Aloha mai e nā ‘ohana o Kamehameha Hawai‘i,

Hau‘oli Makahiki Hou!! I hope this greeting to welcome the new year relays all the joy, love and peace of the holiday season. We were so happy to see all 256 of our haumana back at our kula.

While the break is good for all of us, we do miss them when they are not here!

The keiki have quickly gotten back into the groove of daily school life thanks to you, ‘ohana, and our staff. In the past week many classroom conversations were around reflection, goal setting or resolutions for the new year. Please talk with your keiki about their goals for the remainder of the school year and how you can support them in reaching them.

As always, please do not hesitate to let us know how we can support your keiki.

Mālama pono.

Esther Kanehailua

Hauʻoli Makahiki Hou!
Excused/Unexcused Absences

Last year, in an effort to support our ‘ohana while considering the importance of daily attendance at school, our po’o kula, Dr. Stender, convened an attendance committee comprised of teachers and administrators from the elementary, middle and high schools. One of the purposes of the committee was to consider excused versus unexcused absences as well as to have an attendance policy that was very similar K-12.

The committee made the recommendation to allow students to be eligible for 3 excused days per year for participation in non-school related activities (such as extracurricular sports, performances, funeral, etc.). Requests could be made at least 2 weeks prior to the trip by filling out a form also found in the handbook. Students had to be in good academic standing, not be on attendance, academic or conduct probation and faculty members had to sign the form. Then the form could be reviewed by an administrator.

Many families have followed procedures and have taken advantage of this opportunity. Prior to last year, family trips were all counted as unexcused which meant that teachers did not have to provide missed work to students.

If your child will be missing school for something other than a medical purpose (illness, injury, appointment), and you would like it to be considered as excused, please check out the procedures in the handbook (also found on our website) and fill out the School Leave Eligibility Form at least two weeks in advance.

New Bus Pass System a Success

Last year, Ray Iyo, head of our transportation department, purchased Zonar Bus Pass System (ZPass) as one of several steps taken to insure the safety and well being of our bus riders, K-12. When students board our buses, passes are scanned and their information is logged into a database that allows us to check when a child boarded as well as disembarked any of our school buses.

Since that time, we have counted on the information in the database to track students. It has proven to be very helpful.

Lately, however, students have been "forgetting" bus passes at home and in cars. They have lost passes and bent/broke their passes.

- If your child’s bus pass is lost please deliver a note to the elementary office, email Ray Iyo at raiyo@ksbe.edu, or fax the request to 982-0010 before 10:00am. There will be a $5.00 replacement fee due (cash or check made to: Kamehameha Schools).
- If their bus pass no longer scans and there is physical damage (cracked, bent, melted, etc.), deliver a note to the elementary office, email Ray Iyo at raiyo@ksbe.edu, or fax the request to 982-0010 before 10:00am. There will be a $5.00 replacement fee due (cash or check made to: Kamehameha Schools).
- If their bus pass no longer scans and is not damaged, please deliver a note to the elementary office, email Ray Iyo at raiyo@ksbe.edu, or fax the request to 982-0010 before 10:00am. Replacement will be made at no charge.

All requests received after 10:00am will not be processed until the next day. Replacement bus passes will be delivered to the elementary office.

Christmas Concert Performances Available On-line

Mahalo nui to Mr. Kerry Kamisato, our Middle School digital media teacher extraordinaire, who with his students, compiled videos of all the performances from our Christmas Concert.

Use this QR code to view all the concert performances!

Health Room News

Our health room staff would like to remind you to complete and return all required medical forms for your child to the health room office, no later than April 30, 2015.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the health room at 982-0211. You may also email Assistant Health Aide Julie Riveira at juriveir@ksbe.edu.

Dress Code & Appearance

All students are required to wear uniforms on a daily basis and must meet the dress and appearance standards outlined in the Student and Parent Handbook, pages 23-25. Your child’s teacher or the school office will notify you of any exceptions to the dress code. Parents will be notified of dress code violations. Students must be in uniform from arrival on campus until the end of school. Please check that your child’s uniform is properly worn: Shirts must be tucked in and belts must be worn with shorts or slacks (no belts for grade K).