## 2022 HawaiiKidsCAN Action Fund Candidate Survey

Name	
Van Tanabe	
Office you are seeking:	
Governor	
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1. What does Hawaii do well with regards to K-12 public education?	
Hawaii's teachers are excellent role model for their students. They inspire, encourage, support, and most of all they help our children to realize that their dreams are possible.	
2. What should Hawaii do better with regards to K-12 public education?	
Hawaii must be able to convince all parents that they are also a vital part of their children's education and future. Their support is unmeasurable to their children's success in school and in life.	
3. How should Hawaii prioritize our spending	on K-12 public education (for example:

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teacher salaries, programs to address learning loss, technology, community partnerships and projects, computer science education, charter schools, distance learning options, etc.)?

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As Governor my plan to improve education in Hawaii is simple. When I say improve education I mean improving our test scores at the national level and increase the percentage of students pursuing higher education after completing high school. My plan is simple, instead of sending home a list of school supplies needed when the children return back to school just have the child bring a check of \$500 to school. When the children get to their classrooms at desk will be all of the necessary materials needed for the school year with their names on each item. Plus there will be a pair of shoes. Five sets of uniforms with their school colors and a backpack. The \$500 check I mentioned earlier is not tuition but a donation to the child's school so the parents will automatically have a tax write-off at the end of the year. Should your child achieve a 3.0 or B average the state will match your write-off with a \$500 rebate. If your child excels and has a 3.8 or better then the state will double the rebate to a \$1000. Whatever money that is remaining after providing the children with their school supplies will put in a special account controlled by the school's principal and the president of the PTA/PTO and parents that have donated to the school can determine what is needed for their children's school. Example, the president of the PTA would take a vote on what is needed at the school? More books, learning materials, funding for the arts, or more computers for the students, you get the idea. I also understand that not all parents will be able to afford \$2 a day, for those parents I would ask if they could donate some time to help at the school. I hear so many parents calling for quality education, let me just remind them that nothing is free! Especially a quality education. If you went through my system from K-12 you would have spent \$6,500. How much would you spend for 1 year of private school? My plan will not only increase the attendance at PTA meetings but I can almost guarantee that parents will pay more attention and take a more active role in their children's education.

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

Yes

#### 4.a Comment

Why not? Not everyone can afford it. If I could make it happen I would like to offer all of Hawaii's graduating seniors a free ride to our University system.

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.

See answer 3

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

Keep the legislatures out, they are law makers not educators.

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

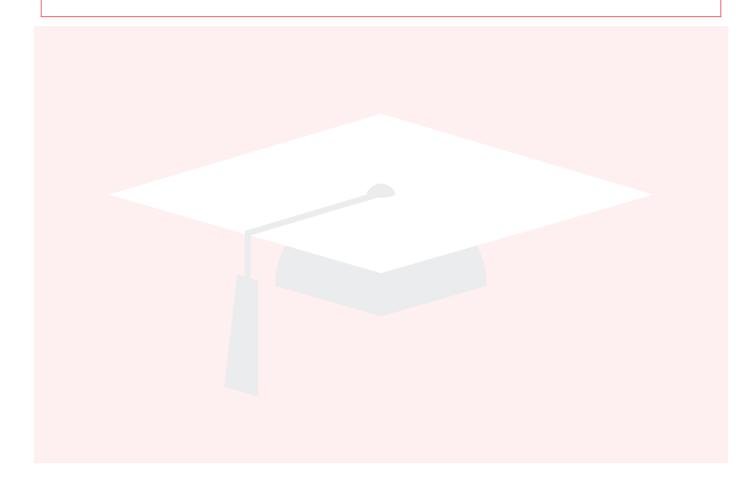
Have everyone sit down at the table and listen to the issues and cut out all of the fat.

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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?

See answer 3



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