

2022 HawaiiKidsCAN Action Fund Candidate Survey

Name
Tamara McKay
Office you are seeking:
Senate
District Number
7
Candidate Contact Information
2710 Olinda Rd, Makawao, HI, 96768
Candidate Phone/Mobile
8082800928
Candidate Email
votetamaramckay@gmail.com
Campaign Contact Information
2710 Olinda Road, Makawao, HI, 96768
Campaign Phone/Mobile
8082800928
Campaign Email
votetamaramckay@gmail.com
Campaign Web Site
www.votetamaramckay.com
Campaign Facebook Page
Vote Tamara McKay
Campaign or Candidate Twitter Handle

2022 HawaiiKidsCAN Action Fund Candidate Survey

Tamara McKay Candidate Race

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

In hearing the feedback from parents, they recognize the challenges of the educators and appreciate the commitment to the children to educate them. Socialization is an important aspect to children to embrace their interactive skills as well as build confidence. Providing a safe learning environment is important as well as being available to tend to the learning abilities of the students

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

A better system and structure of the system. There was a covid relief package given, and we need to really put it to work. Improvements on schools, systems, and working closely with parents. Public schools should be just as good as private schools and schools should be immersed in the basic fundamentals of education so that our Keiki can be successful leaders in our communities. The history of Hawaii and of the country should be a focus, as I see that the interest of what we are about is being lost. I would like to be pro active in the progress of improvement to the education system so that Hawaii can be viewed as a desired place for children to be educated and be the top rated in the country.

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.)?

Salaries, increase of educators, structural improvements, better math and science programs, bring back classes that teach our children the basics such as: How to manage a check book, better health choices, gardening, personal care, etc.

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 research the over all impact of this option and how it would affect the economy, but is it a truly effective tool to encourage extended education. Also, we should consider trade schools and military as an option as well.

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. Quality education should be a right and option for those who want to further their education. I believe quality education contributes to a better life, a better life can impact many facites of what is going on in our world. We should provide and embrace those who want to further their education.

2022 HawaiiKidsCAN Action Fund Candidate Survey

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

As in all things that need addressing, we all have to come to the table and set our differences and egos aside. We need to look at other parts of the country and apply successful models. Hawaii does have some demographic differences, but there is no reason why we can't be successful in working together for the betterment of the children which will lead to the betterment of the State and Country. We need to invest in our future and the future begins at home and with our Children.

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 have to give the same answer as I did in question 6. We need to sit down with the mind set of a solution that is in the best interest of all. Too many times, egos and self serving interests have clouded the judgement of what is best for the people. Holding office is to be of service to the people and bring to the table the voices and desires of the citizens. We are not to dictate, but to accommodate.

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?

My husband is a High School Soccer coach. He informs me of what the students share with him and every year there is a common conversation. What is expressed is lack of hope, challenges in the home, no inspiration, peer pressure, or teen age pregnancy. We need to have a class on life coaching, options and solution to make dreams come true. Training of our teachers to inspire and guide. Again, we need to look at successful models then modify and apply to our demographics. You can only be a winner if you learn from a winner.

HAWAIIKIDSCAN
ACTION FUND