

# MILILANI/WAIPAHAU COMMUNITY REPORT

D) SENATE DISTRICT 18 – NOVEMBER 2020

*Serving Mililani Town, Waipio Gentry, Waikele, Village Park & Royal Kunia*



Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

2020 has been a whirlwind year, full of new challenges and concerns we have taken in stride. I want to express my deepest mahalo nui to you all for your valiant efforts to flatten the curve throughout the summer months, which proved to be successful by both local and national standards. Along with the duties of my role in the Senate as the Chair of the Senate Education Committee, my new role as one of six members of the Senate Special Committee on COVID-19 has become an important responsibility this year. The Committee has continued with our weekly meetings with State and City agencies since March to navigate the economic and health concerns of the pandemic.

With COVID-19 cases growing throughout the globe and numbers anticipated to increase over the holiday season, it is imperative that we rally together as a community to do our part to stay healthy and safe. The new state mask mandate is one of the many ways in which we can all contribute to continue keeping Hawai'i's numbers at a low transmission rate and to limit the amount of community spread. We will continue to share the wealth of resources established to support local families through the pandemic and look ahead at ways in which we can ease the burdens we are enduring as a community.

Please stay vigilant as we work together to navigate the holiday season with a



SENATE  
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Vice Chair:  
Committee on  
Higher Education

Member:  
Committee on  
Ways and Means

Hawaii State Capitol  
Room 228  
(808) 586-7100

[senkidani@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senkidani@capitol.hawaii.gov)



Congratulations to Senator Chris Lee (District 25), Senator Joy San Buenaventura (District 2) and Senator Benette Misalucha (District 16) who were recognized this month during the Hawai'i State Senators official Swearing In Ceremony!  
Photos by: Parish808 Photography

# PEARL CITY-WAIPAHU DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD



Honorees for the annual Hawaii State Teacher of the Year awards were recently recognized and we are proud to recognize Waikele Elementary School's Jacqueline Nuha-Tabernero as the 2021 Pearl City-Waipahu District Teacher of the Year! Jaqueline is the Enrichment teacher for grades 3-6, the Hawai'i Core Standards in Social Studies Curriculum Coach and the Computer Science Coordinator who has lead fantastic innovations and made a lasting impact upon her students. Congratulations Jacqueline, to the entire Waikele Elementary School 'ohana and all of the amazing teachers for their well-earned honors!

# WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL RECOGNIZED AS A NATIONAL MODEL ACADEMY SCHOOL



Congratulations to Principal Keith Hayashi and the hardworking staff of Waipahu High School for being recognized as a national model academy school! Waipahu High School offers 23 Career Technical Education programs as well as an Early College program, proving exemplary in preparing students for the workforce. In order to achieve such merits, schools must exceed proficiency in all 10 areas noted in the NSOP. The five Waipahu High School academies being recognized include:

- 2020 National Model Academy: Academy of Arts & Communication
- 2020 National Model Academy with Distinction: Academy of Industrial & Engineering Technology
- 2020 National Model Academy with Distinction: Academy of Professional & Public Services
- 2019 National Model Academy with Distinction: Academy of Health & Sciences
- 2019 National Model Academy with Distinction: Academy of Natural Resources

# COVID-19 RESOURCES:

1. [State of Hawaii COVID-19 Portal](#)

The official COVID-19 state portal for all the latest updates and information on COVID-19.

2. [Senate Special Committee on COVID-19](#)

The Hawaii State Legislature's official site for updates by the Senate Special Committee on COVID-19. (Senator Kidani is a member of this committee)

3. [One Oahu](#)

The City & County of Honolulu's COVID-19 Response Team. This site shares frequently updated and relevant pandemic updates and resources for the community.

3. [Hawaii State Department of Health](#)

Stay updated with the most recent health updates on COVID-19 in Hawaii.

4. [Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation \(PEUC\)](#)

A temporary federal program that provides additional benefits to individuals who have established a regular unemployment claim, effective March 29, 2020 to December 31, 2020.



The Hawaii State Federal Credit Union's annual Lowell Kalapa Scholarship Program has begun, offering 20 hardworking recipients a \$5,000 scholarship to further their education. Applications will be accepted from now through February 1, 2021 so be sure to encourage keiki to apply and submit in the next few months!

To learn more about the program, eligibility, and how to apply, please visit the [HSFCU Lowell Kalapa Scholarship Website](#).

## MILILANI MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSROOM BUILDING CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



I was pleased to see the progress that has been made on Mililani Middle School's new classroom building during a recent site visit. Despite the challenges that the pandemic has presented, they have continued with construction plans, ensuring that our Mililani students and families can successfully transition off of the multi-track system. Mahalo nui to Principal Elynne Chung for hosting Senator Dela Cruz and I for this enlightening tour!

## UHWO ACM CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

It was exciting to see the progress made on the UH West O'ahu campus' Academy of Creative Media building. It will have an amazing impact on the Central and West Oahu community as well as the statewide creative media industry.

While many other industries are still at a halt, the film industry has established safe, innovative and practical protocols to continue film projects and provide invaluable job opportunities for the local community. I look forward to seeing how the expansion of this building will further creative media careers in this growing industry.



## COVID-19 RESOURCES:

### 1. [Aloha United Way](#)

Call 211 for the only statewide hotline partnering with the Department of Health for help finding food, shelter, financial assistance, childcare, disability services, etc.

### 3. [MEDQUEST](#)

The Department of Human Services MEDQUEST division provides eligible low-income adults and children necessary access to health and medical coverage through managed care plans. Find out if you are eligible and file your application online for medical assistance coverage

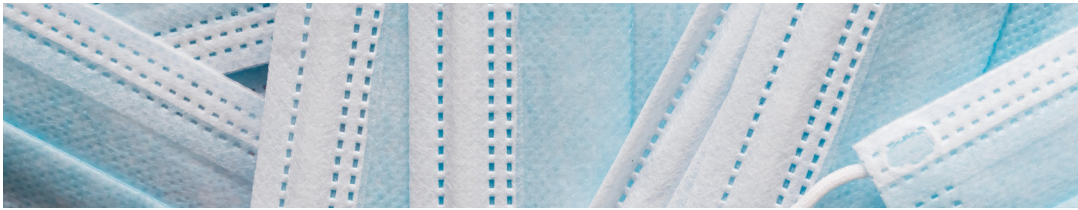
### 4. [SNAP](#)

The Supplemental Nutrition and Food Assistance Program is funded through the USDA to qualifying households. Find out if this program will support your family at the link above.

### 5. [Hawaii Foodbank](#)

This dedicated nonprofit has been at the forefront of this pandemic working tirelessly to provide and distribute food throughout the community. Learn more about their efforts as well as more information on their upcoming food drives or to donate or volunteer.

# HAWAII STATEWIDE MASK MANDATE



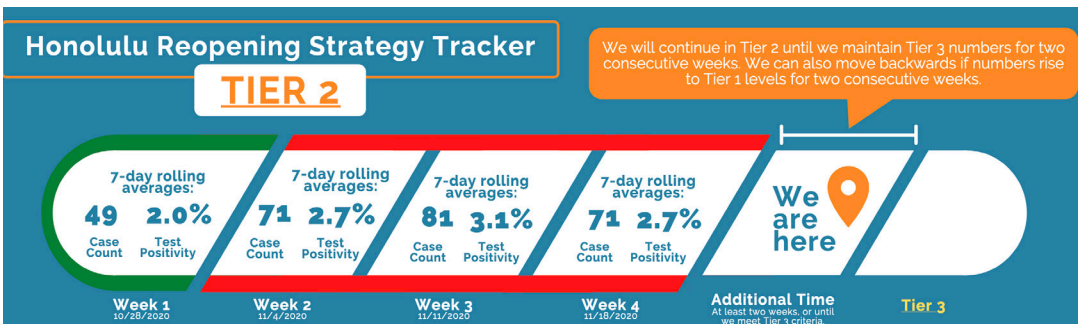
Hawai'i has officially passed a statewide mask mandate requiring individuals to wear facial coverings at all times in public with exceptions including:

- Medical conditions or disabilities where the wearing of a face covering may pose a health or safety risk to the individual;
- Children under the age of 5;
- While working at a desk or work station and not actively engaged with other employees, customers, or visitors, provided that the individual's desk or work-station is not located in a common or shared area and physical distancing of at least six (6) feet is maintained;
- While eating, drinking, smoking, as permitted by applicable law;
- Inside private automobiles, provided the only occupants are members of the same household/living unit/residence;
- While receiving services allowed under a State or county order, rule, or proclamation that require access to that individual's nose or mouth;
- Where federal or state safety or health regulations, or a financial institution's policy (based on security concerns), prohibit the wearing of facial coverings;
- Individuals who are communicating with the hearing impaired while actively communicating (e.g., signing or lip reading);
- First responders (police, fire fighters, lifeguards, etc.) to the extent that wearing face coverings may impair or impede the safety of the first responder in the performance of his/her duty;
- While outdoors when physical distance of 6ft from others (who are not members of the same household/living unit/residence) can be maintained at all times;
- As specifically allowed by a provision of a State or county COVID-19 related order, rule, or proclamation.

## CURRENT COVID RESTRICTIONS: TIER 2

Though Hawai'i has done an exceptional job maintaining low numbers of COVID-19 cases over the past few months, we will continue to maintain our vigilance at Tier 2 over the Thanksgiving holiday as our daily average of new cases has not been low enough to progress to Tier 3. Social gatherings of up to 5 are allowed, but discouraged, and safety protocols including eating outside, social distancing at least 6ft apart, wearing masks when not eating and getting tested are strongly encouraged throughout the holidays.

For a full list of guidelines and restrictions for Tier 2 head to [One Oahu's website](#).



## EDUCATION RESOURCES:

### 1. [Hawaii State Public Library Wiki Visits](#)

The Hawaii Public Library System is open and launched their Wiki Visits program for on-site library visits. Learn more about the program and sign-up to make an appointment at your local public library!

### 2. [State of Hawaii Executive Office on Early Learning](#)

Parents with young keiki can find helpful resources to navigate childcare, supply donations, development and early learning for children 5 years and under. Click the link above for more information from the EOEL

### 3. [DOE Grab-And-Go FREE Fall Meals Schedule](#)

The DOE school meal programs continues throughout the fall semester at 203 public schools through Dec. 18th to provide free meals to children ages 18 and under, regardless of whether they are enrolled at the distribution site, are public school students or are eligible for the free or reduced-price lunch program.

### 4. [KHON Keiki Talk](#)

The station shared a wonderful story of Thanksgiving crafts to do at home with your 'ohana thanks to Kamaaina Kids PR Supervisor Kelsea Lickert. A great way to keep your keiki busy and creative!

# Is your 'ohana facing financial hardship due to COVID-19 impacts?

The City & County of Honolulu's Household Hardship Relief Program may be able to assist in directly paying expenses

## Eligible Expenses may include:

- Childcare expenses to providers recognized by the Department of Human Services
- Rent or Mortgage
- Gas or electric utilities
- Emergency household expenses

## Program Requirements:

- Economic hardship due to COVID-19 or related business closures
- O'ahu resident age 18 or older
- Meet asset and income limits at the time of the application

## Household Income Limits:

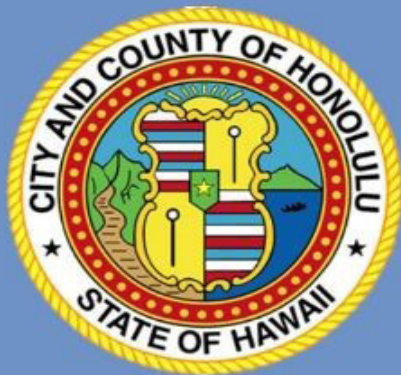
- \$120,500 for a family of 4
- Visit [www.honolulu.gov/dcs](http://www.honolulu.gov/dcs) for limits for other household sizes



**Up to \$1,000  
Household expenses**



**Up to \$500  
Additional childcare**



## APPLY TODAY

through one of our non-profit partners

- Aloha United Way  
(2-1-1 or 808-275-2000)
- Council for Native Hawaiian  
Advancement (808-596-8155)

**Questions? Contact our providers above or visit  
[www.honolulu.gov/dcs](http://www.honolulu.gov/dcs) or [www.oneoahu.org](http://www.oneoahu.org)**

## ***Free Grab-and-Go meals program launching at 203 public schools this fall***

The Grab-and-Go school meals program will be returning this fall at 203 public schools.

The program will run from **Monday, Oct. 12, through Friday, Dec. 18**, and provide free meals to children ages 18 and younger.

Children can receive free meals regardless of whether or not they are enrolled at the distribution site, are public school students, or are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch programs.

Meal distribution will be **at lunchtime only**. Pick-ups will include one lunch for that day and one breakfast for the following day, per child. Please contact your school for meal serving times.

Pick-ups will be available Monday through Friday, excluding holidays and designated school breaks, at drive-thru lines at the campuses listed below and walk-up lines where possible. Dine-in options will not be offered.

Social distancing is required and masks must be worn at all times. There will be no personal interaction between serving staff and the community. All meals will be placed in take-out containers.

Families have the option to visit their nearest participating school to ensure that sites can prepare the appropriate number of meals consistently each day to prevent shortages or waste.

**Only one meal pick-up will be allowed per child per day at these locations.** Parents may contact the school of their choice for more details.

Meals at other schools not listed for the Grab-and-Go program will be distributed on normal schedules and pricing rates.

For prescribed meal modifications, send an email to [specialdiets@k12.hi.us](mailto:specialdiets@k12.hi.us) or call (808) 784-5500.

### **Notice to Parents & Guardians**

Meals may be picked up without children present but parents and guardians must provide one of the following verification documents:

- Official letter or email from school listing child(ren) enrolled
- Recent student report card(s)
- Attendance record(s) from parent portals of school websites
- Birth certificate(s) of child(ren)
- Student ID card(s)
- Driver's permit(s)/license(s) for high school students
- State-issued ID of the student



Photo: Koloa El.



Photo: Lokelani Inter.



Photo: Dole Middle



Photo: Campbell High

# Participating Schools

## Honolulu District

Ala Wai El.  
Aliiolani El.  
Anuenue School  
Central Middle  
Dole Middle  
Farrington High  
Fern El.  
Hokulani El.  
Jarrett Middle  
Jefferson El.  
Kaahumanu El.  
Kaewai El.  
Kaimuki High  
Kaiulani El.  
Kalakaua Middle  
Kalihi El.  
Kalihi Kai El.  
Kalihi Uka El.  
Kalihi Waena El.  
Kapalama El.  
Kauluwela El.  
Kawanakoa Middle  
Kuhio El.  
Lanakila El.  
Likelike El.  
Linapuni El.  
Lincoln El.  
Lunalilo El.  
Maemae El.  
McKinley High  
Palolo El.  
Pauoa El.  
Puuhale El.  
Roosevelt High  
Royal School  
Stevenson Middle  
Washington Middle

## Central Oahu District

Aiea El.  
Aiea High  
Aiea Inter.  
Haleiwa El.  
Helemano El.  
Iliahi El.  
Inouye El.  
Kaala El.  
Kipapa El.  
Leilehua High  
Makalapa El.  
Mililani High  
Mililani Middle  
Pearl Harbor El.

Pearl Ridge El.  
Salt Lake El.  
Scott El.  
Solomon El.  
Wahiawa El.  
Wahiawa Middle  
Waialua High & Inter.  
Waimalu El.  
Webling El.  
Wheeler El.  
Wheeler Inter.

## Windward Oahu District

Hauula El.  
Heeia El.  
Kaaawa El.  
Kahaluu El.  
Kahuku El.  
Kahuku High & Inter.  
Kailua El.  
Kailua High  
Kailua Inter.  
Kapunahala El.  
Keolu El.  
King Inter.  
Laie El.  
Parker El.  
Pope El.  
Puohala El.  
Sunset Beach El.  
Waiahole El.  
Waimanalo Elem & Inter.

## Leeward Oahu District

August Ahrens El.  
Barbers Point El.  
Campbell High  
Ewa El.  
Ewa Makai Middle  
Highlands Inter.  
Holomua El.  
Honouliuli Middle  
Honowai El.  
Hookele El.  
Ilima Inter.  
Kaimiloa El.  
Kaleiopuu El.  
Kapolei El. (Starts Oct. 21)  
Kapolei High  
Kapolei Middle  
Lehua El.  
Leihoku El.  
Maili El.  
Makaha El.

Makakilo El. (Starts Oct. 21)  
Mauka Lani El. (Starts Oct. 21)  
Nanaikapono El.  
Nanakuli El.  
Nanakuli High & Inter.  
Pearl City El.  
Pearl City High  
Pohakea El.  
Waianae El.  
Waianae High  
Waianae Inter.  
Waiau El.  
Waialele El.  
Waipahu El.  
Waipahu High  
Waipahu Inter.

## Kauai District

Eleele El.  
Kamakaha Middle  
Kapaa El.  
Kapaa High  
Kapaa Middle  
Kauai High  
Kaunualii El.  
Kekaha El.  
Kilauea El.  
Koloa El.  
Waimea Canyon Middle  
Waimea High  
Wilcox El.

## Maui District

Baldwin High  
Haiku El.  
Hana El. & High  
Iao El.  
Kahului El.  
Kalama Inter.  
Kamalii El.  
Kamehameha III El.  
Kaunakakai El.  
Kekaulike High  
Kihei El.  
Kilohana El.  
Kula El.  
Lahaina Inter.  
Lahainaluna High  
Lanai El. & High  
Lihikai El.  
Lokelani Inter.  
Makawao El.  
Maui High  
Maui Waena Inter.

Maunaloa El.  
Molokai High  
Molokai Inter.  
Nahienaena El.  
Paia El.  
Pukalani El.  
Puu Kukui El.  
Waihee El.  
Wailuku El.

## Hawaii District

E.B. de Silva El.  
Haaheo El.  
Hilo High  
Hilo Inter.  
Hilo Union School  
Holualoa El.  
Honaunau El.  
Honokaa El.  
Honokaa High & Inter.  
Hookena El.  
Kahakai El.  
Kalaniana'ole Elem. & Inter.  
Kapiolani El.  
Kau High & Pahala Elem.  
Kaumana El.  
Ke Kula O Ehunuikaimalino  
Keaau El.  
Keaau High  
Keaau Middle  
Kealakehe El.  
Kealakehe High  
Kealakehe Inter.  
Keaukaha El.  
Keonepoko El.  
Kohala El.  
Kohala High  
Kohala Middle  
Konawaena El.  
Konawaena High  
Konawaena Middle  
Mountain View El.  
Naalehu El. & Inter.  
Paaui El. & Inter.  
Pahoa El.  
Pahoa High & Inter.  
Waiakea El.  
Waiakea High  
Waiakea Inter.  
Waiakeawaena El.  
Waikoloa El.  
Waimea El.

# ONE OAHU'S GUIDE TO A SAFE THANKSGIVING

## How can I celebrate **THANKSGIVING** SAFELY THIS YEAR?



Scroll through for some fun ideas to celebrate safely this year!

## Is this **THANKSGIVING** ACTIVITY SAFE?

### YES:

- Celebrate at home with your household
- Zoom gathering with coordinated menu
- Virtually volunteer
- Play a virtual game with family

### YES, BUT DISCOURAGED:

- Gather with five people or fewer, but...
  - Isolate leading up to the gathering
  - Get tested (for free!)
  - Eat outside and 6-feet apart
  - Wear masks when not eating

### NO:

- Gather with more than five people, indoors or outdoors

Scroll through for some fun ideas to celebrate safely this year!

## rethink your **THANKSGIVING** POTLUCK

Want to enjoy the **same food** as your family and friends in another household? Here's how:

- 1 Set a menu and decide who's cooking what.
- 2 Everyone cooks their assigned dish at home.
- 3 Everyone drops off their dishes to one person's home.
- 4 This person packs some of each dish into a Thanksgiving meal kit for each participating family or household.
- 5 Each household comes to pick up their meal kit.
- 6 Enjoy your "shared" meal virtually!



Don't forget to set a seat for the computer at the table so you can video chat with your loved ones!

## rethink **THANKSGIVING** VOLUNTEERING

**Volunteering in person may not be possible this year, but there are other opportunities to help out.**

- Consider donating money or food to a food bank, like the Hawaii Foodbank.
- Volunteer to check-in with and deliver groceries to kupuna who can't leave their home.
  - [Ourkupuna.com](http://Ourkupuna.com) has a website where you can sign up
- Volunteer to deliver meals to kupuna at [Lanakilapacific.org/volunteer](http://Lanakilapacific.org/volunteer)
- Clean up a beach or park with your household.
- Volunteer to be a dog walker at the Hawaiian Humane Society.



## rethink your family's **THANKSGIVING** FOOTBALL GAME

### WATCHING A GAME

- Watch the big game at home with your household.
- Watch a game together virtually, save a seat for the computer on your couch!
- Coordinate snacks and drinks with your virtual watching buddy to feel like you're in the same space.

### PLAYING A GAME

- Remember that groups are limited to five people, so play 2-on-2 or 2-on-3.
- If your family is into board games, look for some of the online game options like Jackbox, or the various games on the app Houseparty.



## if you choose to gather for **THANKSGIVING** DO IT SAFELY

It is best to gather virtually. If you decide to **take the risk** and gather in person, please follow these guidelines to make your gathering as safe as possible.

- **Five** people maximum are allowed. That includes members of your household and your guests.
- Know your status! Get tested and isolate for as long as possible before the big day. Remember, a negative test is not a free pass, it just means you were negative at the time you were tested.
  - Get a free test at [oneoahu.org/covid19-testing](http://oneoahu.org/covid19-testing).
- Wear masks when you are indoors or outside and are not eating.
  - Get a free test at [oneoahu.org/covid19-testing](http://oneoahu.org/covid19-testing).
- No buffet style serving - limit exposure on handles of serving utensils. Have one person plate all the food.
- Eat outside and stay six feet apart.





# SPREAD JOY, NOT COVID-19

HELP HAWAII STAY SAFE DURING THE HOLIDAYS

## SHOOTS! DO THIS...

- ✓ Do enjoy your favorite foods.
- ✓ Do celebrate virtually or outdoors in small numbers.
- ✓ Do wear a mask when not eating or drinking.
- ✓ Do wash your hands often and practice social distancing.
- ✓ Do follow all state and county safety orders.
- ✓ Do get your flu shot.
- ✓ Do stay home if you have mild COVID-19 or flu symptoms.

## NAH! DON'T DO THIS...

- ✗ Don't share utensils or plates.
- ✗ Don't gather indoors or in large groups.
- ✗ Don't endanger the ones you love, especially kupuna.
- ✗ Don't come into close contact with others.
- ✗ Don't touch your face.
- ✗ Don't get frustrated. This pandemic will end.
- ✗ Don't give hugs, give shakas instead.

