



Home of the Wildcats

## Konawaena High School

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Shawn S. Suzuki  
Principal

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December 10, 2020

Dear Konawaena High Parents and Guardians,

All of us want to thank you again for your support and understanding through the challenges this school year has brought and continues to bring.

We wanted to inform you that West Hawaii public schools will continue to follow CDC and DOH guidelines when implementing our Return to Learn reopening plans. All schools are following the Big Island active COVID-19 case count as reported by our county. As case totals change, we are following the attached model plan to help inform when and how many students we can safely bring back to campus. Each school's reopening plans may be a bit different based on available personnel, supervision, availability of substitutes and other considerations. We would like to be clear that adding students on campus does not depend solely on two-week case counts. It is one metric that is taken into consideration when making reopening decisions.

Currently, all schools are in the orange level as the total number of new cases over the past two weeks remains in the 100s. The good news is that case counts on the island have begun to decline. In order to move into the next less restrictive level (yellow) we would need to see numbers remain between 41-100 active cases for at least two weeks. By using the data and model descriptions, our hope is that schools and families can better plan for upcoming changes.

To be safe through the Holiday Season, West Hawaii schools will remain in the orange level (continuing our current plan) through at least the first two weeks of the second semester when returning to school after the winter break in January.

As a comparison, the light green level is our original A/B "blended model" where all students would be on campus at least part time. When following our island's case data and our reopening protocols, it shows it may be some time before we are able to get to that level. With all of us keeping safe, reducing gatherings, and following distancing guidelines, we will have an opportunity to welcome all students back sooner than later.

During the second semester, if you are not comfortable sending your child to school when numbers support moving to less restricted levels and having more students on campus, please contact the school. Our 100% distance learning option will remain available as well. At any point in time, we ask that you please speak with a counselor if considering a move from one program to the other. Letting us know your thoughts and intentions as soon as possible allows us to better adjust and accommodate needs. This is especially important because requested movement between the distance and blended programs may affect student numbers to the point where we may have to consolidate classes or add/reduce teachers.

Again, please call us if you have any questions. We will keep you informed of any changes through the winter break. Once again, thank you for your continued patience as we navigate this school year together! Please be safe during this Holiday Season!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shawn S. Suzuki", with a long, sweeping underline.

Shawn S. Suzuki, Principal

*To request interpreter or translation services for this or any document, please call the student services coordinator or an administrator at 313-6000.*

**Konawaena High School Students Will: Care for self and 'ohana, Grow from adversity,  
OWN THEIR FUTURES**