

## Noelani PTA minutes

October 15, 2020

Zoom Recording: Mr. Gusman's YouTube channel- [October 15. Minutes.](#)

Call to order by PTA President Maria Su at 6:02 pm.

**Present:** Maria Su, Bryan Gusman, Stanford Togashi, Jen Dacumos, and Lorelei Saito, and almost 15 Noelani parents/ PTA members

Minutes of previous meeting approved by consensus.

### Principal's Report:

1. **Reopening of school:** School will implement a phased approach with the majority of the student body on distance learning or home learning at the start.

#### Key dates:

**Oct. 26-** Kindergarten Orientation. Teachers will send information to parents. They will be the only grade on campus that week. Classes will be on a half day schedule. (this week is also Parent/ Teacher conferences). (Green group) Mon & Tues, (White group) Wed & Thurs, Full grade level on Friday.

**Nov. 2-** kindergarten and 5th grade on campus everyday. Start time is 7:45am (for grade K). All on A/B schedule to limit the amount of students on campus. This will be a good way to test the systems in place to ensure proper hygiene protocol. Election day and PD day is also this week.

**Nov. 16-** 1st and 4th grade will start w/ a 8:00 start time (for both grades)

**Nov. 30-** 2nd and 3rd will start on campus (if previous entry points go well.)

\*Within Roosevelt Complex, Noelani is the only school that is going w/ all grade levels on campus provided the "matrix" is going well.

*-School appreciates the community's support as they continue to adjust to the change in teaching format, and prepare for the return of school w/ new cleaning and hygiene protocols.*

**-A+ Program:** Organizers are currently trying to accommodate everyone's request for after school care. Staffing continues to be a challenge since the majority of the leaders were UH students. Some have found other employment, or are not interested. Program information is available on the school website (Parent Section, After Care). Questions? Contact Mr. Fukushima at [aplus@nes.k12.hi.us](mailto:aplus@nes.k12.hi.us)

2. **Distance Learning and Acellus Online Program:** Principal Gusman sent letter home from Superintendent. The BOE will be meeting (or met already) to discuss the program, and the concerns raised by teachers and parents.

A. School has been supplementing the Acellus curriculum with Hawaiiana, PE, and iReady programs. School will continue to provide standards based report cards for all registered Noelani students. Challenge is Acellus gives feedback in the form of percentages, and it is difficult to translate to a standards based grade. School plans to push out Stepping Stones and Wonders (language arts and math) to get an idea where students are at. This will help in determining progress towards benchmarks and standards.

B. Parent concerns around grade level achievement and lack of rigor. Schools will continue to use Acellus until the end of the school year. School will provide additional work to supplement and add to rigor.

3. **IDEA Center:** Principal Gusman was able to enter the building and see the formation of the different rooms, electrical, and sprinkler systems are in. Should be done by April 2021.
4. **Room Parent Orientation:** Thursday, Oct. 22, 5:30. Webex link will be sent to all room parents. PTA will have time to share how to get involved, and how PTA information will be disseminated.
5. **Upcoming days off:** Election, PD, Craft Fair, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving
6. **Partnership w/ school in Japan:** One of the missions of Noelani is preparing students to be global citizens. Principal Gusman met w/ the mayor of Sakaimachi. The mayor wants all the kids in Sakaimachi to learn English. The middle school is already partner schools with Aliamanu Middle School. Honolulu is the sister city. A virtual visit is being planned soon. The long term plan is to take a small student delegation to visit the school. This cultural exchange may possibly be an every-other year exchange/ visit. Faculty Reps: Christy Nakagawara and Jeff Fukushima. Will eventually need PTA help w/ fundraising. Trip will be during fall or spring break. Parents can contact Mr. Gusman if interested in supporting this trip.
7. **Question from meeting attendees:**
  - A. Budget cuts: Question regarding schools planning for across the board budget cuts- school was given notice about percentage cuts. Schools were spared from this.. However, student counts has been taking a hit this school year. The weighted student formula sets the budget. Personnel is biggest cost, what is left is for teacher PD, school repairs. When schools went to DL, schools were also

mandated to offer families a learn at home option. This means student goes off role at school's roster. This then affects school's enrollment numbers, and ultimately the monies allocated to each school for the school year.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Account Balance: \$268,895.30

Checking: \$245,138.45

Savings: \$21,743.02

Free Business Checking: \$2,013.83

-teacher discretionary checks

-music teacher bill

-phase two of murals

**From Ryan Ito:** Has been checking our mailbox in the office. Noticed a bill from HPD from last year's craft fair. CPK notice regarding bankruptcy. Do we need to file any type of paperwork? Jen just deposited last check.

### **Unfinished Business**

1. T-shirts & face masks: online ordering has started. Last day for ordering is Friday, Oct. 23. Then printing will start, hoping to distribute through student homerooms.
2. E-Newsletter: Content has been collected. Peggy Brandt will be creating the newsletter for us. Purpose is to share PTA news with families.
3. New Committee Chairs: Danielle Yafuso will be chairing the Craft Fair Committee Chair. Ryan Itoman will be chairing the Membership and Staff Appreciation Committees. PTA Board has approved both chairs (according to Bylaws). Still need a Nominations Committee Chair. Treasurer and Recording Secretary positions still need volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Maria or Stanford. Mahalo to Ryan for monitoring the PTA email account!
4. Donations for Mrs. Christensen's family: GoFundMe has been organized and link shared. To date, \$6,650.00 donated so far. Deadline is at the end of this month. After the website fee is paid, the remaining balance will be given to the family.
5. PTSA Leadership Training: Board officers, committee chairs, teacher reps, and school principals can attend. Online virtual training on Oct. 24, and Oct. 31. Sign up link is available in Maria's email w/ training information.

### **New Business**

1. **Membership Application:** \$15 dues each school year. Application form is available on the PTA website. Foodland's Give Aloha campaign. Collected little under \$3,600.00.

Ryan will be meeting w/ Foodland on Oct. 23, to pick up the check. To date: only have 48 members signed up w/ dues paid. Down 70% from last school year. Due to not being able to distribute application forms through homerooms. When the students return to campus, form will be distributed through class.

2. **Membership w/ the state PTSA:** Discussion brought up regarding our affiliation. 65%-70% of our dues go to state PTSA. What are the benefits? Do we want to explore operating autonomously? Do we have the skillset to be independent?
3. **List of parent contact information:** Ryan compiled a comprehensive list of parent emails (parents willing to share their contact info w/ PTA). List is categorized by grade level, staff/ faculty. PTA can use list to send out flyers and other important information (example: Give Aloha flyers)
4. **PTA email account:** Ryan went through the account and archived past email. He will continue to monitor the account twice a week, and inform Maria of email that needs immediate attention.
5. **Instagram and FaceBook accounts to increase membership:** Lisa Imai monitors the FaceBook account. We don't have an IG account yet. Ryan's idea is to integrate social media in our efforts to increase membership and participation. [Mailchimp](#) can fuse all of this together for us.
6. **Craft Fair:** Dani started soliciting vendors and local businesses to see if there is interest to participate in this new online ordering format. Idea is to create three different price point gift boxes (prepackaged offerings). We will depend on word-of-mouth, and virtual marketing for this event. The venue for this year will be Manoa Marketplace for distribution since we cannot have this on campus. Reach out to Dani if you are interested in helping.

### Committee Reports

1. **Box Tops:** Deadline is today to send in box tops. Can send in multiple times a year. New digital box tops, scan receipt within 14 days of purchase. Link is on the website. Made about \$11,000 to date. So everything counts!
2. **FaceBook:** Please run your posts past PTA board and copy Mr. Gusman before sending announcements to Lisa Imai.
3. **Website:** Visits went up this month. All committee chairs can send information to Lisa to be posted on the website. Membership link through Paypal. Online membership form with access to Paypal. Report to the account to generate a report. May need to update the paypal account. Box Top site has been updated.

Amazon Smile information has been updated. Page for Mrs. Christiansen. Let Lisa know when GoFundMe ends and she will delete the post.

Can post information for Craft Fair. Other committees can have a page to post their information. [noelaniptawebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:noelaniptawebmaster@gmail.com).

4. Trunk and Treat is cancelled this year.
5. Jog-a-thon: Too early to call. Will remain flexible.

**Q & A:**

Q: How can we generate money for the PTA? Can we just ask for certain amount of money from parents? Is there an easy way for parents to donate cash?

*A: Please use Jog-a-thon if you would like to donate cash to the PTA. Ryan will include mention of donations on the membership flyer. Mr. Gusman recommended that we include what money used for when soliciting donations. PTA supports Music, PE, and Technology at Noelani. Also enrichment opportunities, support for faculty and staff, and helping with other projects for the school community.*

**Next meeting:** Thursday, November 12, 2020, 6:00-7:00 pm

-Zoom link (created and hosted by Stanford) to be sent by Principal Gusman to Noelani community.

Meeting adjourned by Maria Su at 7:31 pm.