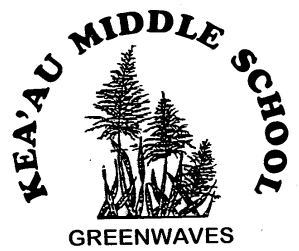


Keaau Middle Parent-Teacher-Student Association

September 2021 Newsletter



WELCOME TO SY2021-2022!!!

Dear Keaau Middle PTSA Members and School Family,

Here's to a successful 2021-2022 school year with best wishes for good health and safety for all. While school is trying its best to stay open for in-person service, Keaau Middle PTSA will remain virtual and plan to host virtual events throughout the school year. Please stay tuned for upcoming events via our Facebook page at [Keaau Middle PTSA!](#)

In this newsletter, we will introduce our new Keaau Middle PTSA Board, which was voted in virtually at the end of the last school year, update you on how we are supporting the school, and inform you of upcoming events and opportunities. We welcome your feedback, including on how we can better serve your needs. Please feel free to email estheryatwell@gmail.com if you have any questions, concerns, comments, or suggestions.

Thank you for taking part in the local chapter of a national organization that has worked hard for over 120 years to **STRENGTHEN** family and community engagement in schools, **ELEVATE** the voices of families in critical child advocacy work, and **SUPPORT** programs that improve student outcomes and success. Thanks for investing in our keiki.

Sincerely,

Esther Atwell, President

On behalf of the Keaau Middle PTSA Board

PTSA Means:

- 📌 Community
- 📌 Advocacy
- 📌 Programs
- 📌 Grants
- 📌 Leadership
- 📌 Resources

HAIL AND FAREWELL



On behalf of Keaau Middle PTSA, Cheryl Kiefer (Treasurer) and Esther Atwell (President) thanked Principal Elna Gomes in June for her years of support to the PTSA with a small gift as she moves into retirement. Warm welcome to Principal Gregg Yonemori! We look forward to working with you. 😊

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 30, 2021, 5 pm:
KMS Family Night with resume writing tips

October 4, 2021, 3:30 pm:
PTSA board meeting

October 7, 2021, 6 pm:
Virtual Family Bingo Night



President: Esther Atwell, freelance linguist. Originally from Hong Kong, but called Northern Virginia home for 30 years before moving to the Big Island in 2014 (lived in CA, MN, NC, TX, Thailand, and the Philippines). The pandemic allowed her to reconnect with friends and family through zoom and read for pleasure. She loves Legos and jigsaw/crossword puzzles.

Vice President:

Heather Aila has a child at KMS and currently works as a management analyst at Hilo Medical Center. Previously, she was our Scholastics Book Fair contact extraordinaire, enabling us to put on many successful book fairs to raise funds that sponsored Keaau Middle PTSA activities. She is from Kailua, Oahu. The pandemic has allowed her to spend time with her Ohana



Treasurer: Cheryl Kiefer, PCNC at Keaau High School, retired teacher from Keaau Middle School, and a member of the School Community Committee at KSM. Born in San Francisco, she has lived in Hawaii for more than 50 years. The pandemic has allowed her time to do a lot of cooking and reading.

Membership Chair:

Tiffany Edwards Hunt, 8th grade social studies teacher at Keaau Middle School. Originally from California, but also Nevada and Wyoming until she relocated to the Big Island in 2001. The pandemic allowed her to engage in bicycling, reading, gardening, cooking — so many things she never made time for until the world came to a halt. Her favorite games are Monopoly and bocce ball.



Other members of the board include our **Recording Secretary** Vice Principal Karrin Hauanio, **Reflections Chair** Joanna Silva, **SAC-Teacher Liaison** Janean Stone, and **Administrator (non-voting member)** Principal Gregg Yonemori. We meet on the first Monday of every month at 3:30 pm by Google Meet (next meeting October 4, 2021), see our Facebook page for link.



**PLEASE JOIN OUR
STANDING FUNDRAISER**

Shopwithscrip.com is the year-round gift card fundraisers for us (see flyer attached). The enrollment code for Keaau Middle PTSA is **CF33BA3966L26**, or email estheryatwell@gmail.com and I will send you an invitation to join.

A percentage of the gift card(s) you purchase at face value is rebated to Keaau Middle PTSA, which adds up to help us support different efforts at the school **without asking you to spend any more than normal or buy something you don't really need or want.**

For example, instead of paying with my credit card, I buy e-gift cards for Amazon through Shopwithscrip.com, which are available immediately to pay for Amazon orders, and I send gift cards to friends/family for places they go to in daily life like gas stations, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.



Support our organization while you shop

More than 50,000 organizations have used gift cards to turn everyday shopping into earnings—our organization is one of them. Pay with gift cards and offset costs for our organization.



Buy gift cards
at face value



Earn a rebate
up to 20%



Use gift cards for
everyday shopping

Shop 750+ top brands

Use eGift cards and physical gift cards, and earn on gas, groceries, eating out, clothes—the list goes on. It's easy, it's rewarding, and it fits right into your busy schedule.

See a full list of brands at ShopWithScrip.com or MyScripWallet.com

"It's super convenient. All I need to go shopping is my phone—I don't even need credit cards or my purse. I'm going to pay for these things anyway, I love being able to use gift cards so we get something in return."

Jen H., earns for hockey





KMS

**PTSA SUPPORT OF
KMS COMMUNITY**

What have we done for you lately?

Since our last newsletter, we have:

- Provided lunch for the faculty and staff at Keaau Middle as they prepared to open the school safely for our students
- Distributed 2022 Keaau Middle PTSA calendars to all faculty and staff as appreciation for their efforts year-round
- Attended leadership training to learn more on how to best serve the KMS community with new ideas on fundraising, grants, and virtual events



**DESPERATELY SEEKING:
STUDENT REPS**

Do you have ideas about fun things for families, or ways to improve the school community? Please consider joining Keaau Middle PTSA as a student representative. We want to put your voice into action!

Job Hunting?

Join Heather and Esther on Family Night, September 30, 2021, at 5 pm online for a presentation on how to write an awesome resume to get your foot in the door for your next job/career. Supplemental resource information available by sending your email address to estheryatwell@gmail.com.



Come to online Family Bingo Night
Thursday, October 7, 2021, 6-7 pm.

Please preregister by October 6, 2021 by sending an email to Esther (estheryatwell@gmail.com) so we can make sure there are enough bingo cards for everyone.

Copy and Paste Google Meet Link:

<https://meet.google.com/qkz-txbt-eoq>

Win Awesome Prizes!!!