

Ka'ohao School News

Challenges help us grow.

Dr. Winston Sakurai
School Director

It is February already and spring is right around the corner. Around this time last year we began hearing about the dangers of COVID-19 as it made its presence known in the United States.

Our state and nation has been through a lot over the past year and yet we look forward to brighter days ahead. We have heard it often but it is worth repeating. Keep your head up, protect one another by wearing masks, social distancing and avoid large gatherings. We will get through this together.

At this time Honolulu is so close to reaching Tier 3 criteria according to the Honolulu Reopening Strategy. We encourage our entire community to continue to abide by the executive orders issued by our state and county government so we can continue moving forward. You can review these orders [here](#).

We appreciate everyone's efforts to keep our community safe and hope you have a wonderful 3-day President's Day Weekend.

Mahalo,

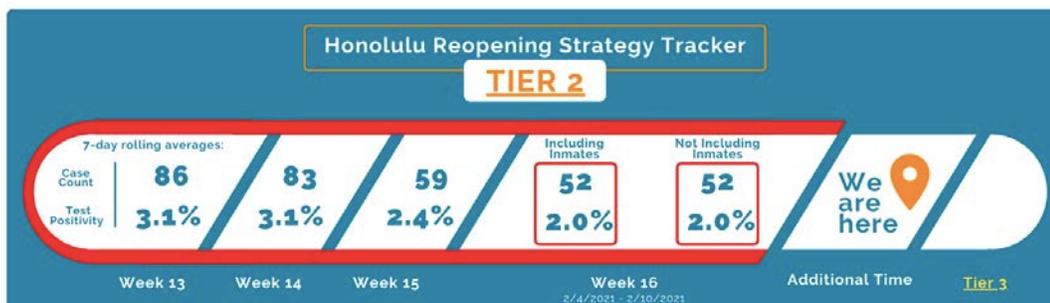
Winston Y. Sakurai, Ed.D
Ka'ohao School Director
NASSP National Digital Principal of the Year
HASSA Hawaii State Principal of the Year



“ If you're always trying to be normal you will never know how amazing you can be.”- Maya Angelou

SAVE THE DATE

- 2/19: 2nd Trimester Ends
- 2/22- 3rd Trimester Begins
- 2/24 - Photo Retakes (8-10 AM)
- 3/8 - 2nd Trimester Report Cards Issued
- 3/15-19-Spring Break
- 3/26-Kuhio Day NO SCHOOL
- 4/2- Good Friday NO SCHOOL



Keri Powers, School Counselor

Aloha Families,

January and February have brought lots of fun, engagement, and thoughtful conversations in counseling!

-Kindergarten students have been practicing labeling problems as "big deals" or "little deals" and practicing strategies for independently solving little deal problems.

-First grade students have been practicing identifying body clues that help them understand their own feelings and practicing ways to appropriately tell others how they feel.

-Second grade students are continuing to work on exploring facets of resiliency.

-Third grade students practiced exercises in using empathy in the STEM design process. They also practiced identifying the size of a problem and choosing appropriate responses.

-Fourth grade students helped to prepare activities for upcoming kindness challenges and began learning about affirmations for self and others.

-Fifth and sixth grade students are continuing to learn and apply executive functioning skills to their personal goals and responsibilities. They have practiced labeling tasks as "must do" and "want to do," prioritizing these tasks, and identifying small steps that can be taken to help them reach long term goals.

Due to our modified schedule and set up, counseling groups have been on hold while I figured out how to prioritize the integrity of the 'ohana bubbles while also protecting student confidentiality. I will be starting family changes groups (you may have previously called this Banana Splits) in the coming weeks. If you would like more information or would like to sign up your child(ren) for the groups, please visit bit.ly/kaohaogroup1

In February, the American School Counseling Association celebrates National School Counseling Week, a time to celebrate changes in the profession of school counseling (a move away from a vocational focus to a holistic social, emotional, mental health and academic success focus) and to advocate for continued growth. Here are some quick facts about the school counseling program:

-The school counseling program is a standards-driven comprehensive program that is delivered in 3 tiers to address the social, emotional, and mental health of students and promote academic and future career success.

-Tier 1 includes school-wide programs and curriculum that are delivered and available to all students. I LOVE being able to deliver this curriculum weekly to your students' classes. Seeing them every week really helps us to build and apply skills in meaningful ways.

-Tier 2 includes counseling services that address identified needs. These services are often delivered in a small group setting and can focus on skills such as self regulation, executive functions, anxiety, and more.

-Tier 3 includes more targeted, intensive counseling services often delivered in the individual counseling setting.

I am so grateful to the Ka'ōhao community for valuing home-school-community collaboration that best supports our students!

Keri Powers, M.A.Ed, M.Ed, NCC
School Counselor
Ka'ōhao Public Charter School

Rainy Days



Special thanks to our volunteers, and staff for helping our students get to school safely and stay safe. Thank you to Ms. Rene for not flying away.



Electronic Device Information

Dear Ka'ōhāo Families,

February 8, 2021

As we are about to begin our Third Trimester of learning, now is a good time to remind all families, and students about the policies for Ka'ōhāo School issued iPads and usage. Attached, you will find a copy of **Ka'ōhāo Device User Agreement** for you to read and discuss with your children, **especially the repair and replacement fee section that is in bold.**

In July, to prepare for the high probability of Distance Learning, the school purchased 220 new iPads to add to our existing devices, so that each student at Ka'ōhāo would be able to connect with their teachers. To meet the goals and mission of Ka'ōhāo School, we invested \$65,000 which allowed us to become a 1:1 school. Each student at Ka'ōhāo has a device that provides a learning connection to their teachers and classmates.

Unfortunately, we have had some damages that required us to order ten additional iPads as we were running out of replacements. To date, there have been fifteen student iPads with cracked screens. Most of these students have received a replacement iPad. **We now have only two replacement iPads that are being held for new students coming to Ka'ōhāo. Therefore, we will not be able to provide a replacement iPad should any more student's devices become inoperable. Parents will still be responsible for the breakage fee of the device/s.** There may be a device in your child's classroom that they can use during school hours only.

As a reminder, these devices are school property, loaned to students for learning. The iPads should only be used at school and students **must pack them away in their backpack once they leave the classroom.** We have seen many students swinging them in the hallways, looking at something on the iPad while walking or tossing them into the car once they get picked up. If students are learning at home, the iPad must be put safely away once they are finished for the day.

We've had quite a few issues of students have been changing some of the settings, using them for gaming which takes up hard drive space so that much needed school approved apps won't work correctly, students are also attempting to delete the school apps. We have also received a few iPads with sand and water damage. We are discussing the option of all iPads remaining on campus at all times. Please know that in May, we will have all students turn in all school issued iPads/devices. All returned electronic devices will be inspected to assure there are no damages, including the charging cords and charging cubes. **Any fees incurred will need to be paid to the office by the last day of school, May 28th. No student grades will be released if you have any pending school balances.**

With Aloha,
Hillary Radovich - Curriculum Coordinator and iPad Manager

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

*Just a reminder
on mask
wearing and how
to properly select
your mask from
the Center for
Disease Control.
Please visit the
CDC website.*

When selecting a mask, there are many choices. Here are some do's and don'ts.

DO choose masks that	DO NOT choose Masks that
 <p>Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric</p>	 <p>Are made of fabric that makes it hard to breathe, for example, vinyl</p>
 <p>Completely cover your nose and mouth</p>	 <p>Have exhalation valves or vents which allow virus particles to escape</p>
 <p>Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't have gaps</p>	 <p>Are intended for healthcare workers, including N95 respirators</p>

**Squirmy
Wormie Update**
by Mindy



JANUARY 2021 REPORT

2020-2021 School Year • Jan. 6 – 31

The roll-out of in-person learning was different at each of the five WZWSH schools. Ka'ohāo and Enchanted Lake were in session for 17 days in January with the half-population blended model; 14 days for Ka'elepulu and Kainalu, both of whom added grade levels sequentially until all students were back on alternate M/W, T/Th schedules. Kailua Intermediate School (KIS) had no students on campus in January – all classes were remote. Grab & Go lunches were prepared for all distance-learning students at all schools.

January 2021 resource recovery

Total food and milk composted totaled 3,965 lbs.; worms consumed 1,468 lbs. to total 5,433 lbs. (2.7 tons) of recovered resource. This is a 56.4% reduction from the 4.8 tons collected and processed in January 2020, pre-COVID. Kitchen prep/surplus waste is collected easily every morning, 6-7:30am. Collection during lunch is spread out over time and space and is extremely difficult, inefficient, and heartbreaking. All the measures established over the years to eliminate/reduce non-food food-service waste have been wiped out by the forced switch to hazmat-level single-use disposables. No more reuseable washables in the dishwasher at Ka'ohāo, no more Zero Heroes. WZWSH dumpsters that took a week to fill are now overflowing with rubbish every day. Pre-COVID student mindfulness and habit of waste reduction has all but vanished in the face of institutional pressure totally beyond our control – a giant step backward for the Zero Waste program.

New equipment for future success, savings

New WZWSH team member Saba Young and Phil Doerr from last year's team spent weekend time training to cut and weld HDPE pipe to build several new Pipeline worm bins for a planned build-out of worm operation capacity at Ka'elepulu and KIS next month. A request for funding from Ulupono Initiative for this project is pending.

Taking it into our own hands after being denied three times by the bogus DOE School Composting Grant, Garden Manager Wendy Rosen approved the use of \$3,750 of KIS resource recovery funds to purchase a dedicated commercial refrigerator for the KIS kitchen. This fridge allows us to store daily buckets of cafeteria waste to compost once a week – rather than daily – saving considerably on staffing costs.

GoFarm Cohort Work Day & Community Compost Sale

The annual GoFarm Work Day was held at Kainalu Elementary on January 30th. Fourteen eager farmers-to-be built a hot compost pile from scratch, harvested four piles, fed the worms, added to the green waste operation, pulled weeds and moved mulch.

Immediately following, an open-to-the-public Compost Sale was held to sell all available January compost – after custodians reserve their share for campus landscaping – from Kainalu (80 cu ft) ELES (44 cu ft), and Ka'elepulu (43 cu ft). Thirty-three customers snatched up the entire inventory, including several containers of October's vermicast from Ka'elepulu and Kainalu, netting \$1,570 to be split among the three schools.

Invertebrate Invitational featured on Learn to Worm – Bug Boxes a big hit!

Learn to Worm video lessons in January featured associated decomposers – earwig, millipede, isopod, Surinam roach, and beetle grub. Virtual Vermicomposting participants could request a Bug Box to be picked up at their school offices for home study and observation. Fourteen Bug Boxes went out – the deadline to get them was extended by request.

Limits on worm sales bring back breedstock density

After months of high demand, worm population was running thin. Limits on sales were imposed to allow breedstock to replenish, so only 8 pounds, 12 ounces of worms were sold in January. Worms are back up to speed for February.