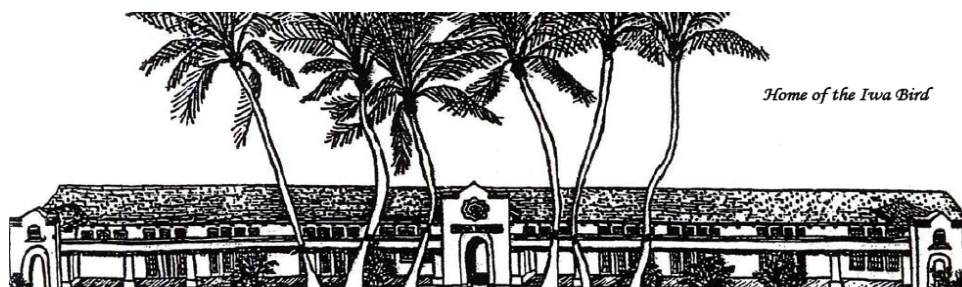


# Hale`iwa Elementary School



Ke aka o Hale`iwa ...Kupono me ke aloha no ke ahona o ke ao

The ESSENCE of Hale`iwa...Live life to the fullest with honor, respect, kindness and love to make the world a better place

August 4, 2023

Dear Hale`iwa Families,

The first day of school is right around the corner. We are so excited to welcome our students to campus on TUESDAY, AUGUST 8. Here is some information to help you prepare for school next week.

## **Personnel updates:**

Our Vice Principal, Mrs. Osiris Terada, welcomed her first child on July 2, 2023. She will be on maternity leave until the second quarter. During the first quarter, Mrs. Nami Dolan, our counselor and Ms. Nicole Yonting, our former counselor, will both be serving as temporary co-Vice Principals in Mrs. Terada's place. Ms. Yonting is "on loan" from Mililani High School for the first quarter only. We are thrilled to have her back, even if it is only for a couple of months. While both Mrs. Dolan and Ms. Yonting will have the authority of a vice principal, they will also continue in their capacities as counselors supporting our students.

We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Nicole Yonamine as a new counselor to Hale`iwa. Mrs. Yonamine comes with a wealth of experience after spending seven years as a counselor at Sunset Beach Elementary. Mrs. Yonamine is expecting her first child in early September so she will be on maternity leave from September to approximately November. Hale`iwa is also fortunate to have Mrs. Tara Rohrbough return this school year as our half-time counselor.

Every member of our counseling team is ready and willing to assist any of our students who need supports. Please do not hesitate to reach out to any of our counselors if we can assist you and your child(ren) in any way.

## **Morning Drop Off:**

On the first day of school, Tuesday, August 8, our staff will park in the back of the school to leave our front parking lot open for parents to park so they can walk their child(ren) to their classes if they choose to. Parents will be able to walk their child(ren) to class for the first week of school. Beginning Tuesday, August 15, we request that parents drop off their child(ren) in the morning and allow our staff to assist students to get to their classes. Limiting the number of non-school personnel on campus during the school day is an important part of Hale`iwa's safety and security plan.

When parents drop off their child(ren) using our drop off lane in the morning, we ask that they be courteous to each other. If your child needs a little extra time to exit the vehicle, we may ask you to pull

to the side to allow other cars to exit the drop off lane. If you know that your child needs a lot of extra time to exit your vehicle, please consider parking in a space in one of our lots and walking your child to the front of the school.

School begins at 7:55am. Any student who arrives after the 7:55am bell is considered tardy and will need to go to the front office to pick up a tardy pass.

### **Afternoon Pick Up:**

The school day ends at 2:15 every day except on Wednesdays when it ends at 12:35pm. Unlike the last two years when COVID influenced many of our practices, we will NOT be releasing students before the end of the school day. We highly encourage parents to stagger their arrival time to pick up their child(ren). All students are supervised by our school staff until they are picked up so there is no need for parents to arrive before 2:15pm. The traffic line can stretch to Kaiaka Park at times so please consider arriving at school 5 minutes or later after the end of the school day to avoid the traffic jam.

When parents drive through our pick up lane, we will call for your child(ren) to come to the front to get into your car. If a parent parks in a lot and walks to the front of the school, one of our school personnel will call for your child(ren) once they see you. If you feel like your child has not been called to the front to meet you, please speak with any staff member to ask them to call for your child. For the first few weeks of school, it will take our staff some time to become familiar with the cars and adults who come to pick up our students. We appreciate your patience and understanding while we familiarize ourselves with our families and their cars. Please note that parents will need to wait for their child(ren) in the front of the school from the first day of school. We respectfully request that parents do NOT go to their child's classroom to pick them up. Our students go to specific waiting areas on campus to wait to be called to the front of the school.

### **School Meals:**

It is not too late to turn in an application for free or reduced meals. The application can be found online at [ezmealapp.com](http://ezmealapp.com). **If your child did not receive free or reduced meals last school year and your child is going to eat school meals, please be sure to deposit money into your child's lunch account BEFORE the first day of school, Tuesday, August 8. Meal payments are CASH ONLY and can be paid in the school's front office.**

School breakfast and lunch menus can be accessed at <https://centraloahu.nutrislice.com/menu/haleiwa-elementary>.

There are also links on our school website. Please note: menus are subject to change without notice.

### **School Bus Transportation:**

The 2023-2024 school year (SY) application is available on the Hawaii State Department of Education's "Riding the Bus" webpage, as well as the School Bus Transportation (SBT) Support resource page.

Applications can also be accessed and submitted online by families via eTriton—

<https://hi.etrition.com/busapplication>. Please remember that there is NO GRACE PERIOD this year. Bus payments must be made before the first day of school. Here is a [link to a letter that was sent earlier this week about the changes to the school bus procedures](#).

### **Field trip chaperones or classroom volunteers:**

It is not too late to sign up for the volunteer orientation sessions that will be held on:

- Monday, August 14 from 9:00 - 10:00am

- Tuesday, August 15 from 5:00 to 6:00pm

If you are interested in attending, you may leave a message with the school office or [sign up online using this form](#).

**A+ After School Program:**

For students who were approved for A+, our after school program will begin on the first day of school, Tuesday, August 8. There is currently a wait list for A+ care. If you are interested in having your child attend A+, please submit an application immediately to be added to the wait list.

**Here are links to some documents that you may find helpful:**

- [HIDOE COVID 19 Health and Safety Guidance for SY 2023-2024](#)
- [Hale`iwa School Calendar for SY 2023-2024](#)
- [Hale`iwa School Supply List for SY 2023-2024](#)

Please call the school office at (808) 637-8237 if you have any questions. You may also email the school at [haleiwaschool@haleiwa.k12.hi.us](mailto:haleiwaschool@haleiwa.k12.hi.us). We are looking forward to seeing everyone next week Tuesday!

Sincerely,

Malaea Wetzel  
Principal