

# HAKIPU`U ACADEMY

## Kāne`ohe, Hawai`i

.....

Micah K. Hirokawa M.Ed.  
Po`o Kula, Head of School  
(808) 235-9155  
mhirokawa@hakupuu.org

April 01, 2020

Aloha mai kākou,

I'm not even sure how to start this communication. With all that is happening and yet will happen, I guess it is ironic based on these unbelievable times, that today is April 1st, April Fools Day. Despite the many difficult things that have impacted us in our lives, seek to find laughter, joy, and aloha in your homes. We hope that you are taking the time to visit our web page daily at [www.hakupuu.org](http://www.hakupuu.org). We are doing our very best to keep you informed and up-to-date on changes as they happen each day, throughout the day. Although we are limited in resources, you are ohana to us and we need to know everyone is taken care of. In this, please take the time to fill out the *HA Family Survey* on our home page. We are checking email daily and below are other methods where we can stay connected.

### COVID-19 Health and Safety

- Our campus is closed for the month of April until further notice, we are following the calendar laid out for us by the DOE.
- Please continue to follow all federal and state guidelines in keeping your family safe.

### COVID-19 Phase I (April)

- For the month of April, students will receive Enrichment (non-graded) activities online.
- If a student is failing a core subject you will receive an email to start a conversation on how that student can catch up during the month of April.
- Using your personal email or for students, their student email, please create an account with [www.shutterfly.com](http://www.shutterfly.com)
- After you've created an account, go to [www.hakupuu.org](http://www.hakupuu.org) and select *Parent Portal*. Password **Makua19** (with a capital M). On this page, you'll see the Student Schedule and then click *Direct Link to Classroom Pages*.
- On the days your student has Direct Instruction, Mo`omona, or Hawaiian Studies (HWST) an enrichment activity will be posted on that day by 7:45 a.m.

- We encourage your student(s) to participate in these activities daily and to give positive comments on their experience or connections made. You must be logged into your shutterfly account when visiting these pages to comment.
- Our Educational Assistants and Teachers will be online every day (except holidays) to visit, touch base, and answer any questions students might have (this is only for students, not parents, parents please continue to visit with us through email).
- At [www.hakipuu.org](http://www.hakipuu.org) on the homepage select the *Student Portal*. The password is **haumana** (not capitals).
- EA's will be online from 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. and Teachers/Specialists will be online from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- We ask that student login as a visitor to the chat room using the user name being, their first name and last name initial.
- Please have your child do this every day and continue to connect with our faculty and staff. We miss you all so much!

### **COVID-19 Phase II (May)**

The month of May is scheduled to be academic, meaning graded. Parents and students will have access to our online Distance Learning Drive with daily lessons and opportunities to participate virtually. Due to the fact that things change daily, we will provide more information as we approach the month of May.

### **Grade 12 and Graduation**

My wonderful Seniors and all those who have contributed or are looking forward to graduation, it is with a lowly of heart that currently, Graduation is to be determined. It will no longer be held on May 30th. We hope to have more discussion and possibly, we see doing the ceremony at the end of the summer or over fall break.

Students will receive their diplomas in the mail. You will still be required to pass all your courses and for your Alapi'i Project, full credit will be given with the submission of your research paper. Your final draft is due at the end of March. As your advisor, I will follow up with each Senior throughout April.

### **Enrollment, School Year 2020 - 21 (No Lower School)**

Each student comes to our school with funding from the Federal and State governments. We are in our most valuable recruiting time and confined to our homes. Moving into the upcoming school year, Hakipu'u Academy will operate as a Middle and High School serving families within Ko'olaupoko.

We have amazing elementary schools on the Windward Side! However, from Aikahi to Hau'ula we have only one middle and high school. The majority of our Lower School students will be moving into Middle School this year. Those who have a year or two left in Lower School will be allowed to move to Middle School and will be considered a second and third year 7th grader until they are of age, and are officially of that grade.

Please help us recruit. Social distancing means social media. The majority of our applicants come from Facebook. Each Wednesday and Friday our school will be posting marketing material on our

Facebook page, *Hakipu'u Academy*. We ask that you share this on your personal timeline as much as possible. A school that is full will have enough money to pay for resources and for amazing teachers.

### **With a Fond Aloha**

Finally, you each should have received communication from our Governing Board yesterday regarding my departure and the appointment of Mr. Michael Nakasato as the new Po'o Kula for school year 2020-21. I have come to love and respect Mr. Nakasato so much. He is a man of integrity, loyalty, and is one of the greatest educators I have ever known. The opportunity for our family to move to Utah was too great to pass by and, although we are excited, I am left deeply saddened not to be able to say goodbye in person. Your children have inspired me, have taught me, and ultimately have imprinted themselves as ohe kapala on my heart. My time although short will always be foundational to me as I move forward within my career. If there is any advice worth leaving behind, it is this, to be kind. Each student knows that this is my mantra. Be kind. There is so much power and strength in kindness. Often, this quiet attribute is always overlooked and yet, it can move mountains. Till then, a hui hou.

Na'u me ka ha'aha'a,



Micah K. Hirokawa M.Ed.  
Po'o Kula, Head of School

---

HAKIPU'U ACADEMY - HLC PCS  
45-720 Kea'ahala Road  
Kāne'ohe, Hawaii 96744