

# YOUTH XCHANGE STUDENT VIDEO COMPETITION 2020 SPONSORED CATEGORY

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## ***Maka'ala Kākou: Safeguarding Our Schools***

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Our schools must be safe and welcoming spaces where students can focus, learn and succeed, free of distractions caused by safety and security-related concerns.

**Maka'ala Kākou: Safeguarding Our Schools** is a new community effort to improve safety and security at our 256 public school campuses statewide. The Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE) is reaching out to students, parents, neighborhoods, community groups and law enforcement for their support to "adopt a school" to help improve security and upkeep. Participants are asked to be vigilant around schools and to report trespassing, loitering, security issues, safety concerns or other suspicious or illegal activity to school staff or police.

Maka'ala Kākou means "we are all vigilant" and this phrase embodies the need for community support in keeping our schools safe, especially outside normal school hours. School campuses are a source of neighbor pride and serve our students, families and communities in so many great ways. HIDOE encourages all community members to safeguard our schools and help to improve student safety.

### **How would you promote Maka'ala Kākou: Safeguarding Our Schools?**

Create an original 30-second Public Service Announcement (PSA) to encourage students, parents and community members to "adopt a school," always be vigilant and to report campus safety and security concerns to school staff or illegal activity to police. Open to all elementary, intermediate and high school students.

### **Resources**

More info about the importance of school safety can be found at [bit.ly/HawaiiSchoolSafety](https://bit.ly/HawaiiSchoolSafety).

This category is sponsored by:



For questions, contact: Edgar Ambrosio at [edgar.ambrosio@k12.hi.us](mailto:edgar.ambrosio@k12.hi.us) or 808-307-3926.