

# 2022 HawaiiKidsCAN Action Fund Candidate Survey

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House
<b>District Number</b>
11
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kellyking.org (under construction)
<b>1. What does Hawaii do well with regards to K-12 public education?</b>
State funding makes Hawaii schools more equal than states that use property tax revenue; hands-on learning (before pandemic) seems to be increasing and is more effective in engaging students

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

Better development and integration of curriculum horizontally and vertically (among grade levels and between different grade levels); better protection of kids from bullying; higher pay for teachers and/or housing; cover school supply costs for teachers

## 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 pay, equalize funding for public charter schools, distance learning (becoming more important), school supplies, programs to partner with communities to keep kids safe (bullying, child abuse, etc.)

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

Yes

## 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.

Yes, of course! But we also need to define what that means and name parents as partners in their kids' education.

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

I will collaborate with the BOE and the Governor. When I was elected to the Hawaii State BOE as Maui's representative back in the 90's, I was one of the BOE's legislative liaisons and was able to build relationships with many legislators. Since I've been on the County Council, I've been focusing more on county issues, but if elected to the House, I look forward to getting more involved in public school issues!

## 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 collaborate with all, as I did back when I served on the BOE, and help shape progressive legislation to improve our schools. When I served on the BOE (1994-98), I pushed to create engagement between the BOE and the Board of Regents. We were having regular meetings, but I think that ended after I stepped down from the Board.

## 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?

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Public awareness and outreach is key. I would support more funding for college counseling assistance and outreach to parents. Also, we need a marketing plan to highlight the benefits of higher education and include successful college graduates in all fields as examples of why students should aspire to attend college.



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