



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA'U/KEA'AU/PAHOA COMPLEX AREA
16-588 KEAAU-PAHOA ROAD
KEAAU, HAWAII 96749

OFFICE OF THE COMPLEX AREA SUPERINTENDENT

October 27, 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As you already know, the lava flow crossed Apa'a Road over the weekend and is quickly making its way toward Pahoa Village Road and Highway 130. The rate of flow has accelerated the implementation of our plans, and as a result, we would like to share with you some new updates that will affect about 1,700 students, and include the closure of schools in the Kea'au and Pahoa complexes.

Beginning Wednesday, October 29, there will be no school for students at Keonepoko Elementary School. This is to allow our faculty, staff, administrators, and our facilities' teams enough time to complete administrative work and the preparation of the new facility to receive students. We are indefinitely closing Keonepoko at its current location because it is in the anticipated path of the lava flow. We will move the school, furniture and equipment to the Keonepoko North facility at Kea'au High School beginning Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, October 29-31 and longer as needed.

On Thursday, October 30, there will be no school for students at Pahoa High & Intermediate, Pahoa Elementary, Kea'au High and Kea'au Middle to allow administrators, faculty & staff from those schools to help with administrative work and prepare for the transition of students affected by the move. Approximately, 850 students will be moving to the Kea'au Complex, while approximately 850 students will remain south and attending Pahoa Elementary and Pahoa High & Intermediate.

All students in Pahoa Complex schools who reside north of the flow (Orchidland, Ainaloa and Hawaiian Paradise Park) are moving to the Kea'au Complex. Following is the movement information for these students:

Students leaving Pahoa High (grades 9-12) will report to Kea'au High on Friday, November 7.

Students in grades 6-8 leaving Pahoa Intermediate, Keonepoko, and Pahoa Elementary will report to Kea'au Middle on Friday, Nov 7.

Students in grades K-5 from Keonepoko & Pahoa Elementary Schools will report to Keonepoko North on Monday, November 10.

Bus pickup sites will be disseminated tomorrow.

All students who reside south of the flow (Hawaiian Beaches, Hawaiian Shores, Nanawale, Leilani, Kalapana & Pahoa) will attend Pahoa High & Intermediate or Pahoa Elementary and report to school on Monday, November 10. Bus pickup sites will be disseminated tomorrow.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we have been working diligently to ensure your children are safe and are in class as much as possible.

If you have any questions, please call your school principal. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary A. Correa".

Mary A. Correa
Complex Area Superintendent
Ka'u, Kea'au, Pahoa