



Monday, March 22, 2021

## Important Upcoming Dates

Date	Time	Event
Thursday, March 25	3:30pm	Governing Board meeting
Friday, March 26	All Day	Prince Kuhio Day - NO SCHOOL
Thursday, April 8	3:30pm	Governing Board meeting
Friday, April 16	All Day	Teacher Optional Work Day - NO STUDENTS

### Quarter 4 Begins!

Aloha Parents and Guardians, we are excited to begin our final quarter of this most unusual school year. The beginning of the new quarter is the time when parents and guardians may change their child from our all-distance program to our blended learning program, or from blended to all-distance. As you know from our school reopening plan, your choice of program for your child is a commitment for the entire quarter. Parents and guardians do have two weeks at the beginning of each quarter, in this case until Friday, April 2, to let us know if you wish to change the program your child will be in for the quarter, including if you made a change at the beginning of the new quarter but found after two weeks that it isn't working out as you had hoped. If you wish to change the program your child is in, please send an email letting us know this to your child's class teacher, the Office ([office@kppcs.org](mailto:office@kppcs.org)), and the school's student records coordinator ([students@kppcs.org](mailto:students@kppcs.org)). Mahalo.

### Annual State Assessments Have Begun

Every spring the State of Hawaii, like many states around the country, administer a statewide assessment to see how students in grades 3 through 12 are doing academically. These assessments are very important for charter schools to demonstrate that our students are learning on par with their peers in traditional public schools. They also provide us with valuable internal information on how well our students are doing academically.

Two years ago our Kona Pacific students made among the largest gains in their scores on the annual statewide assessment that the state had ever seen from one year to the next. Last spring we were excited to see if this upward trend would continue, but the federal Department of Education and the Hawaii DOE cancelled last year's assessment due to the pandemic. We are pleased that this year's assessment will take place, so that there isn't too huge a gap between test results, which will somewhat allow us to see the trends from two years ago to now.

Your child's teacher will let you know when your child will be taking the assessment, and what to do to help your child be at their best for this fun experience of showing what they know. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions about this process.

### **Attendance for Students Not On Campus**

Attendance procedures. For Kindergarten - 5th Grade: To avoid being marked absent, please go to the attendance link provided by your teacher prior to 9am on days that your child is not scheduled to be on campus. Once you have opened the form, click on the radio button next to your child's name and press the submit button. If that is not possible due to wifi or internet issues, please call the receptionist Melissa at 808-322-4900 prior to 9am. If you do not get through please leave a voicemail message and that will count towards attendance.

For 6th - 8th Grades: To avoid being marked absent, please make sure that your child is on their zoom classes on time on days that your child is not scheduled to be on campus. If that is not possible due to wifi or internet issues, please call the receptionist Melissa at 808-322-4900 prior to 9am. If you do not get through please leave a voicemail message and that will count towards attendance.

Please note that if your child isn't able to attend school on campus any day they are scheduled to be on campus, we are required to mark them absent even if they attend a zoom lesson that day.

### **Office Closes at 1pm on Fridays**

Just a reminder that our school Front Office closes at 1pm on Fridays, which is our short day of the week. Students who are on campus on Fridays will be picked up at various times during the day per the arrangement of the teacher, with the latest pick-up time being 1:50pm on Fridays.

## **Kona Pacific Governing Board Member Needed!**

Please consider joining our Kona Pacific Governing Board! The GB is composed of volunteer parents, teachers, and community members. Governing boards are mandated by the State of Hawaii to oversee the healthy functioning of each of the state's 36 charter schools, including KPPCS. Our GB has been one member short from its core membership of seven members for over a year, and it would make a big difference to have this position filled. GB members are elected to two-year terms, and new terms begin July 1 each year. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact the GB President, Zac Hosler, at [zacharyh@kppcs.org](mailto:zacharyh@kppcs.org).



Auntie Melissa and “Igor”, our new temperature-checking machine.