

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

GREGG K. YONEMORI  
PRINCIPAL

STACEY L. BELLO  
KAU KEA'AU PAHOA  
INTERIM COMPLEX AREA SUPERINTENDENT

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**KEA'AU MIDDLE SCHOOL**

16-565 KEA'AU-PAHOA ROAD  
KEA'AU, HAWAII 96749  
PHONE: (808) 313-4800

November 28, 2022

Dear Kea'au Middle School Parents and Guardians,

With the overnight eruption of Mauna Loa, the Hawaii State Department of Education is working closely with Civil Defense, Hawaii County, and U.S. Geological Survey's Hawaiian Volcano Observatory officials to monitor the potential impacts of the eruption.

As of this morning, officials advised that no school closures are needed, noting that mandatory evacuations have not been ordered and school operations can safely continue at this time.

The Department of Education will continue to follow the advice of public safety officials and monitor conditions of schools in the Mauna Loa Inundation Zone. Families will be updated through official school channels if conditions change. Please ensure that we have your current contact information on file.

We understand there is a lot of anxiety and uncertainty in our community. It's important to turn to official and legitimate sources of information for the latest updates on this situation. Residents on Hawai'i Island can stay informed through Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency alerts and should take steps to prepare in the event action is needed. Please see here for preparedness information from Hawaii County:

<https://hawaii-county-volcano-hazards-hawaiicountygis.hub.arcgis.com/>

Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gregg Yonemori".

Gregg Yonemori  
Principal