor
2. Have visitor complete Visitor Health Screening Questionnaire and office Visitor Sign-In Sheet.
3. Collect health screening questionnaire. If any questions have been answered, “yes.”, please contact principal, Mr. Araki or administrator in charge.
4. File completed checklists in folder by date.
ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

We understand you may have additional questions that have not been answered in this initial plan. Rest assured that more information and details will be forthcoming in our Revised Let’s Return Mākaha Strong and can be found on our Mākaha Website, https://Mākaha nwcomplex.org/. These documents will share further details about the school schedule, pick-up and drop-off, food services, sick policies and self-quarantining, the start of school, requirements regarding PPE, and more.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND SUPPORT

While we hope that as many of our students and faculty are able to begin the school year together in person, we recognize there are situations where a student, teacher or staff member has a personal health situation that puts them at particular risk for COVID-19. We support the health and wellness of all of our community members and will do our best to accommodate the unique needs of individual students and employees. If your child is immune-compromised or you have a particular concern about their presence on our campus, we encourage you to notify the school at 808-307-7400.

Also, we understand there are varying levels of comfort in returning to school and we would like to meet the needs of our students and their families with the choice of online learning ONLY, referred to as Distance Learning Opt-In. Please visit https://bit.ly/distancelearningoptin for more information and to complete the form.

We are also aware that feelings of anxiety can be heightened in situations such as this. Mākaha has counselors who are here and ready to help. Please reach out to us at https://bit.ly/MEScounselorcheckin. You can also email the appropriate counselor. For grades K-3 you may email Dane Toyama at dane.toyama@k12.hi.us and for grades 4-6 you may email Kelly Sceppe at kelly.sceppe@k12.hi.us.

Parent Resource: 
Talking to Children about COVID-19
Our planning effort has been guided by the work of the Pandemic Response Team, a task force composed of faculty and staff representing the entire K-6.

Wade Araki, Principal
Mariko Thompson, Student Services Coordinator
Dane Toyama, K-3 School Counselor
Kelly Sceppe, 4-6 School Counselor
Brenda Abaro, Health Aid
Dayna Mersberg BSN, RN, School Keiki Nurse

Joanna Jimenez, Head Custodian
Shanna La’a, Curriculum Coach
Myles Ayakawa, Curriculum Coach
Annalyn Mesina, Curriculum Coach
Jennifer Lee, Curriculum Coach
Rene Suckoll - SASA
Shanielle Morse-Maesaka - Parent
POSITIVE CASE IN A SCHOOL PROCEDURAL FLOWCHART

Lab confirmation

DOH is notified

DOH isolates case

DOH releases from isolation when:
1) 24 hours without fever with no medication
2) symptoms have improved
3) 10 days since symptoms first appeared

DOH notifies school of confirmed case by sending a letter to the school principal with start and end dates of the isolation*

DOH works with case to identify close contacts

DOH assigns all close contacts to 14-day quarantine

DOH works with school to identify any additional close contacts

DOH monitors contacts for symptoms while in quarantine

DOH works with school to determine any additional processes

Anyone who develops symptoms will be advised to be tested

If lab confirms, they become a new case

*Schools are only notified if DOH determines that the case may have had interactions at the school.

Mākaha Elementary School

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CLOSE CONTACT IN A SCHOOL PROCEDURAL FLOWCHART

Student or staff identified by DOH as a close contact of a positive case

Student/staff advised to quarantine for 14 days

DOH Provides a letter to the student/staff regarding quarantine period

Student/Staff is responsible for providing letter to the school

DOH monitors those in quarantine for symptoms

If contact develops symptoms, they are advised to be tested

If lab confirms, they become a new case

DOH notifies person of release from quarantine when 14 days have passed since last contact with positive case and person is asymptomatic

*Schools are only notified if DOH determines that the case may have had interactions at the school

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The following websites provide important information about COVID-19, health alerts and updates, symptoms and testing, and guidelines for staying healthy:
Hawai‘i State Department of Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
World Health Organization
Flowchart: Positive Case in a School Procedural Flowchart

If you are in need of school supplies, please contact us 808-307-7400, and we will do our best to help you.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions or concerns about our school policy, please call us at 808-307-7400 and a school administrator will respond as soon as possible.