

# 2022 HawaiiKidsCAN Action Fund Candidate Survey

<b>Name</b>
Gary Gill
<b>Office you are seeking:</b>
House
<b>District Number</b>
27
<b>Candidate Contact Information</b>
2465 Booth Rd, Honolulu, HI, 96813
<b>Candidate Phone/Mobile</b>
8083668950
<b>Candidate Email</b>
garylgill@gmail.com
<b>Campaign Contact Information</b>
Friends of Gary Gill, PO Box 23338, Honolulu, Hi, 96823
<b>Campaign Email</b>
friendsofgarygill@gmail.com
<b>Campaign Web Site</b>
FriendsofGaryGill.com
<b>1. What does Hawaii do well with regards to K-12 public education?</b>
Free, accessible, quality education for all. Winning, innovative programs.
<b>2. What should Hawaii do better with regards to K-12 public education?</b>
Teacher support, training and retention. Upgrade old facilities. More civics education. More place-based, interactive learning, broad availability of classes in arts, science, technology and industry.

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**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.)?**

Public Education is already one of the largest budget items for the State. There is a danger of well-meaning legislators micro-managing expenditures and priorities when the BOE and DOE have the experience and authority to set such goals. I would work with - not in spite of - these agencies.

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

Unsure

**4.a Comment**

I would like to learn more about this issue before I take a position.

**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.**

I doubt a constitutional "guarantee" would change anything - except for prompting more law suits. And in the English language "quality" is a neutral term. It could mean "high quality" or "low quality." So the exact language of such an amendment is important.

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

I support greater communication between the two bodies prior to the legislative session beginning. Building understanding on complex issues is very difficult when session is in full swing.

**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 would urge legislative leadership, the Governor, DOE, BOE, and UH to come together more often to build a common vision of a seamless education system for Hawaii.

**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?**

There are a number of projects in place to promote and encourage high school students to move on to college. Do more of that. Also understand that not all kids need to go to college but can become life long learners in the trades.