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NIU VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL
310 Halemaumau Street
Honolulu, Hawaiʻi 96821

October 14, 2025

Subject: Quarter 1 Appreciations & Important Information

Aloha Niu Valley Middle School Families,

We hope you and your family enjoyed a restful fall break. As we start our second quarter, I'd like to express our gratitude for your support and involvement and also wanted to take a moment to highlight important information.

Thank you for supporting the Friends of Niu Valley's "We Love Niu Valley" campaign. Due to your generous contributions, total donations hit over $49,000. Also, thank you for participating in last month's Friends of Niu Valley Fam Jam, which was such a positive culture building event for our school ʻohana. We are grateful to have so many families who share their time, talents, and resources with us.

Administration Updates
Effective today, Mr. Riley Jaeger, one of our science teachers, will serve in a new role as a Temporary Assignment Vice Principal to fill the position vacated by VP Marlyn Hutton this summer. Vice Principals Mendonca and Carvalho who supported Team A & Team B last quarter will work with VP Jaeger to ensure a smooth transition. Counseling assignments are unchanged. Please continue to reach out to your child's teachers, VP and/or counselor should your child need any assistance. We are here to serve. Here's the grade level VP and counselor assignments:

Grade	Vice Principal	Counselor
Grade 6	**Mr. Riley Jaeger** riley.jaeger@k12.hi.us	**Ms. Maya Dougherty** maya.dougherty@k12.hi.us
Grade 7	**Mr. Kekoa Carvalho** kekoa.carvalho@k12.hi.us	**Mr. Gavin Yaji** gavin.yaji@k12.hi.us
Grade 8	**Ms. Lisa Mendonca** lisa.mendonca@k12.hi.us	**Ms. Valerie Fujitani** valerie.fujitani@k12.hi.us

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Plans for Spanish Offering Next School Year to 6th Graders
Starting next school year, our school plans to offer Spanish to our incoming 6th graders as a World Language choice in addition to Japanese and Chinese. The plan is to then phase in Spanish to 7th grade in SY 2027-28 and to 8th grade in SY 2028-29.

Join Our Parent Advisory Board
We are looking to assemble a group of parents to provide feedback into our school's plans to address our students' use of hate speech. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please email Ms. Joanne Imada, our school's PCNC, at joanne.imada@k12.hi.us.

Encourage Participation in Clubs and Sports Teams
We encourage our students to get involved in the many clubs and sports teams that our school offers. Participation in extracurricular activities is a vital part of a well-rounded middle school experience, offering students a chance to explore new interests, develop important social and leadership skills, and build lasting friendships. Encourage your child to give it a try! If you have any questions on our clubs and sports teams, email Mr. Maika Nagata, our Student Activities Coordinator, at maika.nagata@k12.hi.us.

Important Dates
The next Principal Talk Story will be on December 4th, this time at an evening time slot. Also note, our school has a waiver day, no school for students, on December 5th. Please plan accordingly. Here's some important dates:

- November 11 (Tuesday) - Veterans' Day Holiday
- November 27 & 28 - Thanksgiving & School Holiday
- December 4 (Thursday) - Principal Talk Story @ 5:00-6:00PM
- December 5 (Friday) - Waiver Day - No School for Students
- Winter Break: December 20, 2024 - January 6, 2025 (Students return on January 7th)

Pressing forward, we remain committed to providing a safe, supportive, and academically rigorous learning environment for all students. Feel free to reach out to me via email at jeffrey.shitaoka@k12.hi.us or via phone at (808) 307-6800, should you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your continued partnership and mahalo for entrusting us with your child's education.

Kind regards,



Jeffrey Shitaoka
Principal