



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

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

August 27, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The past few months have been filled with challenges for our school communities, from the Kilauea eruption and flooding in Hanalei to multiple brush fires on Oahu and Maui. Our state braced itself for a powerful Category 5 storm with Hurricane Lane, and while much of the state was unscathed, there are parts of Hawaii Island and Maui that are still dealing with the impacts of the storm and brush fires.

Through all of these disasters, I am grateful for the Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) 'ohana and the numerous supporters throughout the state who came together.

Now our work begins to restore normalcy to our communities while targeting additional support for those grappling with the impacts of disasters. I urge you to stay vigilant and prepared through the rest of hurricane season, which runs through December.

Families should review their emergency plan and make adjustments based on lessons learned over the past week. I also encourage you to get to know the emergency procedures for your child's school as well as for the Department. For more information, please visit <http://bit.ly/2HDisZt>.

If you haven't already, please make sure that your child's school has the most current contact information for your household, and continue to use HIDOE's website and social media as a resource for the most up-to-date and reliable information about school closures:

- <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org>
- <https://www.facebook.com/HIDOE808>
- <https://twitter.com/HIDOE808>

I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to all of you for supporting our students, families and communities. During times of crisis, our schools serve as a beacon of hope, safety and comfort because of you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Christina M. Kishimoto".

Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto  
Superintendent

CMK:lc