

Kalākaua Middle School

Kūlia i ka nu'u

Always Striving for Excellence



PARENT NEWSLETTER

821 Kalihi Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

Phone: 808-832-3130

<http://kalakauamiddle.org>

Commit to Achieve | Every Student Matters | Make Every Day Count

August 2016

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST 2016

- 2 Grade 6 Report
- 3 Grade 7 and 8 Report
- 17 Math Parent Night, Library, 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
- 19 Statehood Day, No School
- 31 OPEN HOUSE for ALL PARENTS, 5:30 pm
- 31 Qtr. 1 Progress Reports go home with students

SEPTEMBER 2016

- 5 Labor Day Holiday, No School
- 7 Federal Survey Cards go home with students
- 7 AVID Open House, Library, 6 pm
- 7 Progress Reports turned in to teachers
- 8 Federal Survey Cards turned in to teachers
- 15 School Community Council Mtg., 4 pm
- 15 ELL Parent Night, Library, 6 pm
- 19-23 School Book Fair, Library

OCTOBER 2016

- 7 Last Day of Quarter 1
- 10 - 14 Fall Intersession, No School
- 14 Quarter 1 Report Cards mailed home
- 17 Students return to school, Quarter 2 begins
- 20 School Community Council Mtg., 4 pm

NOVEMBER 2016

- 8 Election Day, No School
- 9 Qtr. 2 Progress Reports go home with students
- 11 Veterans Day Holiday, No School
- 17 School Community Council Mtg., 4 pm
- 24-25 Thanksgiving Holiday

Parents/guardians: Going to your child's classroom?
Please check in at the office, FIRST!

Our Vision

King David Kalākaua Middle School students strive to prepare to be college and career-ready, so they may develop into productive members of society.

Our Mission

The Kalākaua Middle School community will cultivate student learning with the goal of fulfilling the unique academic, social, and emotional needs of our students to help them achieve their highest potential.



PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year. At Kalakaua Middle School, our passion is student learning. It is our mission to prepare our students for high school. Our dedicated staff will work hard to challenge your child academically, build positive relationships, and provide a safe learning environment. High expectations for learning, behavior and instruction will lead us to gains in student achievement. We recognize the important role that families play in the lives of their children and we believe that effective communication and parent input are essential to helping us achieve our vision.

During the upcoming school year, our teachers will work together in a continuous effort to improve instruction and link the curriculum to the Common Core Standards. Teachers will focus on asking challenging questions, promoting meaningful student-centered discussions, and placing responsibility for learning directly on the students' shoulders.

Students are expected to attend school daily and to arrive on time. A school wide expectation of "Respect for self, others and learning" is an essential theme which focuses on behaviors such as following rules, listening, being polite, using appropriate language, being prepared, and participating. All students will read a minimum of thirty minutes every night to help reach their goal of increasing their reading grade equivalency by two grade levels by the end of the school year.

We are looking forward to a successful school year. See you at the KMS Open House on August 31 at 5:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria.

It is an honor to serve as your Principal.
Ms. Lorelei Aiwohi, Principal

It's hot! How to deal with the heat

Follow these tips from our "Heat-Related Guidelines"

- Wear light-weight loose-fitting clothing
- Carry a water bottle that can be refilled
- Avoid getting overheated and stay hydrated.
- Tell an adult if you are feeling dizzy



This is your special invitation to attend the
KALAKAUA MIDDLE SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, AUGUST 31, 2016

5:30 pm in the Cafeteria

**Bring your child's planner to Open House
and meet your child's teachers**

Events:

- Schedule pick up, outside the Cafeteria
- Principal's Welcome, Cafeteria
- Classroom visits

HELP YOUR CHILD TO BE SAFE AND SUCCESSFUL IN SCHOOL

Learning occurs best in a safe environment. Our students wear their **school uniforms and their school IDs** to identify them as being Kalakaua students and to promote school and student safety.

Student Uniform

The school uniform must be **VISIBLE** and includes:

- **a Kalakaua T-shirt**
- **colored lanyard and ID**

Undershirts must be the same color as the outer school uniform shirt.



Clothing that is overly revealing is not considered appropriate. For example:

- shorts and skirts must be **longer** than fingertips
- jeans or pants must **not have holes or tears higher than the fingertips**
- jeggings, leggings or tights are **not allowed**
- shoulder straps on tops must be 1 inch wide or more. Strapless attire is not allowed

Jackets and hoodies must have zippers that go **all the way up and down** to allow for a **VISIBLE** school uniform. Pullover sweatshirts are not allowed.



Personal items or clothing which promote or support alcohol, drugs, gangs (ie: red, gang blue, green clothing or shoes), profanity, sexual conduct and /or violence are not allowed on campus or at any school-sponsored activity.

On Special Dress Days, a student must wear the school provided wristband and follow the dress code requirements. The Administration has the final discretion on determining appropriate attire. The school uniform and ID Card guidelines are enforced on campus.

ID Cards

Kalākaua School official Identification Cards must be worn on campus at all times on a grade level appropriate lanyard, **between the shoulders and above the navel (not on shirt sleeves), with the picture facing out.** ID Cards are school property and should not be defaced in any way.

The cost of replacing a lost ID card is \$5.00 (or \$3.00 for a damaged one with the original card). ID Cards are for the assigned student only. Consequences for ID theft include suspension.

Students are also reminded to guard and wear your ID every school day!!!

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY

According to the State Compulsory Attendance Law, children between the ages of six and eighteen in the public schools are required to attend school every day except for the following reasons: *death in the family, emergencies, or illness.* Parents/guardians responsible for the care of the child must send the child to school unless exempted by law; penalties range from petty misdemeanor fine to jail time.



All students start at 8:00 a.m. and must be seated in their classrooms. Those students who arrive in school **after 8:00** are marked tardy. **Tardy students should report to the Attendance Office for an admittance slip.** Students tardy to class will receive consequences from the classroom teacher or counselor, and those who cut classes shall be referred to the administration for disciplinary action.



Perfect Attendance

In order to qualify for the perfect attendance awards, the student must remain on campus the entire day school is in session. The following criteria apply:

- **No** absences for the quarter
- **No** tardies for the quarter
- **No** early release = student goes home during the school day [i.e., sick, doctor's appt, etc.]
- Students entering school during mid-quarter are not eligible.

Absence: If a child is absent, parents **should call** the office on the morning of the child's absence at **305-4531** before 9:00 a.m. A note from a doctor or parent explaining the absence must be presented to the Attendance Office when the student returns to school.

Examples of unexcused absences include baby sitting, bad weather and/ or sporting activities.

Early Release: If it is necessary to take your child out of school before the regular release time, please do the following:

1. Send a note specifying the reason and the time you will be picking up your child to your child's counselor. If you will be delayed, please contact the counselor.
2. Report to your grade level counselor to pick up your child and sign the Early Release Register to pick up a Student Pass.
3. Carry the official Student Pass to show the police that your child is not truant.
4. Unless it is an emergency, do not request to have your child released 15 minutes prior to the end of the school day.

Vacations & Extended Trips: Families are advised to schedule vacations during non-school days (i.e., intersessions and summer). Extended vacations longer than **10** school days will cause students to be released from school. Parents will need to satisfy all registration requirements in order to register their child upon return.



Cost of School Meals

Breakfast

Regular student breakfast	\$1.10
Reduced price student breakfast	\$.30
Second and subsequent student breakfasts	\$2.40
Adult breakfast	\$2.40

Lunch

Regular student lunch	\$2.50
Reduced price student lunch	\$.40
Second student entree	\$2.00
Second and subsequent student lunches	\$5.50
Adult lunch	\$5.50
Milk only	\$.60

If you qualified for Free or Reduced priced meals last school year, you will need to submit another application for this school year before September 10, 2016. Fill in the application by going **online** at

ezmealapp.com.



**Be cool and
Bring a water bottle to school!**

Student Safety

Today, given the potential of violence in our schools and neighborhoods, the safety and well-being of all our students are of highest priority. School administrators, staff, students and families, and the school community are all responsible for creating a school environment conducive to learning.

It is the responsibility of each person to demonstrate respectful, responsible, safe and ethical behaviors both on campus and off campus. To help your children to understand their role in providing for a safe campus, several proactive systems have been established.

Kalakaua Handbook

At the beginning of each school year, teachers and students read and discuss the Kalakaua Handbook in the student planner. Strategically emphasized are the KMS School-wide Behavior Expectations (page 4) and Chapter 19 and Discipline Plan for Student Misconduct (page 5).

Parents are asked to read and talk with their child(ren) about the topics on pages 4 and 5 of the planner. Parent and child should sign at the bottom of page 5.

By working together, we can reach our goal of providing a learning experience that allows all students to be successful in a safe, caring, nurturing and orderly teaching and learning environment!

Important KMS phone numbers

Office	832-3130
Attendance	305-4531
Registrar	305-4550
Grade 6 counselor	305-4532
Grade 7 counselor	305-4533
Grade 8 counselor	305-4540
ELL counselor	305-4541
Outreach counselor	305-4542

1st Quarter Report Cards

The last day of 1st quarter will be on Friday, October 7. Quarter 1 report cards will be mailed home on Friday, October 14. If you have moved, please submit the appropriate documents to verify this change of address (demographic change form, copy of rental/lease agreement, and copy of a current utility bill). Copies of the demographic change form are available at our registration office. If you have any questions, please call us at 305-4550.

What Did YOU Do This Summer?

This summer, KMS students continued to learn in a variety of ways. In June, 25 KMS students participated in the **GENE-ius program** developed by Dr. Ania Wieczorek from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. The College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources provided science lab coats, goggles, supplies and materials for students while GEAR UP Hawaii provided snacks and lunches.

KMS students performed a series of science related activities that connected genetics and forensics to solve a mock crime situation. Students were able to imagine themselves as university scientists working on science related topics like plant cell labs, DNA extraction labs, and finger print and foot print readings. These classes provide hands-on experiments and activities that inspired students to discover the ways in which science affects their everyday life.



Also during July, 6 KMS students attended the **National History Day** competition in Washington D.C. They visited the Lincoln Memorial, U.S. Capitol, Washington Monument, the White House, and more. They also met with Senator Mazie Hirono. Mahalo to their teacher and chaperone,



Mr. Steve Decker!
KMS students in Washington D.C. L-R:
Rycial Ignacio,
Matthew



Madayag, Paula Saladino, Daniel Delos Santos, Hendhel Cabaya, Queena Abarcar

Mahalo to Metro Christian Church

Members of the Metro Christian Church volunteered to beautify our campus on July 23. Mahalo to Diane Fong, organizer, and Pastor Elwin Ahu for spearheading this event. Among the volunteers: Farrington HS Football Coach Randall Okimoto and former KMS students. Mahalo!



SAVE THE DATE
Wednesday, August 17, 2016 at 5:30 pm

From Math Anxiety to Math Fluency Workshop for Parents

KMS Library

Meet Dr Randy Palisoc – Designer of a math fluency system that makes sense to kids.



During the workshop, Dr. Palisoc will demonstrate how parents can help their children build both math fluency and confidence.

Parents attending the workshop will receive valuable information and free resources!

A Positive School Environment promoted thru KMS3



KMS 3

Know how to solve problems
Make good choices
Show respect

In the past, school-wide discipline has focused mainly on reacting to specific student misbehavior by implementing punishment-based strategies including reprimands, loss of privileges, office referrals, suspensions, and expulsions. Research has shown that the implementation of punishment, especially when it is used inconsistently and in the absence of other positive strategies, is ineffective. **Most students will succeed when a positive school culture is promoted, informative corrective feedback is provided, academic success is maximized, and use of pro-social skills is acknowledged.**

Please refer to page 4 in the student handbook to review the King David Kalakaua Schoolwide Behavior Expectations with your child. KMS 3 new to KMS!