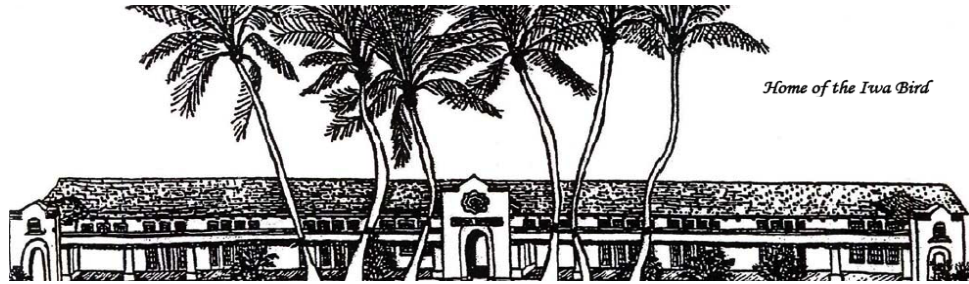


Hale'iwa Elementary School



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, 2026

Aloha Hale'iwa Families,

Happy July!

I hope your family is enjoying a wonderful summer. It is hard to believe that the start of another school year is just around the corner! For our returning families, we are excited to welcome you back. To those who are joining Hale'iwa for the first time, welcome! We are so happy that you are becoming part of our school 'ohana, and we look forward to getting to know you and your children.

Before sharing some important beginning-of-the-year information, I would also like to introduce **Ms. Stephanie Catania**, who will be joining our administrative team this year as our Vice Principal. Although this letter is focused primarily on preparing for the new school year, I wanted to acknowledge her arrival in this first message to our families. A brief introductory letter from Ms. Catania is included with this mailing.

The purpose of this letter is to provide important information well in advance so that your family has plenty of time to prepare for the opening of school. Please take a few minutes to review the information below.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Free & Reduced-Price Meal Applications

The online application for free and reduced-price meals will be available on July 13 at **EZMealApp.com**.

While paper applications are available in the school office, we strongly encourage families to apply online because applications are processed much more quickly.

If you need assistance completing the online application, please contact Lisa at **(808) 637-8237** to schedule an appointment.

Please remember that only students who have applied and been approved will receive meals at the free or reduced-price rate.

Meal	Regular Price	Reduced Price
Breakfast	\$1.10	\$0.30
Lunch (Grades K–8)	\$2.50	\$0.40
Lunch (Grades 9–12)	\$2.75	\$0.40

Bus Transportation

Bus applications are currently being accepted for the upcoming school year.

Transportation for the Central District is provided by **Ground Transport**, and seating is limited. Families who will need bus service are encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible.

Applications are not yet available. When they are available, we will send families a link to complete it electronically.

Please note that bus passes are issued by the District Transportation Office—not by the school. Applying early helps ensure that your child’s bus pass is processed and received before school begins.

SAVE THE DATES:

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

Meet & Greet 3:00–4:30 p.m.

Families are invited to visit campus anytime between **3:00 and 4:30 p.m.** Students may bring their school supplies to their classrooms, meet their teacher, and see where they will be learning this year.

During Meet & Greet, families will also receive information regarding Hale‘iwa School’s Title I program.

Please note that Meet & Greet is designed as a brief welcome opportunity for all families. Because teachers will be greeting many students throughout the afternoon, this is not the best time for individual conferences. If you would like to schedule a private meeting with your child’s teacher, please contact the school office after the school year begins.

Monday, August 3, 2026

First Day of School for All Students

To help our students transition successfully into the new school year:

- **August 3–7:** Parents and guardians may walk students to their classrooms.
- **Beginning August 10:** Students should be dropped off at the front of the school. Parents will no longer be permitted to escort students onto campus.

At dismissal, we ask that families wait in the front of the school and remain on the street side of the flagpole. Please do not walk beyond the flagpole onto campus.

Our staff will be available to assist our youngest students, as well as any child who may need help getting to class or to their designated morning waiting area. Additional information about arrival and dismissal procedures will be shared later this month.

These procedures are an important part of our school safety plan and have been approved by the Hawai'i Department of Education Safety and Security Office to help maintain a safe and secure campus for all students and staff.

A+ Program

We are continuing to accept A+ applications on a **waitlist** basis.

Our current enrollment capacity is **40 students**, and we have already received more applications than available spaces. You may [apply online](#) or pick-up an application from the office.

Please note: The income limits for subsidy (free) has been increased. Please [click here](#) to read the letter from Assistant Superintendent Higashi and [click here](#) to view the updated Income Eligibility Table and Calculator.

Helpful Resources

- [Hale'iwa School Calendar \(SY 2026-2027\)](#)
- [Hale'iwa School Bell Schedule \(SY 2026-2027\)](#)
- [Hale'iwa School Supply List \(SY 2026-2027\)](#)

This letter has been distributed through our electronic messaging system. To ensure you continue receiving important school information throughout the year, please make sure the school has your family's most current email address and phone number.

If you have any questions, we are always happy to help. Please contact our school office at **(808) 637-8237**.

As we begin this new school year, we look forward to continuing to build a stronger Hale'iwa through common practices, collaboration, and intentionality. Thank you for partnering with us as we help every child grow into kind, capable, and confident learners who make the world a better place.

We hope you enjoy the rest of your summer, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to campus very soon!

With warmest 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 Hawai'i	Beth Schimmelfennig, Director
State Department of Education P.O. Box 2360	Rhonda Wong, Compliance Administrator Krysti Sukita, ADA/504
Honolulu, Hawai'i 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 procedures may be located at:
<https://hawaiipublicschools.org/useful-links/policies/nondiscrimination-policy/>

Aloha Families,

I am excited and honored to introduce myself as the new Vice Principal of Hale'iwa Elementary School. I began my career with the Hawai'i Department of Education in 2015 as a middle school teacher and most recently served as a Vice Principal at 'Iliahi Elementary School.

I believe that students come to school for two reasons: to learn and to have fun. My hope is that every child leaves school each day having done a little of both.

As we begin this new school year together, I look forward to helping make Hale'iwa a place where students are excited to come to school each day – where they can learn, have fun, and create memories that last long after the school year ends.

When you see me around campus please introduce yourself! I'd love to get to know you and your family. Tell me what your child is excited about about this year, what you love most about Hale'iwa, or share your favorite restaurant recommendation, (I'm always looking for a good slice of pizza.)

Mahalo for welcoming me to Hale'iwa. I can't wait to meet you!

With aloha,



Stephanie Catania
Vice Principal
Haleiwa Elementary School