



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

VIRGINIA PRESSLER, MD  
DIRECTOR

### NEWS RELEASE

Jan. 22, 2016

16-005

### 84 Hawaii Public Schools Awarded for Wellness

HONOLULU – The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) is announcing a record number of Hawaii public schools that will be receiving “Excellence in Wellness” awards this spring. Since 2013, public schools have received the award based on their outstanding implementation of the Department of Education’s Wellness Guidelines. The Guidelines are a set of standards for foods and beverages provided to students that include goals for school-based wellness committees, health and physical education, and other practices that support student health.

According to the annual Safety and Wellness Survey (SAWS), a total of 84 Hawaii public elementary, middle, and high schools met over 90 percent of the Wellness Guidelines during the 2014-2015 school year, up from 45 schools in 2013-2014.

“Excellence in Wellness” banners will be presented to school principals during annual fitness meets and at recognition events statewide. The awards are co-sponsored by the Hawaii Department of Health and Action for Healthy Kids.

“The increase in support for wellness in our schools is notable and we hope that this momentum will continue” said Director of Health Virginia Pressler, M.D. “This data demonstrates the successful partnership we have with the DOE to strengthen implementation and monitor the Wellness Guidelines as we move forward.”

The Hawaii Departments of Education and Health jointly administer the SAWS annually to track implementation of the Guidelines. Results indicate a consistently high level of achievement with survey respondents meeting an average of 82 percent of the [DOE Wellness Guidelines](#) in 2014-2015.

Highlights from the 2014-2015 SAWS include:

- All school meals (100 percent) continue to meet or exceed federal nutrient standards;

- Health and Physical Education classes align with the Hawaii Content and Performance Standards III at 94 percent and 97 percent of schools, respectively; and
- Students have at least 20 minutes a day of supervised recess, during which they are encouraged to be physically active at 84 percent of schools.

“Healthy habits not only result in a student’s physical wellness but also contribute to a successful pathway in college and career readiness,” said Superintendent Kathryn Matayoshi. “Implementing wellness practices is an important element to ensuring that students are prepared for life after high school. Congratulations to all the schools that have made this a priority.”

The Wellness Guidelines, SAWS, and public reporting of SAWS data fulfills requirements of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act (2004) and the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (2010).

The Safety and Wellness Survey Data Report for School Year 2014-15 is available at: <http://bit.ly/1QeM3HY>.

More information about the Wellness Guidelines, visit: <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/TeachingAndLearning/HealthAndNutrition/WellnessGuidelines/Pages/home.aspx>

Schools Achieving Excellence in Wellness in School Year 2014-2015 (SAWS score of 90 percent or higher):

Ahuimanu Elementary	Kamalii Elementary	Nanakuli Elementary
Aiea High	Kaneohe Elementary	Nanakuli High & Intermediate
Aiea Intermediate	Kanoelani Elementary	Noelani Elementary
Aina Haina Elementary	Kapolei Elementary	Olomana
Ala Wai Elementary	Kapunahala Elementary	Paauiolo Elementary & Intermediate
Aliiolani Elementary	Keaau High	Pahoa High & Intermediate
August Ahrens Elementary	King Intermediate	Palisades Elementary
Castle High	Kipapa Elementary	Pearl City Elementary
de Silva Elementary	Kohala High	Pearl Harbor Elementary
Hahaione Elementary	Koloa Elementary	Pope Elementary
Hana High and Elementary	Kuhio Elementary	Pu'u Kukui Elementary
Hauula Elementary	Laie Elementary	Red Hill Elementary
Hawaii Center for the Deaf and the Blind	Lehua Elementary	Salt Lake Elementary
Heeia Elementary	Liholiho Elementary	Scott Elementary
Helemano Elementary	Lokelani Intermediate	Solomon Elementary
Highlands Intermediate	Lunalilo Elementary	Sunset Beach Elementary
Hilo Intermediate	Maemae Elementary	Waialua Elementary
Honaunau Elementary	Makaha Elementary	Waianae Elementary
Iliahi Elementary	Makakilo Elementary	Waimea Canyon Middle
Kaaawa Elementary	Maunawili Elementary	Waipahu Intermediate
Kaahumanu Elementary	Millani Ike Elementary	Webbing Elementary

Kaala Elementary	Mililani Mauka Elementary	William McKinley High
Kahala Elementary	Mililani Uka Elementary	Wilson Elementary
Kahuku Elementary	Moanalua Middle	Waianae High
Kailua Elementary	Mokapu Elementary	Waikele Elementary
Kailua Intermediate	Molokai High	Waikiki Elementary
Kaimiloa Elementary	Momilani Elementary	Waikoloa School
Kalihi-uka Elementary	Nanaikapono Elementary	Waimanalo Elementary & Intermediate

# # #