



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
HONOLULU DISTRICT OFFICE
4967 KILAUEA AVENUE
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816

September 28, 2020

Dear Farrington Complex principals, teachers, staff, students, and families,

I want to thank you for your continued patience, hard work and cooperation through the first quarter. As we began the school year *Learning from Home*, our commitment to serve our students by providing them the safest possible educational experience remains our highest priority.

Recently, Hawaii State Department of Education Superintendent (HIDOE), Dr. Christina Kishimoto, announced that schools will use newly released guidance from the Hawaii State Department of Health (HDOH) to develop appropriate learning models moving into the second quarter and beyond. Our complex area will also consider the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Indicators for School Decision-Making, Governor's Reopening Status, the Mayor's Four-Tier Framework, and input from our school communities as part of our decision-making process.

It is our intention to start with kindergarten at the elementary level, grade 6 at the middle school, and grade 12 at the high school. As HDOH metrics are met and campus capacity and resources are taken into consideration, Farrington Complex schools will anticipate slowly phasing in the return of students to campus. Each school team will continue to meet with their faculty and staff to plan for this transition, being mindful of current case counts, positivity rates, health and safety guidelines, mitigation strategies, facilities, and workforce capacity.

As a Farrington complex, the goal is for all complex schools to reopen at the same time. During the week of October 26, each school principal will communicate the school's hybrid/blended learning model and provide an outline the conditions for the school to reopen. While we continue to closely monitor COVID-19 activity to ensure a safe and successful transition, it is our hope to slowly and gradually phase in the number of students returning to campus during the second quarter, or when the HDOH metrics for our community deem that it is safe to open. Please note that student schedules may vary school-to-school, and start dates may change if the COVID-19 data does not improve. In addition, health and safety protocols at all schools will align to CDC, HDOH, HIDOE, and the Board of Education's expectations.

All schools will give families a two-week notice of the start date for kindergarten, grade 6 or grade 12. This tentative plan will allow for upwards of 25-35% of our students to return to

campus by the end of first semester. Other grade levels will remain on our *Learn from Home* (or current distance learning) plan, following the same schedule as the first quarter. Our goal is to ensure a smooth phase-in, so more students can continue to return in January.

We appreciate your support as we navigate through these uncertain times. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your respective school office.

Sincerely,



Rochelle Mahoe, Ph.D.

Complex Area Superintendent

Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani Complex Area