

# 2022 HawaiiKidsCAN Action Fund Candidate Survey

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<https://twitter.com/samforhawaii>

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

Hawaii has created an environment of mixed race, culture, class, religion, and social practices. Hawaii has incorporated and harmonized the world, making localized global leaders.

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

Test driven, rote curriculum does not work. Hawaii should put in strong principals who take bad teachers out and creates a high vibrancy culture. We should reduce class size, and put back the culture and arts, music, and PE. End unfunded mandates. We would reward and multiply best practices. And invest quality education in early childhood development.

## 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.)?

Strong principals to set culutre. End unfunded mandates. Take inventory on special education. Bring back technical trades and skills in schools which include woodshop, agricutlre, music, robotics, modern technology. Develop quality childhood education programs (where it is student focused). Also raise teachers salaries to attract the best, while raising requiremnts for enerting teachign profession.

## 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

All students should be educated and be made consciously aware of free application for Federal Student Aid before graduating from high School. The University or High School should make easily available and clear.

## 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 quality of edcuation depends on its leadership. Education is a fundamental right. Hawaii should be a leader in the global soceity. If we cannot lead our own people how can we lead the Nations. We have millions of visitors a year. If we are not educating our youth, the youth will be educated by the world. Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono. Education is in the land. Environment has been teaching humanity for hundreads of thousands of years. It is only within the past few hundred where humanity has disconnected from these self evident truths.

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

Communicating relevant information and cultivating relationships with schools to create accountability, vulnerability, and trust should happen. As legislature "stays close to its people", clear communication to Hawaii State Board of Education of the needs and heartbeat of each district would be made known. There needs to be strengthened networks and relationships. Touching base with members of BOE is a priority.

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

Hawaii Department of Education is ordained by the Executive. Holding executive branch accountable for decisions is needed. We need bold conversations and moves. University of Hawaii needs to take a look internally and make much institutional structural changes. Such as revenue, de-centralizing its power, dependence on legislature, etc. Our departments and systems are top heavy. Resources should go to the people doing the work. Each entity should look at itself deeply before it can work with others. Having dialog and conversation about what kinds of things need to happen usually takes priority over actually doing them. We need to make legislative provisions and resource distribution that skips the middle man.

## 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?

Decentralized power within University of Hawaii system. Each island should run its own programs. Location specific courses, interests, and programs can be created. Less bureaucracy to go through, so the students can learn directly from the sources. Our university and colleges should take on its environment around it which will attract its people. Increasing our vibrancy and quality of our public schools will create new levels of expectation and curiosity for our students to continue their education journey at home.

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