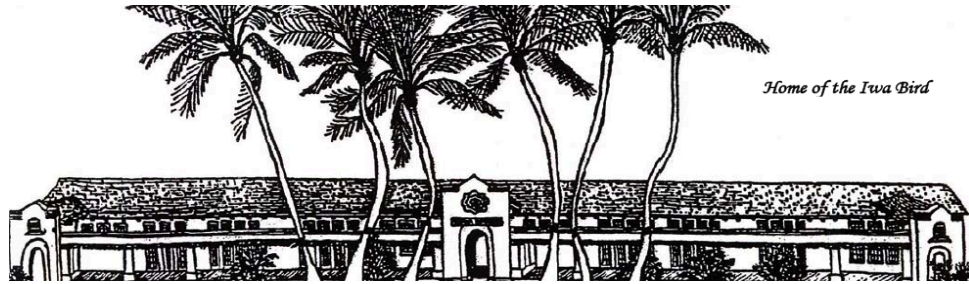


# Hale'iwa Elementary School



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

July 9, 2025

Aloha Hale'iwa Families,

Happy July! The summer is flying by very quickly. For our returning families, we cannot wait to welcome you back. And to our new families—welcome to Hale'iwa! We are so glad that you are joining our school community.

**I also want to briefly introduce Ms. Akenese Atonio, who will be joining our administrative team this year as our Vice Principal Intern. While this letter is not focused on staffing updates, I felt it was important to acknowledge her arrival in this first message of the school year. We will share more about Ms. Atonio in our next school letter.**

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that we give everyone as much time as possible to prepare for the opening of school. Please continue reading for important details that you and your child(ren) will need to know to be ready for the first day of school.

## **SAVE THE DATES!**

- **The online application for free and reduced meals is currently available on [EZmealapp.com](https://ezmealapp.com).**
  - While paper applications are available at the school, we highly encourage all families to use the online application because the processing time for the application is much faster.
  - Any family needing assistance with completing the online application may make an appointment by calling Lisa at 808-637-8237.
  - **Only eligible children, who have applied and been approved, will receive meals at a free or reduced price.** Here are the prices:

|              | Regular | Reduced Price |
|--------------|---------|---------------|
| Breakfast    | \$1.10  | \$0.30        |
| Lunch (K-8)  | \$2.50  | \$0.40        |
| Lunch (9-12) | \$2.75  | \$0.40        |

- **Wednesday, July 30, 2025 from 3:00 to 4:30pm – Meet and Greet**
  - Families may come to the school at any time between 3:00 and 4:30pm to drop off their school supplies at their child(ren)'s classroom(s). Parents will have the opportunity to meet the teacher and see the classroom.
    - Parents will also receive important information about Hale'iwa's Title 1 status and program.

- Meet and Greet is NOT a time for an individual meeting with the teacher as there will be numerous students and their families dropping off their supplies. If a parent would like an individual meeting with the teacher, please call the front office to schedule a meeting at a separate time.
- **Monday, August 4, 2025 – First day of school for ALL students**
  - For the first week of school, parents will be allowed to walk their children to their classes in the morning if they choose to. **However, beginning on Monday, August 11, all students must be dropped off in the front of the school and may not be escorted by a parent.** For our youngest students and any other student needing assistance, there will be several staff members on hand to walk these children to their classes or their designated morning waiting areas. More information will be provided as the beginning of school gets nearer. After school, all parents are requested to wait in the front of the school for their children to be excused. We respectfully request that parents do not go past the flagpole when waiting to pick up their child(ren). Again, there will be several adults to assist all of our students.
    - Please understand that these measures are an important part of our safety and security plan. It has been approved by our HIDOE Safety and Security Office as an important way of limiting access to unauthorized persons to the campus.

After a bell schedule audit was conducted last year, it was found that our end time should be five minutes earlier. **So for SY 2025-2026, the end of the school day is at 2:10pm for every day EXCEPT WEDNESDAY. On Wednesdays, the end of the school day is 12:30pm.** More information about our after-school procedures will be shared later in July.

**We are still accepting A+ applications on a WAITLIST basis.** We are currently staffed to accept a total of 40 students and we have an excess of 40 applications. All future applications will be waitlisted on a first-come, first-serve basis.

**Bus applications are also being accepted throughout the summer.** The Central District bus transportation provider is Ground Transport, although they may contract out some of the routes, which may include Hale'iwa. Because of this, it is very important for any family needing bus transportation to complete the bus application as soon as possible. Families may pick up an application at our school office, or they may apply online using this [link](#).

The HIDOE also issued an [informational letter about bus transportation](#) on Monday, July 7. This letter was sent via mass message to all Hale'iwa families on Tuesday, July 8.

Please note that the school does not create bus passes. All bus passes are issued from the District Transportation Office. To ensure timely arrival of your child's bus pass, please submit your bus application as soon as possible.

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

- [Hale'iwa School Calendar for SY 2025-2026](#)
- [Hale'iwa School Supply List for SY 2025-2026](#)

Please note that this letter has been sent via our electronic mass messaging system only. This means that it is essential that families ensure that we have the most up-to-date contact information.

**Please call the school office at (808) 637-8237 if you have any questions.** We are very happy to help you. Enjoy the rest of your summer and see you in a few weeks!

Aloha,

Malaea Wetzel, Principal

## Continuous Notice of Non-Discrimination

The Hawai'i State Department of Education (Department) and its schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression sexual orientation, age, disability, and religion. This requirement extends to all of the Department's programs and activities, including employment and admissions as applicable. Please direct inquiries regarding the Department nondiscrimination policies and/or complaints of prohibited conduct to the Civil Rights Compliance Branch as follows:

|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Civil Rights Compliance Branch       | Beth Schimmelfennig, Director            |
| Hawaii State Department of Education | Rhonda Wong, Compliance Administrator    |
| P.O. Box 2360                        | Krysti Sukita, ADA/504                   |
| Honolulu, Hawaii 96804               | Anna Tsang, Title VI                     |
| (808) 784-6325 or relay              | Alphonso Braggs - Compliance             |
| CRCB@k12.hi.us                       | Blue Kaanehe, Title VII                  |
|                                      | Nicole Isa-Iijima, Title IX              |
|                                      | Dana Takahara-Dias, Title IX - Athletics |
|                                      |  |

The Department's non-discrimination policies and grievance procedure may be located at:

<https://hawaiipublicschools.org/useful-links/policies/nondiscrimination-policy/>

CRCB (January 2025)