March 12, 2020

Aloha PHCA Ohana,

As we are about to go on Spring Break, the effects - not necessarily the germ, of COVID-19 is spreading throughout the island. Please know that PHCA has been daily monitoring this virus with the health and safety of our students and staff being of utmost importance. We are closely watching the guidance from the CDC and the Hawaii Department of Health to ensure we are sharing the most accurate and up-to-date information. This link health.hawaii.gov/news/covid-19-updates provides information specifically for Hawaii and is updated daily. It also provides links to the CDC and other websites that provide helpful resources for this current situation, including travel during the break. Please be advised, the COVID-19 is a fluid situation, so any directives may evolve quickly and will be implemented as necessary for the health and welfare of our students and staff. Please monitor your email for important announcements.

Friday, March 13th:

Many of our school families have already notified us that they will be choosing to keep their children at home. If this is your decision as well, this will not affect their grade and will be an excused absence. Your child MUST bring a school lunch if they come on Friday. Effective today, there is no sharing of food or potlucks that will be allowed at school. Even though the waterpark was cancelled, we have remained open on this day to lessen the inconveniences this virus may have caused. However, there will be **NO AFTERCARE ON FRIDAY, MARCH 13**th in order for our entire staff to meet after school before we all leave for the break.

School Closures:

Several schools on the mainland and including UH Manoa have chosen to keep students off campus as precautionary measures to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. As of this moment, HAIS or the DOE has not made this recommendation, however if this situation should arise, we have sent home all books and materials needed with our 1st through 8th Grade students. In the event of school closure, we have been working on plans to minimize disruption to teaching and will be contacting parents via email on how the lessons will be delivered to all grade levels. If your 1st to 8th grade child was absent today or left early, their items may be picked up on Friday, March 13th before 2:30pm.

TRAVEL/COVID-19 EXPOSURE: If you travel to a Level 2 or 3 location or have been in direct contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, you are required to inform the school. If required by CDC/DOH guidelines, you will be expected to self-quarantine for a 14-day period even if you are asymptomatic.

Please continue to encourage your child to be responsible about daily preventative measures - wherever they are - to help stop the spread of germs. Also, keep the locations and people who are seriously affected physically by this virus in your prayers. We have seen the effects of the virus decreasing in China and are praying for God's hand upon the spread and containment of the COVID-19 here and abroad. Remember, God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble (Psalms 46:1).

Stay well, stay healthy and be safe while you enjoy the break.

Sincerely in Christ,

Duke Jumsh

PHEBE SUMIDA, M.Ed.

Head Administrator