

July 31, 2020

TO: PARENTS OF FERN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
FROM: PRINCIPAL GLEN MIYASATO

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

We welcome you back to Fern Elementary School Year 2020-2021. We are eager to see your children again learning in school. However during these difficult health times in our world, many things will need to be done differently. We have planned very carefully for months to open this new school year safely for your children.

We will need your strong support to teach our students the new safety rules and procedures. Please go to our school website, fernschool.k12.hi.us, to review our opening school procedures. Remember that all students Grades K-2 report to school daily and students in Grades 3-5 come on alternating White and Green days. For those upper grade students, on days when they do not come to school, they must login in on their computers at 8:00am and do their online assignments. Attendance is taken every day.

1. The State BOE has moved the first day of school to August 17. So, all students in grades K, 1, and 2 report on that day. Also, students in grades 3, 4, and 5 who are in the White group report on that first day, August 17. For Green group students in grades 3-5, their first day will be August 18.
2. Distance Learning students must also login for the first time on August 17 at 8:00am.

3. All parents, please remember that there are strict new safety rules in place at all schools due to the Coronavirus. Here are some of the important rules we need your help with:
 - a. Never send your child to school if they have any of these symptoms: fever, coughing or sneezing, sore throat, nausea, stomach ache, headache or unusual fatigue, body aches, or difficulty breathing. Check your child every morning for these symptoms before sending them to school. It is not okay to give your child medicine for fever and send them to school.
 - b. Every morning check to see that your child has a face mask on or pinned to their shirt.
 - c. Every morning check your child's backpack and make sure they have all of their school supplies, laptop, books, water bottle, and seat cushion. It is also a good idea to have an extra face mask in their backpack.
 - d. Please take time to study the presentation on our website called, "How We Will Battle the Coronavirus at Fern Elementary." We will be teaching this information and other rules to all students on the first days of school, but we also need you to teach these things at home before school starts.
 - e. For those parents who have signed up for full Distance Learning, please view the video and information about how to help your child use the Distance Learning technology at home. This video and information will be on our school website from August 13.
 - f. For parents of Grades 3-5 students if you do not have Wifi access at your home, please call our Vice Principal, Mr. Lau at 305-5410.
 - g. Because all students will need to depend on computers for parts of their learning, it is very important that parents sign

and return the media and technology forms that are being sent home on the first day of school. We must have those forms signed and sent back to their teachers during that first week of school.

- h. Details of our safe distanced recess and meal plan will be available for you to see on our website.
- i. Everyone can understand that during this pandemic, the DOE cannot allow parents and visitors to enter the school campus without special permission. We must restrict people on campus only to students and essential workers. Therefore, only parents of Kindergarten students may enter campus before school to take their child to the Cafeteria mauka door where we will take the child to be seated more than 6' apart for breakfast. After bringing their Kindergarten child to the Cafeteria door, parents must leave the campus immediately. Parents of students of all other grades may drop off their children at the front parking lot or at the Kahauiki Street gate. Please do not come on campus. This is a big change, but it is absolutely necessary in order to provide the safest possible school setting for your child. For afterschool pickup, parents of students in Grades K-2 are allowed to pick up their child from the classroom at 2:00pm (on Wednesdays at 1:05pm). This is 15 minutes before the upper grade students so that we can have fewer people moving at the same time at the end of each school day. Parents must be wearing masks, be sure to stay more than 6' distance from others, and leave campus immediately after picking up their child.

PARENTS WE THANK YOU SINCERELY FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION DURING THESE UNUSUAL TIMES. WE APPRECIATE ALL YOU

DO TO HELP US PROVIDE A SAFE LEARNING
ENVIRONMENT FOR YOUR CHILDREN.