



Mālamalama Waldorf School

The Light of Knowledge

Aloha 'Ohana,

I hope you, your family, and friends are all doing well in this challenging time. It has been difficult to find the opportunity and words to express my feelings to our community. I miss you all and especially the sweet sounds of students heard throughout the campus. We have thus far been sharing a Wa'a together. Now we all are in different places with this stay-at-home order, each navigating our own rough waters.

The office is now working remotely. Managing work from home has been challenging and is uncharted territory. I enjoy seeing the beautiful work others are doing at home. I know I am not alone in the struggle to balance work and home.

As we adjust to our new reality, I am finding hope in this time of crisis. Eleanor Roosevelt once described courage as, "You must do the things you think you cannot do." I am reminded everyday how hard everyone is courageously working for the benefit of all. The situation is fluid but we still must keep problem solving, place ourselves on a constructive course, and revisit our reality as we go. Despite being in different locations, we are rowing the same Wa'a. It is not reasonable to see what we are doing as 'a fix.' With a new day comes new strength and new thoughts, and potentially a new course.

I am worried about where we are headed during this unprecedented time. The waves ahead are unpredictable. We continue to work diligently and strategically to create a multi-stage plan for the immediate future, as well as into next year. I encourage your patience as we change directions. I encourage thoughtful and respectful conversation, as well.

Last week, we applied for the Small Business Assoc. (SBA) loan and Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and received notification this morning that our application for the PPP was accepted. Now we must wait for further details.

We have officially cancelled our Spring Faire, and postponed our online Auction and Music Concert for the Fall. Last week we made the difficult decision to furlough most of our hourly employees and partially furlough our Specialty teachers knowing that they will receive full compensation through Unemployment. We will continue to pay those that have health insurance with MWS.

I want to thank the Faculty for their amazing ability to switch gears and put together learning packets for each and every student. These packets cannot duplicate the wonder and personal engagement your child receives in school. It is representative of Waldorf education and I thank you for being patient with your child's teacher as she flexes her style to formulate these wonderful learning opportunities through these packets.

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Please continue to follow social distancing guidelines when picking up/dropping off your packets on either Fridays or Mondays. We ask that only one parent at a time enter the classroom wearing a mask while your child remains in the car.

Despite nothing being what it seemed before, I would argue that what remains is an amazing community having the strength to be on the Wa'a, rowing with fortitude and love. When we reopen our campus, we will be as good, if not better, as people and as a school!

With Aloha,

Kelley, School Director

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