

# 2022 HawaiiKidsCAN Action Fund Candidate Survey

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6
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## 1. What does Hawaii do well with regards to K-12 public education?

The state level funding for education creates an even-handed model that doesn't put certain areas with high property rates and thus taxes over others like on the Mainland.

## 2. What should Hawaii do better with regards to K-12 public education?

We should work with Counties on bifurcating educational infrastructure support with them so we can use property taxes on speculation investment properties, especially those that sit empty most to help pay for public schools.

## 3. How should Hawaii prioritize our spending on K-12 public education (for example: teacher salaries, programs to address learning loss, technology, community partnerships and projects, computer science education, charter schools, distance learning options, etc.)?

Teacher salaries, programs to address learning loss, technology and computer science education, along with charter school support all need to be prioritized as well prioritizing repair and modernization of our campuses with our capital improvement projects.

## 4. Hawaii should require all students complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid before graduating from high school, or complete a waiver.

Yes

### 4.a Comment

I would support a bill to make the FAFSA application mandatory as a qualification for graduation unless an opt-out is sought because the student won't be pursuing that path..

## 5. The Hawaii State Constitution provides for the "establishment, support and control of a statewide system of public schools," but does not guarantee quality education. Should the State Constitution be amended to provide quality education as a fundamental right? Should Hawaii students have a constitutional right to a quality education? Please explain your answer.

The right to have a quality education is inherent in the value system of the Legislature for we are accountable to demonstrate to the community that through funding and bills we demonstrably working towards that goal.

## 6. What will you do to improve the relationship between the Hawaii State Board of Education and legislature?

We need to return the BOE back to an elected board. It is by having members who ran for the position and working with the public that we can have more synergy because both sides are accountable to the public good and have to work with the communities that elected them.

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**7. What leadership actions will you take for the Hawaii Department of Education, University of Hawaii system, and employers to work more effectively together?**

I will help to convene open meetings with all of them on bills and funding as they make their way through the legislative process as a way to foster communication, understanding each others points of view and work on the common good for all parties together.

**8. College going remains flat, with roughly 50% of recent Hawaii public high school graduates going on to college (2 or 4 year). How do you propose to raise these levels so Hawaii is more competitive with states like California, which has a nearly 65% rate?**

We need to expand more college level courses with credits from the various Community Colleges in our High School with palthways that extend deeper into the schools so kids can begin to not only receive credits but also become invested into going to college because they are advancing along the pathways towards a degree while still in high school.



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