



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PRINCE JONAH KUHIO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2759 SOUTH KING ST. HONOLULU, HI 96826

December 7, 2021

Dear Kuhio Community,

Kuhio Elementary School is reaching out to ask for your help. As you know we have had an ongoing issue with feral chickens in the community. Kuhio School has been battling this issue for many years now with varying degrees of success.

Over the years we have tried many times to trap and relocate the chickens from our campus. In the past we worked with Kilauea Pest Control. When we would try to trap and relocate the chickens, community members would come on campus and interfere with the traps; they would set them off so that no chickens would be trapped, if chickens were in the traps, they would let them out, traps were stolen, etc.

Kilauea Pest Control is no longer trapping feral chickens; there are now so many that it is difficult to find places to relocate the birds. We are currently working with EcoShield to try to gain control of the population here on our campus.

We are asking the community's help in controlling this problem. We are asking that you **DO NOT FEED** the chickens - this inflates the population and creates even more of a problem for both the school and the surrounding community as the chickens look for additional places to feed and nest. We also ask that you **DO NOT INTERFERE** with the traps. We are doing our best to control the problem, but we cannot do it alone.

We know the chickens are causing a lot of noise and other problems. We have the same issues here on our campus. Additionally, we have health and safety concerns for our students. Chickens have been digging holes in many places throughout the school, which creates the potential for injuries to our students. Roosters crow from the early morning hours and throughout the day, causing noise disturbance and making it more difficult for our students to concentrate and learn.

The reality of this situation is that we are not going to be able to completely remove the chickens. Even if we were able to trap all of the chickens on Kuhio School property, there are additional populations in the community that will simply spread back to Kuhio's grounds and continue the issue. The best we can do is to manage the population and minimize the impact on our community.

We thank you for your understanding and support as we continue to try to manage this issue.

Sincerely,

Lynn M. Kobayashi
Principal
Prince Jonah Kuhio Elementary School