

# Nu'uanu PCNC EBlast to Families: Principal Toyooka Message - Next Week 8/17 - 8/20 - A Must Read

August 14, 2020

Aloha Parents/Guardians;

Since last Friday's DOE announcement, nothing has changed on how schools can use and what they can do during the week of August 17 to 20, 2020. The week was to be used to distribute school materials, laptops to those asking, teachers getting to know their students and families, assessing capabilities of their students, etc. The good news is that during this past week we have already distributed school materials to most of our families as well as over 90 laptops.

For families saying they have no wi-fi connectivity, the school did buy some devices to help. The order has been placed and hopefully we will get these devices in a week or two. We will call you when we get them and arrange with you for a day and time to pick them up.

If you missed your pickup day and time you will still be able to get your child's supplies, but you will now have to call the office. You cannot come up to the office, so call us at 595-5422 and make arrangements for this pickup. After a day and time has been set you will have to drive and park in the circle driveway and call the office. Someone will go down to give you your supplies, but know that this might take several minutes to do as office staff is limited and usually busy.

Depending on the teacher, grade level, and how capable their students are, the week of August 17 to 20 will vary greatly. Grade K will be doing virtual assessments, grade 1 'might' have live assessments with small groups of students, other grades are doing virtual orientation and some would actually start doing distance learning instruction. Teachers should have been in contact with you already or will over this weekend. If not, please write to them, using: **first name.last name@k12.hi.us** and ask them for their schedule.

Even though there will not be any face-to-face instruction at schools, all children are still entitled to breakfast and lunch meals. If you are on free status all your meals will still be free. If on reduced or regular status you will be expected to pay for these meals so be sure that your child's eTritition account has adequate funds.

If students will be purchasing lunch we kindly ask that you call the office by 8:30 a.m. that day and place an order. This is so that the cafe can prepare the correct number of meals. If you do not call in advance, then there's no guarantee that you will be able to get a meal. Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 12 noon only and are grab-n-go. If you plan to order breakfast, please call the office the day before, no later than 2:00 p.m. Breakfast will be served between 7:00 a.m. – 7:45 a.m. daily.

Another change this school year, because of distance learning, is that currently enrolled students do not have to come here (at Nu'uanu) to get their meals, but can now go to the nearest public DOE school (not chartered schools) to get this service. Students will need to have their school ID with picture, or provide their first and last name as well as the name of their school so that

their eTritition account can be properly charged. Please give a courtesy call to the school that you plan to pick up meals from to find out their pick up times and ordering system. Please note that these “grab and go” meals are for DOE enrolled students with an eTritition account only.

We have had several questions about doing only distance learning (DL). Because of confusion and nobody really knowing the true effects of all this, we will allow families who opted in for strictly DL to change their selection and choose Cohort A or B options with their teachers. However, this option to change will no longer be offered after **Wednesday, August 19**, as we need to set our class roster and assign teachers who will be doing direct virtual teaching. Please keep in mind that any family can opt-in to do DL, and that this is a one semester commitment. So, after August 19, this will be the only choice.

I will write more about the cohorts and how it will work. There is some confusion and fuzziness about how that will work so I will address that next week (or few days from now) as this subject does not have a simple response.

Nu‘uanu School did purchase an online program called Acellus. It came highly recommended, but because we have not used it before, we will likely have some growing pains. Good news is that all the students and teachers will be using it so when there are problems the entire faculty can discuss it and work through them. If that happens please bear with us and know that we will resolve any and all issues in a timely manner.

Moving forward I hope everything goes smoothly and without a hitch. I know that’s a lot to ask but no harm in wishing for it. Chances are we will all experience some difficulties, but please keep in mind that nearly everything we will be doing this year has never been tested and done before. We will all work hard for the sake of all our students and families.

Mahalo,

James Toyooka