



**NOELANI SCHOOL PTA**  
**February 10, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Meeting (via Zoom) called to order by President Dani Yafuso at **6:01 pm**.

**PRESENT:** The following officers and members, constituting a quorum, were present:

Officers: Danielle Yafuso, President  
Stanford Togashi, Vice President  
Chris Shitag, Treasurer  
Alison Davidson, Secretary

Members: Approximately 30  
Principal Gusman

**January 13, 2022 MEETING MINUTES** - shared by Vice President Stanford Togashi; APPROVED

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT** made by Principal Gusman:

**1. COVID**

- a. **Cases seem to be slowing down** - hopefully trending downward.
- b. **Testing halted** – issues: (1) tests had to be sent to a California lab for processing; transport timing issues; and (2) false positives with antigen testing. Many local opportunities with quick results (e.g., Waikiki Shell PCR test) available.
- c. **DOE partnering with Hawaii Keiki Nurses** – hope that someone will be assigned to our school to help administer testing and handle contact tracing (federally funded).
- d. **Rules still in place** – following DOE & DOH guidance. No change until guidance changes.

**2. Staff Updates** - New School Health Aide (M,W,F), new office assistant Carly (temporary hire)

**3. Limited Schedule of Events:**

- a. **Jogathon/Spirit Week** (2/22-25) each grade level doing their own “mini jogathon”
- b. **After School Classes** – 5 to 6 teachers signed up, hoping to push it out soon.

**4. Gifted & Talented Program for '22-23** – forms on website. Ms. Noelani Chang is coordinator, applications due 3/4/22. Contact Ms. Chang with any questions.

**5. Graduation** – current plan is to hold graduation in IDEA Center. Would like to have parents there, see where things are at that time. Worst case scenario = live streamed.

**6. School Community Council Update** – updating academic plan (2-year plan).

a. **Identified Areas of Need:**

- 1) English language learners (“EL”) - jumped from 26 to 47 students this year;
- 2) Reduce Gap Rate – the gap rate is the proficiency score difference between the score of high needs students (EL, special education and free/reduced lunch) and non-high-needs students.

Summary of Proficiency scores pre-COVID vs. last year (during COVID) for tested grades (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade):

	MATH			LANGUAGE ARTS			SCIENCE*		
	Non-High-Needs	High-Needs	Gap Rate	Non-High-Needs	High-Needs	Gap Rate	Non-High-Needs	High-Needs	Gap Rate
Pre-Covid	85%	63%	22%	91%	71%	20%	90%	75%	15%
During Covid	85%	55%	30%	89%	54%	35%	80%	56%	24%

- Overall scores look good but this is because non-high-needs students pull average up.
  - Goal – reduce gap rate to a single-digit number. Key is to focus on High-Needs students.
- b. Social Emotional Learning- to address issues that arose during COVID (for staff as well).
- c. \*Science – only 5<sup>th</sup> graders get tested. Lower scores due to recent change in science standard (teachers still getting used to new standards) and change in test during COVID.

**7. Reminders:**

- a. Inform teachers and office if traveling out of state
- b. Presidents’ Day Holiday 2/21
- c. Spring Break (3/14-3/18)
- d. Kindergarten Registration Open (in district only) – helpful to register in district kindergarteners for ’22-23 school year so school can determine how many geographical exceptions are available.
- e. Geographical Exceptions – if at an elementary school on a GE, can stay at the school until middle school or if student leaves (goes to another school).
  - 4/1 (first Friday in April) GE lottery to be held and families notified
  - Siblings of existing students need to apply to GE (not automatic) but one of the reasons on the GE application form is sibling at same school.
  - Generally (not a guarantee) if current student moves out of district, if no attendance issues and child is well-adjusted at Noelani and family can commit to timely attendance, submit a GE and would generally be able to continue at Noelani. Not a guaranteed outcome, but highly likely. Fill out GE form and contact Mr. Gusman to discuss particular situation if needed.

**TREASURER’S REPORT** – shared by Treasurer Chris Shitagi:

1. **Income/Expenses Since Last Meeting:**
  - a. Total income of \$250.00
  - b. Total expenses of \$14,054.29 (Jogathon shirts, teacher/staff appreciation checks)
2. **Bank Account Balance as of 1/31/22 bank statement**
  - \$66,521.00 Checking (Operating)
  - \$161,757.49 Savings
  - \$ 12,856.08 Free Business Checking (Amazon/Square Inc)
  - \$241,134.57 Total

## OLD BUSINESS

1. **A&B KOKUA FOR KEIKI PROGRAM** – Thank you for participating! Submitted 234 receipts.
2. **JOGATHON** – Update from chair, Stanford:
  - a. February 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>
  - b. All COVID-related health measures will be followed. No parent participation this year.
  - c. Will be on regularly scheduled PE day during that week (Tues, Wed or Friday).
  - d. Each student will receive an athletic type t-shirts that will be distributed by classroom teachers and to be worn during Jogathon event.
  - e. Requested donation - \$75 per family; due on 2/25/22. Requesting donation by cash or check. Proceeds support Noelani’s PE program.
  - f. Flyer will be distributed with more information and donation collection envelope.
  - g. 4 stations for students: warm up, jump rope area, hula hoop area and jogging path.
3. **NOMINATIONS FOR 2022-2023 OFFICERS** – We need officers/board members/committee chairs for ’22-23 year. Please feel free to nominate yourself, others.
4. **AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM** – Update from Stanford:
  - a. At least 5 or 6 teachers interested. Ms. Ai is looking for more teachers.
  - b. Classes by grade level: Art (K & Gr. 3); Drama (K); Soccer (1<sup>st</sup> and/or 4<sup>th</sup>) and Robotics (5<sup>th</sup>)
  - c. 10 week program; slots limited to 10 students (lottery basis). Turn in forms immediately.
  - d. Trying to start program before March.
  - e. \$100 for 10 classes. All proceeds go directly to the teacher. PTA will help cover costs for teacher supplies, and will cover up to \$200/class in case there isn’t sufficient enrollment.
  - f. Angel Fund (details to be worked out) – looking for a way to support families who need help – kids eligible for free/reduced lunch.
5. **PTA FOCUSED ON COMMUNITY GIVE-BACKS (PTA funded):**
  - a. **HTY ONLINE OFFERING** – target March 4-18 for online access for Noelani families to Honolulu Theatre for Youth plays. Look for information to be sent out.
  - b. **SCREENAGERS** – link to video that parents can watch; follow-up discussion forum. Targeting April.

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. **May Fair** – traditionally full day event (performances, lunch, kids games, haku lei booth). Discussing options for alternative events. Looking for help brainstorming ideas, planning, etc. Feel free to message executive committee.
2. **Faculty/Staff Appreciation**
  - a. Appreciation checks distributed to thank all teachers and staff
  - b. Teacher-Appreciation Week in April
3. **Spirit Cards** – considering whether to do spirit card sales this year.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 6:53 pm

*Aurson M. Davidson*  
Secretary, Noelani School PTA

March 10, 2022  
Date of approval