



## NOELANI SCHOOL PTA April 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Meeting (via Zoom) called to order by President Stanford Togashi at 6:02pm.

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

Officers: Stanford Togashi, President  
Kristen Brummel, Vice President  
Lisa Imai, Treasurer  
Michelle Isa-Atta, Secretary  
Members: Approximately 20 members online.  
Principal Gusman

**March 9, 2023 MEETING MINUTES** were shared and approved.

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

1. No more holidays for the remainder of the school year.
2. Last day of school is May 26, 2023; 5<sup>th</sup> grade graduation on this day which will be held in-person in the cafeteria.
3. There was a recent track meet held at Roosevelt High School which Noelani 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders participated in. Prior to this complex track meet, there is an internal track meet at Noelani, and the top students in individual competitions are selected to compete against other schools at Roosevelt High School.
4. This Saturday is the Honolulu District Speech festival at Kaimuki High School; 15 Noelani students from grades 3-5 are participating in this event.
5. State testing for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders will begin soon; the testing dates are located on the Noelani public calendar (see website); Principal Gusman asked parents to have their student rest well the night before, and try not to stress about the test.
6. May Fair will be held on May 5<sup>th</sup>. This is a school community event, not for general public.
7. Teacher/Staff Appreciation will be held the week of May 8<sup>th</sup>.
8. Moving On Up Day is the last week of school (May 23<sup>rd</sup>); students get to meet their next grade level teachers.
9. A Noelani awards ceremony will be held on May 25<sup>th</sup>; this is a school event only, and there will be a live-stream
10. Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup> is the start of next school year.
11. Reminders: Please remind students to clean up after themselves during breakfast/lunch. It's been noticed recently that the cafeteria has been left very messy after breakfasts and/or lunches.
12. Name Change of Noelani Elementary: There was a resolution introduced by Senator Stanley Chang to change the name of Noelani Elementary to the President Barack Obama Noelani Elementary School. Senator Chang did not discuss the name change resolution

with Noelani administration. The Senate Committee on Education deferred the senate resolution. The School Community Council will put it on their agenda to discuss and will have the discussion in their minutes. The Obama Foundation had previously requested the name change for the school, and there was a survey put out about the suggested name change, but it was not a favored idea. So it was not revisited until this resolution appeared from Senator Chang.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT – shared by Treasurer Lisa Imai**

##### **1. Income/Expenses:**

- a. Depositing checks into non-profit free checking (no fees for this account), and writing checks from business checking. The PTA will be transitioning to the non-profit free checking account.
- b. Cash deposit from Jogathon fundraiser were deposited to the Business Checking account.
- c. Square purchases go into Business Checking account.
- d. Most checks cut this month were for After School Programs.
- e. One of the IRS tax forms (990 Form) was submitted via hard copy and mailed, but was returned and needs to be submitted online.

##### **2. Bank Account Balance as of 3/31/23 bank statement**

\$50,856.46 – Checking (Operating)

\$161,825.16 – Savings

\$48,528.33 – Free Business Checking

\$261,209.95 – Total

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **1. Noelani School Shirts**

- a. Available for purchase throughout the year
- b. If ordering shirts online, please submit a hard copy of your order to your child's teacher with the order form.
- c. Will purchase a lighter color for next year – possibly light pink or purple.

##### **2. Big Island Trip**

- a. Thank you to Mr. Fukushima, Mrs. Gonsalves, Mrs. Ho and Ms. Shigaki for coordinating this wonderful trip for our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders.
- b. Thank you also to parent chaperones who worked hard to keep the children safe and ready to learn.
- c. It was reported that the 5<sup>th</sup> graders had fun and learned a lot, and there was good weather during the trip.

##### **3. Jogathon**

- a. This fundraising event was a huge success. At last count, we were able to raise a little over \$26,600.
- b. A big mahalo to our teachers (Mrs. Lum, Mrs. Murakami, Mrs. Kuba, Ms. McCurdy), staff (Ms. Ai, Mr. Whaley and his team, Ms. Joy and her team) and parent volunteers for assisting with the event.

- c. The money raised helps to pay for the school's PE teacher, Mrs. Lum.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **May Fair** – Catherine Pfeffer (Chair)
  - a. May Fair will be held on May 5, 2023.
  - b. Less than a month away; lots of forms and information regarding May Fair were distributed to students.
  - c. Sent out a bento order form which was due yesterday (April 12, 2023); parents can still purchase a last minute bentos online.
  - d. Scrips will be used for games – forms to purchase scrips are due April 28<sup>th</sup>. Scrip orders will be sent home with students the day before May 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - e. Still looking for volunteers and donations. We are especially in need of flower, produce, plant, drinks donations.
  - f. Strongly encourage parents/guardians/family members to volunteer.
  - g. Need assistance with tent set up on April 30<sup>th</sup>; setting up six 20x20 tents that day.
  - h. Scrips will be sold on location during May Fair – accepting cash, check, credit cards.
  - i. Next meeting is on Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> and the last meeting before the May Fair will be held on Tues, April 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - j. For questions regarding the May Fair, please email [mayfair@noelanipta.org](mailto:mayfair@noelanipta.org)
2. **Staff Appreciation** – Kristen Brummel (Chair)
  - a. Every year we celebrate the National Teacher Appreciation week. This year it will be held from May 8-12, 2023.
  - b. Noelani does special activities for the faculty and staff.
  - c. A survey link was sent during the PTA meeting to see what parents think would be a good way for students to show their appreciation to teachers.
  - d. Also looking for volunteers to assist with the event held during the week.
3. **Treasurer Nominations**
  - a. Thank you very much to Lisa Imai for serving as our Treasurer this past year! She will be stepping down from the position next year.
  - b. We will be seeking nominations for this position and a vote will be held during the Ma Fair if one is needed.
  - c. Current May Fair and Audit committee chair, Catherine Pfeffer, has been nominated to this position.
  - d. Please email the PTA President (Stanford) at [president@noelani.org](mailto:president@noelani.org) if you would like to nominate someone for this position.
4. **School Name Change**
  - a. Senator Stanley Chang introduced a resolution requesting the Department of Education to rename Noelani Elementary School to the President Barack Obama Noelani Elementary School.
  - b. The Senate Committee on Education chose to defer the decision to the council's renaming process for consideration.
  - c. If any parent has any comments or a strong opinion either for or against the idea, please contact the PTA.

5. **Community Service Committee**

- a. The PTA is looking to find ways to give back to the community by either working with the school in the classroom or as a separate project.
- b. One possible project is the Genki Ball Ala Wai Cleanup project. This creates cleaner water ways using these Genki Balls which are made up of microbes. When released into waters like the Ala Wai, it breaks down the sludge and cleans up the water.
  - i. Schools like Nu'uaniu Elementary School made the Genki Balls and launched them in the stream near their school. The GT program used it as part of their curriculum.
  - ii. A discussion with 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade science teachers at Noelani has been initiated to see if there's a way to incorporate this project into the classroom.
  - iii. If approved, the PTA could help to fund this unique opportunity for our keiki to learn science and contribute back to the community at the same time.
- c. Possible beach cleanups for community service.
- d. Partner with Mānoa Library to do another possible community service project.

6. **Bylaws**

- a. We are in the process of reviewing our PTA bylaws, which stalled during COVID, but must be done periodically.
- b. Will be working on the bylaws this summer.

7. **Cafeteria PTA Wall**

- a. PTA would like to explore ideas of how to better utilize this wall.
- b. The most recent Century Club donors are from 19 years ago.
- c. Either we update the wall to include recent donors or do something else with the wall.
- d. Suggest changing the space to highlight some of the year's events like a showcase. It can be updated as new events happen and/or replace last year's events.

8. **Open Discussion**

- a. Thank you to everyone for attending the online meeting.
- b. Please reach out for any questions regarding the Noelani PTA via email at [president@noelani.org](mailto:president@noelani.org).

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 7:28pm. Next Meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 6:00pm.