September 7, 2023

TO: The Honorable Warren Haruki  
Chairperson, Board of Education

FROM: Keith T. Hayashi  
Superintendent

SUBJECT: Report of the Superintendent - Maui Wildfire Impacts

1. BACKGROUND

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) continues to navigate the significant impacts of the West Maui (Lahaina) wildfires which affected West Maui communities and schools in the Lahainaluna complex: King Kamehameha III Elementary School, Princess Nahienaena Elementary School, Lahaina Intermediate School, and Lahainaluna High School.

2. UPDATE

The attached presentation provides an overview of the impacts, the Department’s response, and supports that are available for students and staff.

KTH:ct  
Attachment
Agenda Item III:

**Report of the Superintendent**

Maui Wildfire Impacts

Hawai‘i State Board of Education
Special Meeting
September 7, 2023

Keith T. Hayashi,
Superintendent
Caring for our people: Reconnecting with staff and students
Caring for our people
Reconnecting with staff and students

- Employees
  - Four days of Lāhainā staff convenings
    - Two days in coordination with state offices
    - Two days led by school leaders
    - Solicitation of employee personnel preferences, consideration of individual circumstances
    - Coordination with union partners
    - On-site support from Queen’s Medical Center behavioral health specialists and FEMA

- Students
  - Community liaisons have been connecting with families in shelters, Family Resource Centers and community gathering spots
  - Families being called to check in on students
Staff and student support

Additional Supports:

- Crisis counseling and mental health supports for students and staff – in-person, by phone, telehealth, text line.

- Dr. Melissa Brymer and Dr. Marlene Wong, National Child Traumatic Stress Network, funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
Preparing to reopen schools
Lāhainā Complex School Reopening Plans

- Prioritizing health and safety of staff and students
- Working with county/Mayor, state/Governor and federal agencies
  - Hawaiʻi Emergency Management Agency (HIEMA)
  - Hawaiʻi State Department of Health
  - Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Objective for reopening:
Return as soon as safely possible
Lāhainā Complex School Reopening Plans

- Air quality: DOH monitors (maps.purpleair.com)
- Water quality: County and HIDOE teams
- Soil quality: DOH and HIDOE teams with contractor
- Professional cleaning, repairs and debris removal
- Stable electricity and consistent internet sufficient for business operations and learning
- Revision of safety plans for evacuation
Lāhainā Complex School Reopening Plans

Target: Reopen the Lāhainā campuses following fall break

- Planning for temporary relocation of King Kamehameha III (temporarily co-locate to Princess Nāhiʻenaʻena and/or temporary site in West Maui)
- Planning for learning hub(s) in West Maui
- Discussing Kaiapuni Lāhainā request for West Maui site for schools’ programs

Fall break:
October 9-13
King Kamehameha III Elementary
Process for planning new, permanent campus

- Will seek community input
- Will honor legacy of the historic campus
- Will be coordinated with planning for Lahaina community

The King Kamehameha III Elementary campus in Lāhainā before the Aug. 2023 wildfires.
# Transition to reopening

**Options for families based on their situations and preferences**

### If displaced from Lāhainā

Get immediately enrolled in neighborhood school with MV1

### If internet connection stable, apply for distance learning

- English medium or Kaiapuni Hawaiian language immersion

### If still in Lāhainā

- Elementary and intermediate students may enroll, temporarily, at Kamali‘i Elementary, Wailuku Elementary, and Lokelani Intermediate

- Lāhaināluna High may attend Kūlanihāko‘i High

- Bussing will be provided for students with adult supervision and support

- Contingency plans in case of road closures on the Pali
## Enrollment for Lāhaināluna Complex Students

Official enrollment data as of August 31, 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aug. 8 enrollment in Lāhaināluna Complex (&quot;pre-registered&quot;)</th>
<th>Students who have re-enrolled in other public schools</th>
<th>Students who have applied for or enrolled in the State Distance Learning Program (SDLP): English and Hawaiian language immersion</th>
<th>Students who have enrolled outside of DOE (estimated)</th>
<th>Students the Department is actively reaching out to contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,001</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>874 (includes students on waitlist)</td>
<td>Charter schools: ~29</td>
<td>1,208 (Estimated)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(at 43 HIDOE schools)</td>
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<td>Hawai’i independent schools: ~100</td>
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<td>Withdrawn: 12</td>
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Communicating with stakeholders
Recent HIDOE Community Outreach

- Ongoing support from community liaisons who are meeting with families in Lāhainā
- Hotline via phone and text, supported by Leadership Institute. Continues to respond to questions and concerns
- Aug. 29 announcement about Lāhainā schools’ targeted date for reopening after fall break and options during the transition
- Calls to families of students who have not yet enrolled in another school
HIDOE Community Outreach
August 30, 2023 – Community meetings in Lāhainā and Kahului

Approximately 800 attendees.

Information about reopening plans, questions and answers.

On-site language interpretation: ASL, Spanish, Chuukese, Ilocano and Tagalog.

Key Takeaways:
● Parents and students want school to start sooner than mid-fall target date.
● Parents want option on west side for their families in the transition to school reopening.
● Parents concerned about bussing students across the Pali.
● Some are not getting information that HIDOE is sending.
● Stakeholders want to provide input for planning.
# Strengthening Communication

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIDOE Staff</th>
<th>Families &amp; the Public</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Status meetings to assess &amp; support</td>
<td>bit.ly/HIDOE-West-Maui-Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>Messaging support</td>
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<td>Plain-text emails</td>
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<td>Staff meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dedicated hotline and two-way texting for individual questions and concerns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community meetings</td>
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<td>Board of Education meetings</td>
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<td>Weekly digital newsletter</td>
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<td>HIDOE website, social media in real time</td>
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<td>News media in real time</td>
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Text "SUPPORT" to (808) 736-1427
#MAUISTRONG

Photo credit: Alyssa Lee and Maui High School

Photo credit: Kealakehe Elementary

Photo credit: ‘Aikahi Elementary

Photo credit: Wheeler Middle

Photo credit: Kawānanakoa Middle

Photo credit: Waiākea High