

2022 HawaiiKidsCAN Action Fund Candidate Survey

Name
Maurice T Morita
Office you are seeking:
House
District Number
36
Candidate Contact Information
94-371 Kahuapaa Place, Waipahu, Hawaii, 96797
Candidate Phone/Mobile
808-225-0326
Candidate Email
mauricetmorita@gmail.com
Campaign Contact Information
94-371 Kahuapaa Place, Waipahu, Hawaii, 96797
Campaign Phone/Mobile
808-225-0326
Campaign Email
mauricetmorita@gmail.com
1. What does Hawaii do well with regards to K-12 public education?
<p>Hawaii is the only State with a state-wide education system. On the mainland, public education is by districts with little funding from the State. Hawaii could do better with appropriate funding the school needs from the State's general funding. Hawaii does well by hiring certified teachers in every school to teach our children in their area of training. I am a public school graduate and others I know that are doing well after graduating from Hawaii's public schools. Public schools cannot choose their students to attend their schools like private schools are allowed. Public schools have to accept all students who want to attend public schools.</p>

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

They should diversify their curriculum by offering high school students a choice of entering college prep classes and vocational courses (career & technical classes).

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.)?

The collective bargaining law states the public schools bargaining unit 5 who chose HSTA as their bargaining agent, will bargain for salaries and working conditions. More monies need to go to the school level for teachers needs like supplies, etc. The board of education is the body who sets the DOE's policies including their budget. The DOE needs more money as 3/4 of their budget are for salaries.

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.

Every parent wants their child to have a quality education. Define what quality education means? Qualified & certified teachers, smaller class-size, etc. If the people vote to add it to the constitution than a budget needs to be passed to afford every kid a quality education. The parents and the student will play an important role if a student succeeds in school, public or private school. Just by stating every child will have a quality education, what if a student does not want to attend school. Is it the school's fault, parents faulty, etc. Smaller class size will help our public school teachers to be effective teachers and to give every child a quality education.

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

DOE is transparent in spending their monies appropriated by the Legislature.

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

When I first started to teach in 1968, the DOE, and the UH were autonomous and did not work together. Today, they are working together much better by allowing each department to be responsible by certifying teachers, etc. The DOE and UH used to have their own certification autonomous.

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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Not all students can go to college that's why we need two curriculums a student must choose to enter, college prep or vacation school. We know that all students cannot go to college for various reasons. Not all parents can afford to to send their kids to college.



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