

Nu'uanu PCNC EBlast to Families: Principal Message on the August 17 Starting of School Details, 1 of 2 - A Must Read

August 2, 2020

Aloha Parents/Guardians;

By now you should already know that the BOE agreed to move the reopening school date from August 4 to August 17, 2020. Because of this change we now need to readjust some of our original plans and inform all of you of the changes being made.

When school reopens, it will not be for half day sessions, but will be all full days. I sent out our adjusted start and end of the school day times so please look and follow that schedule as much as possible. (July 20 eblast – I will add it to the end of this message)

We need to allow space for everybody to keep social distancing and for the safety of our students, so if families come too early to drop off their child please be aware that we will not have an adult helper outside the cafe until 7:30 a.m. The earliest time that the students will be allowed to go to their classrooms will be at 7:50 a.m., grades 1 & 3, and the last groups, grades 2 & 5 will not be tardy until after 8:20 a.m. so you can plan accordingly.

If having breakfast, students will be served starting at 7:00 a.m. You will notice that our tables have marked seating spaces and partitions. If you plan to eat with your child you still can but try not to be near other students. You can sit across facing your child as it is over 7 feet away. The tables have been reconfigured so please do not adjust or move them around.

If your child is not in the A+ program, please adhere to their grade's release time as much as possible. When grades 1 & 3 ends at 2:15 p.m., do not expect them to be down at the circle driveway at 2:15 p.m. Give them about 5 minutes or at 2:20 p.m. to get from their classroom to the driveway. If you come too early and the parking lot is full I would suggest parking at the Nu'uanu Valley District Park and wait there until it is time to get your child. If you come too early and wait in the circle this could lead to a massive traffic tie up, as Puiwa Lane will have cars waiting in line. Please be considerate of others as everyone, not only you, wants to get their child.

When picking your child up in the circle driveway, please use the strip of paper (6"x24") that I gave all families, and write clearly and boldly the grade and name of your child and place this facing forward on your car's dashboard (if you lost this piece of paper, please ask the office for a replacement). The principal and another one or two other adult workers will be monitoring the driveway so when we see your child's name we will call out their name. Without this name sign, recognizing your child or your child knowing it's you, will be very difficult as everybody will be wearing a mask.

We will have separate chairs placed in the area in front of the cafe where the children will sit. Will have between 10 – 15 students sitting at one time with 6' distancing.

When dropping off or picking up your child please DO NOT go to their classroom! The front of the cafe will be a meeting area and an adult will be watching students not enrolled in BSP (Before School Program) from 7:30 a.m. and taking them to their classroom at the appropriate times. If you want to show your child where their classroom is I would suggest coming on the weekend to do this. I understand every parent loves and wants to protect their child, but we have to avoid breaking the social distance protocol and if most parents take their child up to the classroom this will be impossible to maintain.

If bringing your child from the Dowsett Ave gate or if you are parked near the blacktop, DO NOT take your child to their classroom. Walk with them a partial way, stay near the walkway, then have them walk the rest of the distance by themselves. You can stand and watch to make sure they are okay. We've always promoted self-reliance and independence so this is a small step in that direction.

If it should happen, please do not be offended if a teacher or some other school personnel tells you to leave the premise once school starts or has not officially ended. They, like you, all have health and safety concerns so sometimes we need a friendly reminder. Keep in mind that this is nothing personal.

The Before School Program (BSP) formerly known as early morning care, and the A+ program will be in full operations when we reopen on August 17th. If you want to enroll your child in either program be sure to contact the Nu'uaniu YMCA for times, dates, and cost information.

We realize that there is still confusion about having only distance learning (DL) and what to expect from it, as well as what being in Cohort A or Cohort B means. To do that properly it will involve another lengthy letter so I will forward that to you tomorrow. The above information is very important and a lot to absorb, so I do not want to make it more difficult for you to remember at this time.

Mahalo,

James Toyooka

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Starting August 17, 2020 until remainder of the school year starting time will be:
Grades 1 and 3: 8:00 a.m. They can start going to their classrooms at 7:50.
Grades K and 4: 8:10 a.m. They can start walking to their classrooms at 8:00.
Grades 2 and 5: 8:20 a.m. They can start walking to their classrooms at 8:10.

From August 17, 2020 until the end of the school year end times will be:
Grades 1 and 3: 2:15 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
Grades K and 4: 2:25 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
Grades 2 and 5: 2:35 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

On Wednesdays school end times will be:
Grades 1 and 3: 1:30.

Grades K and 4: 1:40.

Grades 2 and 5: 1:50.

This staggered dismissal times will give A+ some time getting the students from each grade level and alleviate some of the afternoon traffic pickup traffic.