

# 2022 HawaiiKidsCAN Action Fund Candidate Survey

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<b>1. What does Hawaii do well with regards to K-12 public education?</b>

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The Hawaii Public School System has excellent teachers, principals, and staff.

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

Improve teacher recruitment, pay, and retention.

## 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.)?

Increase teacher 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.

I support the state guaranteeing our public school students receive a quality education. However, I'm not sure whether it's necessary to amend our State Constitution.

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

I would support onboarding workshops that involve both new Hawaii State Board of Education members and freshman state legislators. It takes time for new Board members and state legislators to learn their role and contribute positively. An effective onboarding process would help them hit the ground running.

## 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 support the Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education, which teams the Department of Education with the state's Executive Office on Early Learning and the University of Hawaii system to strengthen the educational pipeline from early childhood through higher ed, with the goal to help all students achieve college, career and community readiness. P-20 partners work together to improve Hawai'i's educational outcomes so more residents are “prepared for and thrive in a global economy.”

## 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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I would support increasing the University of Hawaii's budget to grow enrollment of Hawaii resident undergraduates. However, we must make sure that the UH system can handle an expansion of its enrollment and still maintain its standards of excellence.



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