**Subject:** Recording and FAQs from Hālāwai 'Ohana

**Date:** Friday, November 12, 2021 at 3:00:26 PM Hawaii-Aleutian Standard Time

From: Malulani Moreno
To: Malulani Moreno

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Aloha mai kākou,

Mahalo nui for joining us on Monday evening for our town hall session on health and safety protocols at KS Maui.

If you were unable to attend, here's a link to the recording: <a href="https://youtu.be/pQ5tqVPlfsc">https://youtu.be/pQ5tqVPlfsc</a>

Below you will find the frequently asked questions during the meeting along with our responses. We hope this is helpful in keeping you informed about our current and future health and safety measures on campus.

We all have kuleana to keep our learning community and the lāhui healthy and safe. Please take appropriate precautions when participating in community events to curb the spread of COVID-19. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your assistant principals or division heads.

E mālama pono!



#### Vaccinations & COVID Testing

#### Do you plan to make vaccinations mandatory?

Kamehameha Schools will continue to re-evaluate our safety protocols and make changes as guidance and conditions evolve ensuring alignment with recommendations from the Hawai'i Department of Health (HDOH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). While vaccinations for all students ages 5 and older are voluntary at this time, KS does reserve the right to determine if vaccinations may become mandatory for certain high-risk activities such as athletics.

### Vaccinations are not foolproof. Why are they required? Shouldn't masks suffice?

The CDC recommends everyone ages 5 and older get a COVID-19 vaccine to help protect against COVID-19. Although children are at a lower risk of becoming severely ill with COVID-19 compared with adults, children can:

- Be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19
- Get very sick from COVID-19
- Have both short and long-term health complications from COVID-19
- Spread COVID-19 to others

A COVID-19 vaccine can help protect children ages 5 years and older from getting COVID-19. Wearing masks can help reduce the spread of viruses but widespread vaccination for COVID-19 is a critical tool to best protect everyone, especially those at highest risk, from severe illness and death.

# Why aren't you testing everyone? Why only those who are unvaccinated? Anyone can get COVID regardless of their vaccination status.

Unvaccinated individuals face a far higher risk of infection with and death from COVID-19. According to CDC data, unvaccinated people were 6.1 times more likely than fully vaccinated people to test positive for COVID-19 and 11.3 times more likely to die from it. CDC and the HDOH does not recommend surveillance testing for vaccinated individuals and recommends focusing efforts on unvaccinated individuals who are at higher risk of contracting COVID.

#### Why are the unvaccinated being treated differently?

We honor every 'ohana's kuleana to make personal health choices that are right for their particular circumstances. This is why those who have not registered as vaccinated and have an approved religious/medical exemption are given a weekly testing option. Ultimately, our protocols are in place to ensure the health and safety of our entire community.

# Why are you promoting vaccines without knowing their long-term effects?

According to the CDC, before recommending COVID-19 vaccination for children, scientists conducted clinical trials. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) gave the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine emergency authorization to use in children ages 5-15 years old and full approval to use in people ages 16 years old and older. COVID-19 vaccines are being monitored for safety with the most comprehensive and intense safety monitoring program in U.S. history. The CDC continues to monitor the safety of all COVID-19 vaccines after the vaccines are authorized or approved for use.

# Has any KS haumāna become sick because of the vaccine, and will KS take responsibility for long-term health effects?

KS 'ohana are not required to report on their child's experience with the vaccine, but what has been reported were mild common side effects. According to the CDC, children may have some side effects, which are normal signs that their body is building protection. These side effects should dissipate in a few days. CDC officials say some people have no side effects, and allergic reactions are rare.

Your keiki's primary care physician is best equipped to discuss the potential

of serious lingering side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine for your child and should submit an exemption request if they believe the vaccine is unwarranted for medical reasons. KS does not assume responsibility for any impact of a COVID-19 vaccination.

### Of those who have been identified as a close contact, how many have gone on to test positive for COVID?

Since the start of the SY21-22, across all our KS sites, we have had less than 10 close contacts go on to test positive where transmission onsite was probable.

#### How long is weekly testing going to last?

COVID-19 continues to evolve and our health and safety approaches are flexible and may shift depending on changes to the global pandemic. We will continue to offer weekly testing based on the CDC and DOH recommendations and guidelines, which may change as conditions evolve.

#### Why are masks required in outdoor settings?

Kamehameha Schools continues to evaluate our safety protocols and make changes as guidance and conditions evolve. We developed our guidelines through ongoing study of the growing literature on COVID-19, from the CDC, Hawai'i DOH, Hawai'i State Department of Human Services, Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools, Hawai'i State Department of Education, World Health Organization, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, as well as the orders, rules, and ordinances set by the state of Hawai'i and County of Maui. We also recognize the guidance on COVID-19 continues to evolve and our health and safety approaches must be flexible and may need to shift quickly to ensure we can incorporate any new best practices into our daily school environment.

# What is the threshold for eliminating all health and safety protocols such as tests, masks, etc.?

COVID-19 continues to evolve and our health and safety approaches are flexible and may shift depending on changes to the global pandemic. We will continue to update our health and safety approaches according to guidance from the CDC, HDOH, Hawai'i State Department of Human Services, etc. as well as follow the public laws in place by the state of Hawai'i and the County of Maui.

# Who can we contact if we have concerns that aren't being addressed during this meeting?

KS Maui leadership is always available to you. We suggest starting with your assistant principals or division heads. Their contact information is below. If divisional leaders aren't able to answer your question, they will be able to forward your questions to KS leaders who might be better equipped to address your concerns.

Māhele Luna Leadership			
Brain Salzer	Po'o Māhele Luna	brsalzer@ksbe.edu	(808) 572-3142
Kaleo Pahukula	Last name A-De	kapahuku@ksbe.edu	(808) 572-3117
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Kapulani Antonio	Last name Pac-Z	kaantoni@ksbe.edu	(808) 573-7255
Māhele Lalo Leadership			
Dr. Yann Lussiez	Po'o Māhele Lalo	yalussie@ksbe.edu	(808) 572-3141
Lisa Correa	Assistant Principal	licorrea@ksbe.edu	(808) 573-7270
Cyndi Fernandez	Assistant Principal	cyfernan@ksbe.edu	(808) 572-3161

#### **SaferMe Contact Tracing Wearables**

#### When did parents give consent to SaferMe contact tracing cards?

Each year, parents/guardians authorize KS to render "Healthcare and related services to the Student, including, without limitation, the disclosure of information, administration of medication, and referral or consultation." Due to the unprecedented impacts of COVID-19, data and information shared and utilized within this program is considered part of healthcare and related services.

### The SaferMe website states that it uses GPS. Why does KS claim that it doesn't?

SaferMe offers two options — the use of its mobile app and/or the use of SaferMe contact tracing cards. Kamehameha Schools has opted for the wearable cards, rather than contact tracing via mobile app. The wearable cards are NOT equipped with GPS tracking capabilities.

#### Why do keiki who are vaccinated need to use the card?

Whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, all haumāna, kumu and staff are affected by contact tracing methods, even if they won't necessarily be placed on quarantine if found to be a close contact. Vaccinated close contacts are still asked to monitor any potential symptoms and quarantine if symptoms develop. They are also asked, according to CDC guidelines, to be tested for COVID-19 within 5-7 days after contact. Therefore everyone — vaccinated or not — needs to participate in wearing the SaferMe card.

#### What if we decline to use the contact tracing card?

For contact tracing to be as effective as it can be, this new technology will require a shared commitment from our entire learning community. We ask for your adherence to our layered protocols to help keep our haumāna and hoa kumu on-campus safe.

#### Is KS a "test market" for these devices?

No. SaferMe has more than 1,000 client organizations around the world. A large proportion of its users are based in the United States, with

organizations like Toyota, the International Monetary Fund, the Inter-American Development Bank, and JLL. Likewise, schools such as Phillips Exeter Academy, Groton School, Westover School and Greater Lawrence School are also named clients. These companies have done extensive testing of SaferMe before choosing this solution.

What happens if my child loses his/her card? Is there a fee to replace? Please contact your Assistant Principal (contact info above) for instructions if a card is lost or stolen. There will be a fee to replace the SaferMe card, similar to the way we facilitate our laptops/iPads, chargers, and technology accessories.

Do SaferMe cards need to be charged like a laptop or cell phone? The card battery has a 6-month life span. If a card battery is low a flashing red light will start to appear on the card. The light generally starts flashing a month before the battery drains. Contact your campus SaferMe Administrator for instructions to request a card replacement.

Do athletes need to wear the card during games or practices? No, athletes will not need to wear the card during games or practice. Manual contact tracing will continue for athletes participating in sports.

### Why do the cards need to be brought home? Can't they be left at school?

Just as haumāna take personal responsibility for laptops, iPads, school ID card, etc., they are asked to do likewise with the SaferMe cards. Haumāna who ride the bus should wear their cards until they reach home — this ensures any potential close contacts during the bus ride can be identified during the contact tracing process.

#### **MIL & Athletics**

Why are only vaccinated individuals allowed to attend MIL events? The MIL guidelines were developed in consultation with athletics directors from the various public and private schools on Maui. Because numerous schools are involved, MIL has adopted a cautious approach to vaccination. As an MIL participating school, we are obliged to follow the guidelines and policies established by our athletics league. The MIL continues to discuss further adjustments to their spectator policy. We will be working closely with them to ensure that KSM 'ohana are given an opportunity to see their keiki compete on the field, court and track.

Why can't spectators show proof of a negative COVID test? The MIL has not approved this option in its guidelines. KS Maui is obliged to follow the rules of our athletics league.

#### **Learning Continuity & OWLs**

#### How will the OWL cameras be used?

Each classroom is equipped with a video conferencing device called the Meeting Owl Pro, which will allow haumāna who are on quarantine to view their classroom and watch lessons occurring in real time, via Zoom or Microsoft Teams. Your divisions and kumu will communicate with you directly about how to access lessons, if/when your child is on quarantine. The Meeting Owl Pro is not a distance learning option and cannot be accessed for reasons such as a family vacation.

#### Are classes recorded?

No. OWLs provide haumāna with synchronous, real-time access to their classes, meaning they need to be logged in at the time class is happening.

#### Do students need to log in when they are sick?

Haumāna are not required to access their classes via the OWLs during excused absences, such as an illness.



Kamehameha Schools - Maui Campus Pukalani would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Kamehameha Schools - Maui Campus Pukalani directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: <a href="Unsubscribe">Unsubscribe</a>

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