

Hawaii State Teacher's Association Survey – April 2016

1. Do you wish to seek HSTA's recommendation?

YES (I assume "recommendation" means "endorsement".)

Nationwide the chance of a non-Democrat getting the endorsement of a teachers' union is less than 10%. In Hawaii it is more like the proverbial snowball in hell. My hope is that you will actually "afford (your) teachers the ability to consider (my) candidacy" by circulating my answers to all teachers. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide feedback. Additional information on my web site: www.fredfogel.net.

2. How can we improve public education in Hawaii?

1. Pay good teachers more.
2. Put discipline back into the school environment.
3. Institute a "360 degree" rating system for teachers – principal, peers, parents and students.
4. Implement standardized tests to measure the progress of a student from the start of the school year to the end, as well as their overall grade-level capability.
5. Make student achievement (improvement during the year) part of a teacher's evaluation, not simply student competency.
6. Do not graduate or promote students who fail to meet a minimum competency for specific grade levels.
7. Provide educational pipelines for students interested in trades, special need students, college-bound students and exceptional students.
8. Eliminate the centralized school board. Implement an island school board comprised of principals, both public and private.
9. Implement a school voucher system to give parents more say in which schools are best.
10. Give principals the authority to spend money as they see fit – to include all monies required to run the school – and hold them accountable.

3. How would you fund public education in Hawaii?

Almost 40% of Hawaii's governmental spending is presently put towards education. The money spent on education has been rising for as long as I can remember (and I'm and old fut). Yet our state (student performance) is continually rated near or below the bottom 10% in the nation. Exactly where this money comes from I have no idea, but it should be obvious that spending more money on education is not the way to make things better. The primary concern should be the effective use of resources, rather than where the money comes from. (If that's what you mean by "How would you fund public education...?")