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NIU VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL
310 Halemaumau Street
Honolulu, Hawaiʻi 96821

May 9, 2025

Subject: End of the School Year Letter to Families

Aloha Students & Families,

As we head into the home stretch, we would like to express our sincere gratitude for your support and partnership throughout this school year. We are grateful to our families for entrusting us with your child's education.

I am excited to unveil our new school logo that is part of our branding strategy. Our mascot remains the Lancers and our school colors are still red and yellow. The new logo aligns with our school's vision and we intentionally incorporated student voice in this endeavor. Earlier this school year we had a student logo design contest and received about 50 student submissions. The top three designs were shared with a professional graphic designer for inspiration and here's our new logo!

NIU VALLEY
MIDDLE SCHOOL

The new logo reflects an emphasis on who we are and symbolizes pride in our community. Mrs. Joanne Imada, our school's PCNC, will email instructions to our current families on how to purchase student uniforms with our new logo. Please note that our students will be allowed to wear current uniforms next school year. Also, the PE uniform shirt design will not change.

Financial Literacy Books for Students
Due to a generous grant, our school was able to purchase financial literacy books for every student. Challenge your child to read the book during the summer! We hope the books will help facilitate and jump start conversations about money and finances in your family. Please keep an eye out for the books as they will be distributed to students by next week via their advisory teachers.

Here's the book titles:

- 8th Graders - Money Skills for Teens by Emily Carter
- 7th Graders - Money Skills for Teens by Jessica Blakely
- 6th Graders - Smart Money Skills by Kristen Roberts

Power Down Your Device, Power Up Your Brain Campaign
Thank you for supporting our campaign that we launched at the start of the fourth quarter. Your messaging of support to reinforce our school's expectation for our students to power down their cell phones and personal electronic devices from 7:30AM is making a difference.

The implementation as a whole, while far from perfect, has been positively received by many parents and adults on our campus. We see our students engaging more with each other face to face. We observe them trying to figure out what to do with their time without their devices. More students are ready to learn without being overstimulated by their devices. All positive outcomes. We will continue to refine our systems as we press forward and continue this expectation next school year.

Important Dates for Next School Year
A 2025-26 school year calendar will be shared with families before the end of the school year. Here's some important dates to note in your planners:

- August 5 - First Day of School
- August 15 - Statehood Day holiday
- August 21 (Tentative Date) - Open House
- August 22 (Tentative Date) - Waiver Day (no school for students)
- September 1 - Labor Day holiday
- October 6-10 - Fall Break

Thank you once again for being such an integral part of our school 'ohana. For our departing 8th graders and other students who are leaving our school, we will miss you and wish you all the best as you embark on the next chapter of your educational journeys. For our returning students, we can't wait to welcome you back in August.

We wish you a safe, happy, and memorable summer, and we look forward to reconnecting with you in the new school year. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me via phone at (808) 307-6800 or via email at jeffrey.shitaoka@k12.hi.us. Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,



Jeffrey Shitaoka
Principal