July 29, 2020

TO: All Department of Education Employees

FROM: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto
Superintendent

SUBJECT: Update on 14 Day Travel Quarantine

On June 18, 2020, the Hawaii State Board of Education (BOE) adopted a resolution directing the Department of Education (DOE) to prepare for the reopening of public schools for the 2020-2021 school year amid the COVID-19 global pandemic. One of the four main priorities in the resolution was the health and safety of our students and staff.

In alignment with the BOE’s resolution, the DOE has set forth the following health and safety requirements for employees that have traveled in the past 14-days to return to work safely.

This memorandum further clarifies the June 24, 2020 memo entitled, “Updated Travel Policy Relating to COVID-19.”

The State of Hawaii allows critical infrastructure sector workers to apply for a modification to the existing 14-day quarantine by emailing covidexemption@hawaii.gov. Once the employee’s request for a modification from the 14-day quarantine is received by covidexemption@hawaii.gov, the request will be reviewed and a decision rendered. If granted, the employee will receive an email and shall be allowed to break the self-quarantine to perform the job-related activities as identified in this memorandum, but will need to remain self-quarantined at all other times.

All activities described below shall be on an appointment-only basis with the DOE district office or school:

New Employees:

By appointment only, drop off/pick up of pre-employment forms and/or pick up of equipment (i.e., laptop) at school or office site. Employee would remain in his or her vehicle and would not enter the school or office site.
Existing Employees:

By appointment only, drop off/pick up of employment forms and/or pick up of equipment (i.e., laptop) at school or office site. Employee would remain in his or her vehicle and would not enter the school or office site.

The employee is not authorized to break quarantine or enter any DOE facility during the 14-day self-quarantine period for any other reason.

For questions regarding the exemption process, please contact James Lynch-Urbaniak at james.lynch-urbaniak@k12.hi.us.

CMK:gn