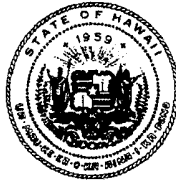


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



DR. CHRISTINA M. KISHIMOTO
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PAHOA HIGH & INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
15-3038 PAHOA VILLAGE ROAD
PAHOA, HI 96778

May 7, 2018

Aloha Pahoa Dagger Family,

I know that these are trying times for all of us. As we cope with this ongoing natural disaster, I want to reassure you that we are working with Hawaii County Civil Defense and the Hawaii Volcanoes Observatory to ensure the safety of our students. Safety protocols are in place for such emergencies as earthquakes, tsunamis, and poor air quality, and our students and staff practice for them diligently each year.

I also must relay some sad news. One our staff members, Dr. William "Keith" Blackburn, passed away on Thursday, May 3. We are supporting his students with additional counseling support as they come to terms with this sudden and unexpected loss. His passing was not related to the ongoing volcano situation. There will be a celebration of life on Saturday, May 12, at 2 pm, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Orchidland (16-105 Orchid Land Drive) for those who might wish to share their aloha and appreciation. It is "aloha" attire in honor of his affection for aloha shirts. On behalf of the entire PHIS 'ohana, I would like to send our deepest condolences to Dr. Blackburn's family and friends. He was a true champion for our students and we will miss him deeply.

Our counseling staff will be available to help with the needs of students and school personnel. Please let us know if your child would benefit from talking with a counselor. We encourage you, as parents and guardians, to also feel free to use our resources. Please do not hesitate to contact our administration staff at 313-4400 for any assistance.

In these trying times, we here at PHIS are banding together, supporting the students and each other. Be kind to one another, love your families, love your community, but also, take care of yourselves. It is easy to focus outwardly on the people and things around us, but you also need to be aware of your basic needs - food, rest, and personal care. Remember to take a moment to take care of yourself, so we can continue to help one another.

With my sincerest Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Williamson".

Kim Williamson
TA Principal
Pahoa High and Intermediate School