



"our family...our culture...our land..."



Mascot: Surfers

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Principal: Mr. Garret Zakahi

Vision: We are a school dedicated to producing successive generations of citizens prepared to constructively participate in the society of their time.

Mission: The mission of Jefferson Elementary School is to be a place where we are committed to developing the whole person to his/her highest potential in a nurturing environment with a sense of respect, trust, and `ohana.

Theme for 2022-2023 School Year:

"**sharing** our lei of ALOHA" - our lei consists of all the learning opportunities that are presented to our TEAM.

Upcoming Events

July 2022

- 04 – 4th of July Holiday
- 26 – teachers report back to school

August 2022

- 02 – First day for students
- 19 – Statehood Day
- 26 – Kaimuki Complex Waiver Day

Principal's Message for July

Aloha Jefferson Elementary School 'Ohana,

We are already nearing the midpoint of our summer break. We have been busy preparing for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year. Our custodians have been hard at work cleaning (floors, carpets, louvers, light covers, fans, etc.) all of our classrooms. Materials and supplies have been purchased and will be ready, prior to the return of our teachers on July 26th.

2022-2023 will be a big year for JES, as we will be celebrating the 90th anniversary of our school. A plaque is currently being designed and we hope to have it unveiled sometime during our 1st semester. There will also be a "time capsule" that will be filled with a variety of artifacts from JES and from each grade level. This time capsule will be opened during the 100th anniversary of JES (in 2032).

What's Been Going on at JES?

21st Century Learning Centers I and II

You may have noticed large fenced in structures between O and Q buildings. These two structures are our "21st Century Learning Centers". Learning Center I was built in 2015 and houses a total of 13 aquaponics systems that range in size from 40 gallons systems up to 3,000 systems. Aquaponics uses the waste product from fishes (tilapia and guppies) to provide nutrients for plants (un choy, Hawaiian chili peppers, taro,



Okinawan sweet potato, eggplant, green onion, and aloe). Water from the ponds are brought up to the grow beds through a series of pumps and PVC pipes. Expandable clay provides an excellent substrate for bacteria (nitrosomonas and nitrobacter) to adhere to. Plants are able to utilize the nitrogen in the water as it passes down the expandable clay. Clean water is then returned into the ponds.

21st Century Learning Centers I and II - Continued

We are looking forward to building off of last years themes of “**Weaving** our Lei of ALOHA”. The needle and thread of our lei are represented by our school’s vision and mission. The flowers that are incorporated into our lei are all of the opportunities that our TEAM experiences during our 2021-2022 School Year.



Special thanks to our Educational Assistants (EAs) for creating this artwork that is on display in our school’s library.

A = “Akahai” meaning kindness, to be expressed with tenderness

L = “Lokahi” meaning unity, to be expressed with harmony

O = “Oluolu” meaning agreeable, to be expressed with pleasantness

H = “Haahaa” meaning humility, to be expressed with modesty

A = “Ahonui” meaning patience, to be expressed with perseverance



Learning Center II will be up and running . . . as soon as we can get our photovoltaic (PV) panels installed. PV will allow both learning Center I and II to run off of the energy of the sun. Unlike Learning Center I, Learning Center II will feature our brand new hydroponics systems. In hydroponics, nutrients are placed into reservoir and are pumped through PVC channels to feed our vegetables (manoa lettuce, cabbage, and peppers). There are no fish in a hydroponics system.

School Year 2022-2023

During the upcoming school year, there will be a focus placed on developing early literacy skills for our students in kindergarten through grade 2. All regular and special education teachers in kindergarten through grade 2 will be trained by a certified specialist in early literacy to ensure that we all are receiving the same information. Follow up trainings have been scheduled, so that we may track implementation of strategies within our classrooms.

We will continue to utilize our Stepping Stones and Reading Wonders programs during our dedicated mathematics and Language Arts instructional blocks. Thematic units will be implanted, when possible so that our students may connect the different subject areas (mathematics, Language Arts, social studies, science, fine arts) to real-world, hands-on based learning opportunities. I-Ready will continue to be used as our universal screener, with diagnostics being taken by all students in the fall, winter, and spring. Data from i-Ready will be used to create small group instruction to target the varying needs of our students.

Enrichment (physical education, STEM, Hawaiian studies, social-emotional learning, and computers/digital media) will continue to be offered as we of our vision and mission “to develop the whole child”. Enrichment also provides dedicated time each week for our grade level teachers to meet in grade levels to look at current school data, to share what they are doing in their instructional blocks, and to plan for upcoming lessons/projects

JES will continue to utilize our layered approach when it comes to mitigation and prevention of the spread of COVID-19 on our campus. These mitigation strategies, will include, but are not limited to:

- Use of masks while indoors
- Social distancing
- No mixing of COHORTS
- Louvers left open to increase ventilation through our classrooms
- Use of fans to blow air out of classrooms
- Fluorescent one-way markers on all walkways
- Encourage staying home if there are any COVID-like symptoms
- Sanitizing high touch areas and cleaning all classrooms on a daily basis