



Joseph J. Fern Elementary School

School Code: 107

Grades K-5

School Status and Improvement Report School Year 2019-20



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School Address:

Joseph J. Fern Elementary School
1121 Middle Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

Focus On Standards

This School Status and Improvement Report has been prepared as part of the Department's education accountability system to provide regular, understandable accounts of our schools' performance and progress, as required by §302A-1004, Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

This report describes the school and its setting; provides information about the school's administrators, teachers, students and facilities; summarizes progress made based on the school's improvement plan; and reports student achievement results along with other vital signs.

School Description

Fern Elementary School (Fern ES) serves students in grades K-5 who reside in the Kalihi area. The majority of our students come from public housing including the Towers at Kuhio Park and Kahauiki Homes. Fern ES currently has a student enrollment of 445 and receives Title I and Title III federal funding to support our large enrollment of disadvantaged students and English Language Learners (ELL).

Our staff is committed and passionate about building strong, positive relationships with and between our students, and igniting a love for learning and stewardship within each student. Our school is a welcoming, community gathering place where all cultures are celebrated.

Our highly skilled and caring teachers are focused on increasing the proficiency and growth rates in both reading and math as well as closing the achievement gap between students identified with Non-High Needs and High Needs (ELL/SpEd students). To help address these needs, Fern ES continues to implement the Wonders Reading and Stepping Stones Math Programs. All of our teachers use Guided Language Acquisition Design (GLAD) strategies to address the needs of our ELL as well as all students.

In 2015, Fern ES completed the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation process and was granted a Six-Year Accreditation Status with a Mid-cycle Two-day Visit.

Fern ES continues to strive to provide the necessary supports and/or programs to meet the needs of all our students. We have redesigned our Special Education and ELL inclusion and resource classes to better serve the needs of our students. All students are offered services and/or programs to support their academic, physical, and social/emotional needs (small group instruction, tutoring, extended ELL support sessions, summer learning camp, counseling groups, Fern running club, basketball, volleyball, cheerleading, 'ukulele, and art).

Community and family involvement activities are also an important part of student learning at Fern ES. Families are invited to participate in parent workshops, coffee hours, open house, parent-teacher conferences, and reading nights. From the community, Kalihi Union Church has been a longtime active supporter of our school. The U.S. Army School Partnership Program at Fort Shafter has provided opportunities for soldiers to interact with our students during a monthly Read Aloud as well as to assist with our Jump Rope for Heart/Drug Awareness Field Day. Finally, we have just established a strong community partnership with the Bishop Museum which will give our students access to the rich knowledge resources housed there.

School Setting

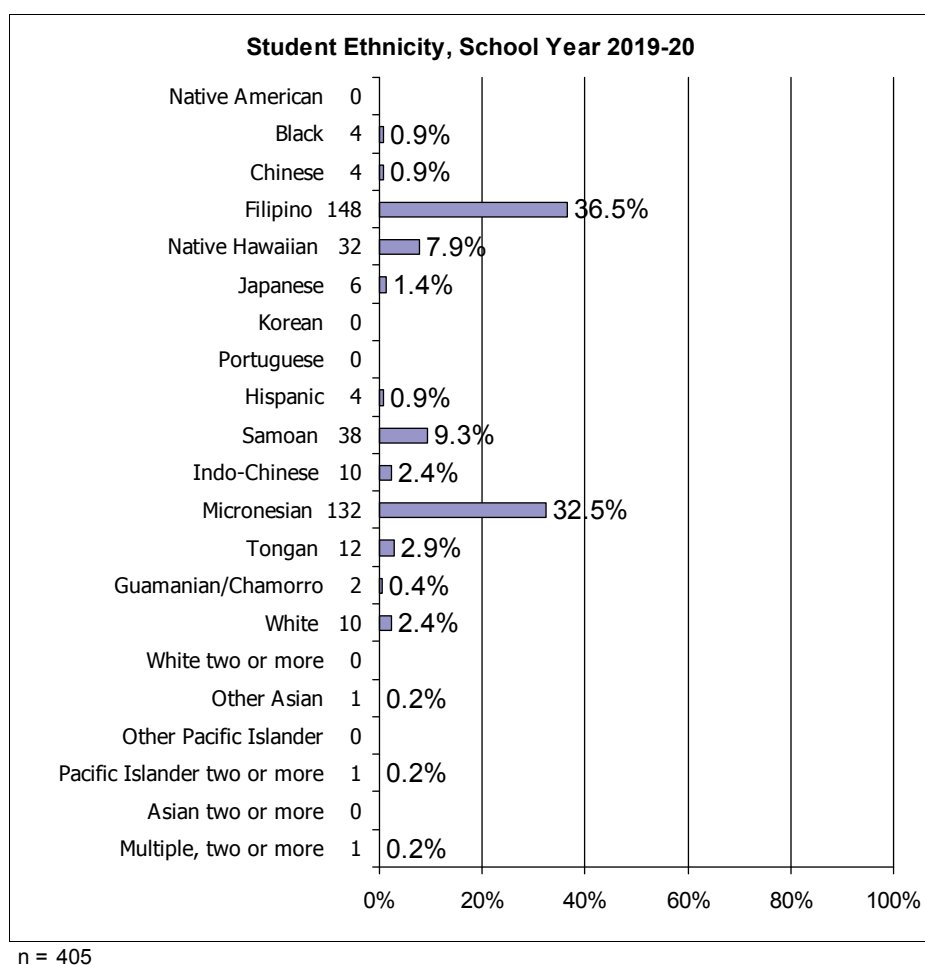
Student Profile

School year	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Fall enrollment	434	443	405	Number and percent of students in Special Education programs	33 7.6%	33 7.4%	29 7.1%
Number and percent of students enrolled for the entire school year	400 92.1%	395 89.1%	371 91.6%	Number and percent of students with limited English proficiency	190 43.7%	198 44.6%	195 48.1%
Number and percent of students receiving free or reduced-cost lunch	**	**	**				
	**	**	**				

Note. -- means missing data.

* means data not reported to maintain student confidentiality (see FERPA).

** means School is participating in the Community Eligibility Provision.



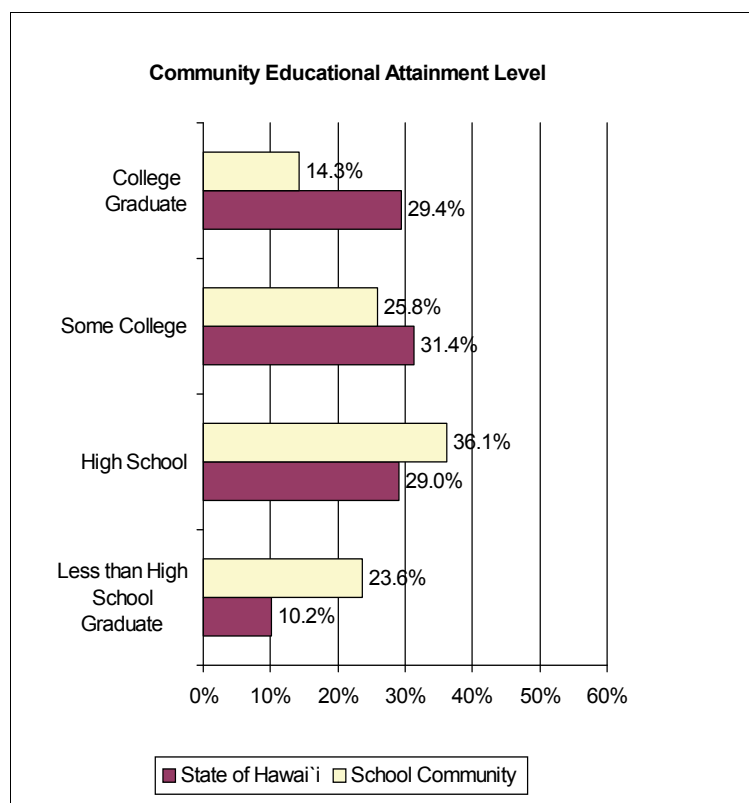
School Setting

Community Profile

The *Community Profile* information updated in this school report reflects selected 2010 demographics for the High School Complex (HSC) area in which this school resides. Profile data are based on the 2010 U.S. Census, the American Community Survey (ACS) 2006-2010 five-year estimates (centric to 2008), and the incorporation of Hawaii's HSC boundary areas with updated 2010 Census geography. Figures for educational attainment and median household income are sample estimates obtained from the ACS, adapted to conform to HSC geography, and should be considered rough approximations of census counts.

Based on the 2010 U.S. Census

Farrington HSC	School Community	State of Hawai'i
Total population	49,872	1,360,301
Percentage of population aged 5-19	21.6%	18.4%
Median age of population	37.0	38.6
Number of family households	9,193	313,907
Median household income	\$64,206	\$66,420



School Improvement

Summary of Progress

Mayor Joseph J. Fern Elementary School (Fern ES) is making great progress in ensuring that our students are college and career ready.

Due to the excellent teaching staff, Fern ES is seeing significant improvement in its standardized Reading and Math scores. Fern ES continues to implement the standards-based Wonders Reading and the Stepping Stones Math programs. Our teachers have been trained in the Guided Language Acquisition Design (GLAD), Reading Mastery and Orton-Gillingham (O-G) strategies to ensure equitable access and to the curriculum. All classes utilize small group instruction to differentiate for individual learning needs, and each student is assigned a laptop to further empower their learning process. The online iReady Program is used school-wide for progress monitoring in Reading and Math.

Grade level Data Learning Teams (DLT) meet regularly to review and analyze student progress data to improve instruction and student learning in all classrooms. While grade-level teachers attend DLT, students participate in Hawaiian Studies, physical education, technology and social/emotional learning classes. We also have a strong fine arts program that includes options for chorus, orchestra, dance, and drawing/painting clubs.

Fern ES strives to provide the necessary supports and/or programs to meet the needs of all our students. We have redesigned our Special Education (SpEd), ELL and transition programs to better serve the needs of our students. All students are offered services and/or programs to support their academic (Before and After School Tutoring, Extended Intersession Learning), social/ emotional (PSAP, counseling groups, guidance classes), and physical needs (Fern Running Club, Fern Basketball, Soccer, Volleyball programs).

Community and family involvement activities are also an important part of student learning at Fern ES. Families are invited to participate in parent workshops, coffee hours, open house, parent-teacher conferences, and various school programs, including reading nights. We have community partnerships with the U.S. Army, Kalihi Union Church, West Honolulu Rotary Club, Kokua Kalihi Valley, and the Boys and Girl Scouts.

School Resources

Certified Staff

Teaching Staff

Total Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) ¹		33.0
Regular Instruction, FTE	84.8%	28.0
Special Instruction, FTE	15.1%	5.0
Supplemental Instruction, FTE	0.0%	0.0

Teacher headcount		33
Teachers with 5 or more years at this school		25
Teachers' average years of experience		13.0
Teachers with advanced degrees		16

Professional Teacher Credentials

¹

Fully licensed	100.0%	33
Emergency hires	0.0%	0

¹ Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.
Professional Teacher Credentials are based on teacher headcount number.

Students per Teaching Staff

²

Regular Instruction	13.4
Special Instruction	5.8

² These figures do not indicate class size.

Administrative and Student Services Staff

Administration, FTE	3.0
Librarians, FTE	0.0
Counselors, FTE	1.5
Number of principals at this school in the last five years	2

³ Administration includes Principals, Vice-Principals, Student Activity Coordinators, Student Services Coordinators, Registrars, and Athletic Directors

Results in the Certified Staff section reflect data at the time the Employee Data reports were generated.

Facilities

School Year Ending 2020

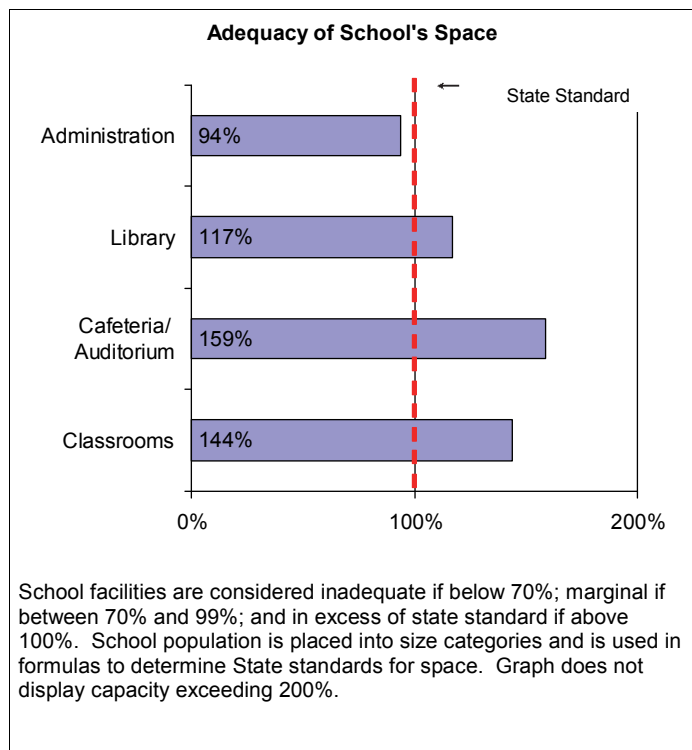
Classrooms available	31
Number of classrooms short (-) or over (+)	-6

School facilities inspection results

From the 2011 school year, school facilities inspection data are no longer available at the state level. Department schools are still required to do an annual assessment of its facilities in the following areas: Grounds, Building exterior, Building interior, Equipment/Furnishings, Health/Safety and Sanitation. All department schools should have their annual inspections completed by the second quarter of the school year.

Historically, the majority of the department schools attained inspection assessment points in the following ranges: 9-15, earning a "Satisfactory" rating, and 16-18 points, earning the highest "Very Good" rating.

Note: -- means missing data.



Vital Signs

School Quality Survey

The School Quality Survey (SQS), administered by the Accountability Section, is used for strategic planning and to comply with state accountability requirements.

Percent of Positive Responses

School Quality Survey *		Teachers		Parents		Students	
		School	State	School	State	School	State
Safety	2019	58.0%	77.9%	87.1%	86.0%	70.6%	71.4%
	2020	62.7%	76.7%	89.0%	86.3%	67.5%	68.2%
Well-Being	2019	65.2%	76.5%	89.3%	90.7%	--	--
	2020	61.2%	75.7%	91.0%	91.0%	--	--
Satisfaction	2019	68.0%	74.8%	93.6%	86.6%	--	--
	2020	68.6%	72.9%	92.1%	87.5%	--	--
Involvement/Engagement	2019	65.8%	74.6%	82.8%	74.9%	--	--
	2020	62.0%	73.2%	83.4%	75.5%	--	--

Survey Return Rate **		Teachers		Parents		Students	
		School	State	School	State	School	State
	2019	82.7%	79.9%	69.8%	34.9%	84.8%	86.0%
	2020	100.0%	84.5%	71.6%	37.7%	92.9%	85.2%

* The SQS is completed by students and parents of students in grades 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 11 and by all teachers of the school. State Teacher and Parent positive response figures are one of four grade spans (Gr. K to 5/6, Gr. 6/7 to 8, Gr. 9 to 12, and Multi-level) that best correspond to this school's grade span. The Student positive response figures for the State and this school are those of the highest grade level surveyed at this school.

** State Return Rate for Teachers, Parents, and Students are for one of six grade spans (Elementary, Elementary/Middle, Elementary/Middle/High, Middle, Middle/High, High) that corresponds to this school.

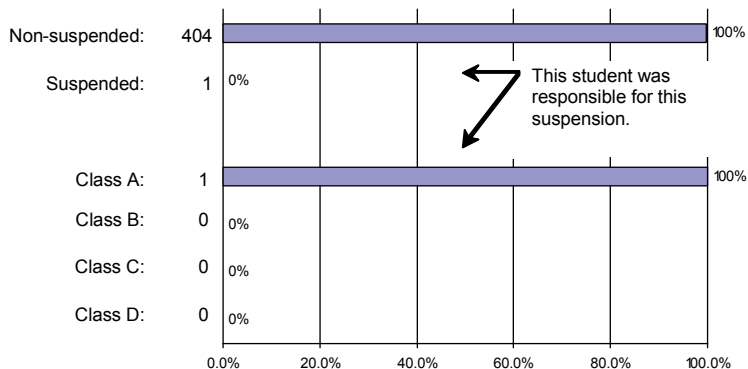
Vital Signs

Student Conduct

Attendance and Absences

School Year			State Standard
2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
Average Daily Attendance: % (higher is better)			
94.7%	94.1%	94.7%	95.0%
Average Daily Absences: in days (lower is better)			
9.5	10.3	7.0	9

Suspensions, School Year 2019-2020



Examples of class of suspension:

- Class A: Burglary, robbery, sale of dangerous drugs
- Class B: Disorderly conduct, trespassing
- Class C: Class cutting, insubordination, smoking
- Class D: Contraband (e.g. possession of tobacco)

School Retention

Retention for elementary schools include students who were retained (kept back a grade) in all grades except kindergarten. Retention for middle/intermediate/K-8 schools include only eighth graders who were not promoted to ninth grade.

Retention

	2018	2019	2020
Total number of students	392	391	366
Percent retained in grade	1%	0%	1%

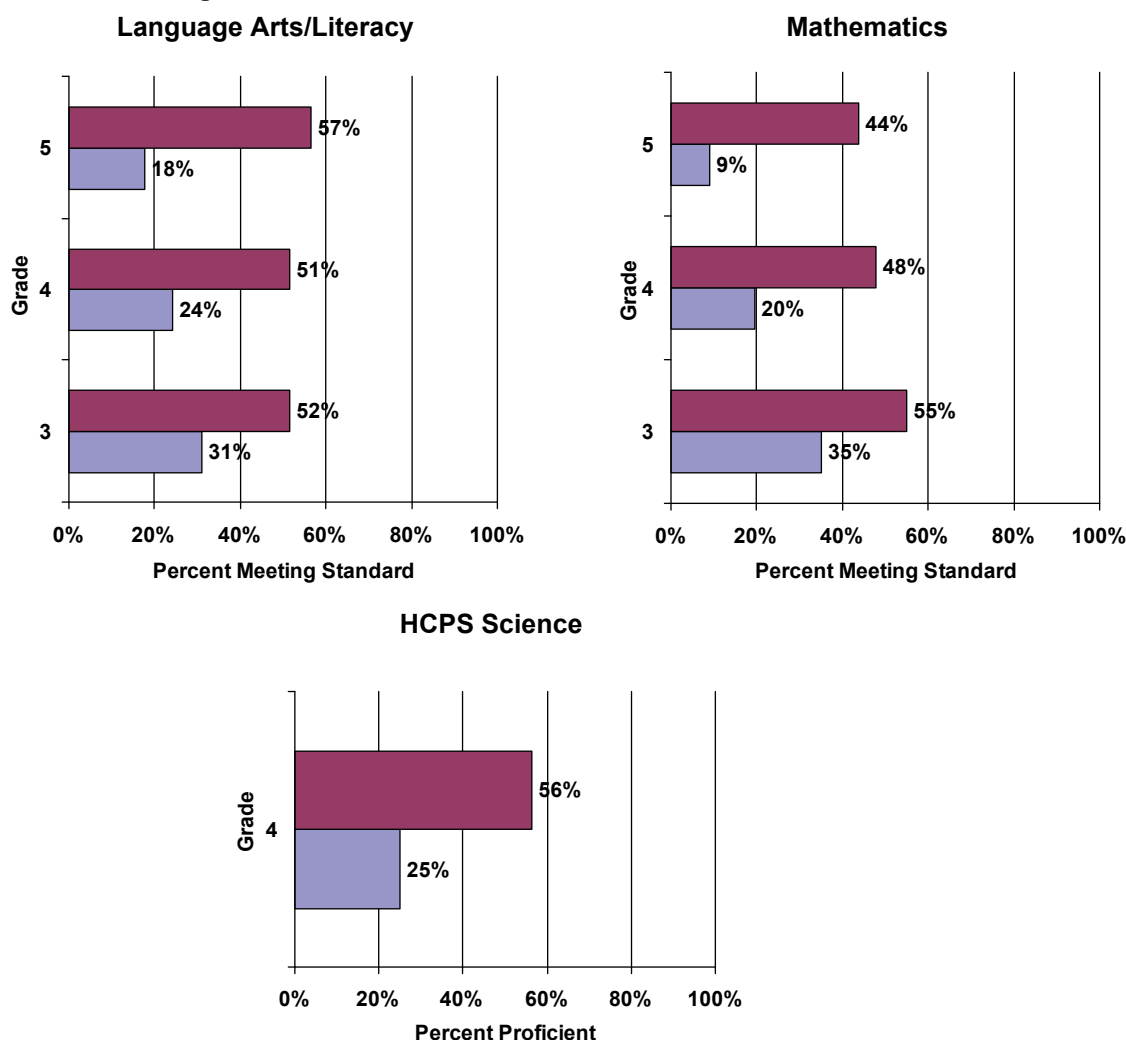
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Vital Signs

Hawaii Statewide Assessment Program

NOTE: The visuals below display assessment results for School Year (SY) 2018-19. There are no results for SY 2019-20 due to COVID-19 and the U.S. Department of Education's waiver from testing.



The HCPS Science assessment is given in grades 4 and 8. High School (HS) HCPS Science assessment results are from an end-of-course exam given to high school students enrolled in Biology I.



A school's bar may not be shown to maintain student confidentiality (see FERPA).

Other School Information

Joseph J. Fern Elementary School is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges for a period of six years. This school's accreditation term expires in 2021.

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Hawaii State Department of Education.