



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KAILUA HIGH SCHOOL
451 ULUMANU DRIVE
KAILUA, HAWAII 96734
TELEPHONE: (808) 266-7900 • FAX: (808) 266-7915

January 3, 2022

Dear Kailua Ohana:

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe it is already 2022! Hope this letter finds you well; rested and healthy. As you have probably heard, the Department of Education (DOE) will continue with its plan and move forward with in-person school come the second semester. At Kailua High School that does mean students will return to campus on January 5, 2022 as today is a teacher work day and the 4th is our Complex Professional Development Day.

We are looking forward to starting the second semester, and we will continue to work to keep our environment as safe as possible. We do need some assistance from the entire community; with the current surge in COVID cases, we are asking that you please remember to do a health check before sending your child to school. If he/she is experiencing any symptoms, please do not send them to school. Also, we are reminding everyone about the importance of mask wearing on campus, especially while indoors.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding. We hope we all have an exciting, productive and safe second semester. Please feel free to contact the school at 808-266-7900 if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you again, please take care and be safe!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stacey S. Oshio".

Stacey S. Oshio
Principal



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

January 3, 2022

Aloha Parents and Guardians,

I hope you and your family enjoyed a wonderful and safe holiday season!

Like many of you, our concerns grew with the uptick in COVID positive cases in our state. We worked closely with the State Department of Health over the holiday break to monitor the potential impacts of the increase in community cases and the highly transmissible Omicron variant. We continue to prioritize keeping schools open at this time and are looking forward to welcoming students back to resume in-person learning this week with consistent safety measures in place.

Before the winter break, our public school system minimized transmission and kept students safe through our layered mitigation strategies. This included promoting vaccinations and boosters, masking, staying home when sick, and hand washing. From December 1 to December 20 (the first day of winter break), the Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) schools collectively saw a daily average of 25 positive cases across nearly 42,000 staff and 160,000 students, according to our case count dashboard. Hawaii reported its first Omicron case on December 2nd.

We anticipate a rise in case counts because schools are a reflection of their communities; however, data shows the safety measures practiced in schools are effective. We are also fortunate to now have additional resources, including vaccinations for students 5 years and older — meaning nearly everyone on our campuses is eligible to be vaccinated. Booster shots and opportunities for testing within the community or at school are also available.

Getting vaccinated and getting booster shots are some of the best ways to protect yourself and those around you. We highly encouraged all those eligible to get their vaccination. Visit hawaiicovid19.com/vaccine for information on vaccination sites. In preparation of the return from winter break, we encourage you to revisit the HIDOE's COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidance at bit.ly/HIDOE_safety_guidance. Updates to align with the Department of Health's latest guidance on quarantine requirements are forthcoming.

Keeping our schools open and safe is a community effort and will require action and commitment from each and every one of us. Thank you for doing your part and for your continued support and cooperation.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Keith T. Hayashi".

Keith T. Hayashi
Interim Superintendent