

September 3rd, 2009

Dear Science Educator,

Thank you for your interest in attending our 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial SOEST Open House, held on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday October 17<sup>th</sup> 2009!



Below is some more information to enhance your participation in our event.

**Drop off / Pick-Up Information** – The attached map shows the best route for buses to the Open House via Maile Way. Students should be dropped off and picked up near Kennedy Theater on East West Road. School bus parking is not available near SOEST. When your bus arrives at Kennedy Theater, please do not disembark until an Open House Bus Greeter or Monitor informs you to do so. We will greet you at your bus and direct you where to go.

Information about visitor parking can be found on this page, <http://www.hawaii.edu/parking/visitorparking.html>  
We are working with the parking office to accommodate those smaller schools and homeschool groups who will be driving cars. That information will come in a later email.

There is also an on-Campus shuttle that operates between the Manoa Faculty Housing Complex and Varney Circle every twenty minutes on weekdays, so you may be able to find parking in Manoa and take the shuttle to campus. Information about the shuttle can be found on the UH Parking Services web site, <http://www.hawaii.edu/parking/dayshuttle.html>.

**Preliminary Open House program** – The draft program will be available on the Open House web site, and emailed to you by the end of September. When your group arrives, you will be given the final program. Updated information can be found at the Open House web site:

<http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/openhouse/>

**Educator Resource Room** – In the past we have given out teacher packets, this year we will instead have a Educator Resource Room, with various handouts and giveaways. Please make a note to stop by and see what we have to offer!

**Poster Contest** – Participating school groups and homeschool groups have the opportunity to enter our Open House poster contest and win Maui Jim prize packages and a pizza party. See the attached poster contest sheet for more information.

**Lunches** – a temporary (unrefrigerated) site will be made available to school groups bringing group lunches, but we request that students NOT wear or bring individual backpacks.

SOEST will play host to over 3500 students this year, and we appreciate very much your understanding that some events will be crowded or involve slight delays. Unfortunately, we do not have the personnel to guide each school group individually, but we can offer some guidance in advance about routes to take, should you request it. We are looking forward to another successful SOEST Open House and thank you again for your interest in our program.

For more information, please contact Tara Hicks Johnson (956-3151; email: [hickst@hawaii.edu](mailto:hickst@hawaii.edu)).  
See you soon!

Sincerely,

Tara Hicks Johnson, Patricia Cooper & Leona Anthony

SOEST Open House Planning Committee