

GOV. MSG. NO. 431

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

March 31, 2010

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

In accordance with the provisions of Article V, Section 6, of the Hawai'i State Constitution, I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration and confirmation, the following nomination to the **Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board**:

Jonathan D. Kissida

Term to Expire: 6/30/2013

Sincerely,

LINDA LINGLE

GM 431-Nomination to the Hawaii Teachers Standards Board

Why do you wish to be a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board?

I wish to be a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to: (1) Make sure all Hawaii's children receive the best possible education by filling every classroom with a qualified and effective teacher (2) Provide a clear, efficient & effective voice between all teachers and the Hawaii Teacher's Standards Board (3) Model 'lifelong learner' by continuously setting goals, striving to achieve them and building my professional knowledge base.

How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Hawaii Teacher's Standards Board?

Each Hawaii Teacher Standard Board member's role is the same: to continuously improve teacher requirements & state standards therefore providing a cutting edge education for all Hawaii's children.

Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

Currently, I am a teacher. Working towards solving today's challenges requires a direct line of communication with other teachers. During my career as an educator, I have worked in 3 educational models: public, private and charter. I have held a variety of teaching positions within the private and public school systems.

During the 2009-2010 school year, I have been involved in Hawaii Academy of Arts & Science Public Charter School's vision & development group. During the 2007-2009 school year, I was involved with Ha'aheo Elementary School's leadership group. Both groups created short & long-term strategic plans. Each school's unique challenges provided the hands on training required by the decision making responsibilities of a Hawaii Teacher Standards Board member. My current position at Hawaii Academy of Arts & Science requires many of the skills necessary to run a successful business: budgeting, interviewing, managing, analyzing, improving etc.

Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board?

The three qualities are (1) effective, (2) good communicator & (3) open minded. These qualities benefit the the Hawaii Teachers Standards Board by providing a hard working professional with skills necessary to continue forward progress in education.

Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

Conflict of Interest 1: Supply all Hawaii's children with teachers that are both qualified and effective. How to overcome: Improve teacher license program by requiring more than the minimum. Review standards to make relevant to today.

Conflict of Interest 2: Time spent working as a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board will take away from time spent improving my own program and continuing my own professional development.

**How to overcome: Continue to streamline time management and organizational skills.
What are three ways that the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board should/must help meet the education needs in Hawaii?**

- (1) Supply all Hawaii's children with teachers that are qualified and effective.
- (2) Offer compensation to teachers that post innovative standards-based approaches to education on the Hawaii Teacher Standard Board website. Build professional learning communities across the islands by allowing all Hawaii public school teachers to test, review and make suggestions.
- (3) Hawaii Teachers Standards Board should team with the Professional Development and Educational Research Institute to create a strategic plan to solve Hawaii's highest emergency hire subjects: High School English, Math, Science and Special Education.

What goals should the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board set and how would you propose to measure them?

Goal 1: Provide a user-friendly Hawaii Teacher Standard Board initial and renewal licensing program
How to Measure:

- (a) Provide on line initial and renewal licensing program
- (b) Return phone calls and emails in a more timely manner. All calls and emails should be returned within 24 hours. Support options (emails & voice-mails) should be given a case number, recorded to improve service, a written account of each case should be filed under teacher's name and a summary will be sent to the teacher to make sure the case was solved to his/her satisfaction. All cases will be reviewed by a supervisor.
- (c) Hawaii Teacher Standards Boards responses should be the same regardless of the support person.

Goal 2: Licensing requirements need to be made more clear

How to measure:

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board website should contain individual teacher accounts with specific requirements for each teacher. Currently, Hawaii Teacher Standard Board website contains only general information. Allow a place for teachers to create a professional development plan to describe each teacher's next step towards NCLB and licensing requirements.

Goal 3: Require Continuing Education credits for relicensing

How to Measure:

- (a) Require yearly credit completion at Hawaii Teacher Standards Board and PDERI seminars on content, instruction, and/or assessment.
 - (b) Seminars could focus on common teacher challenges: classroom management, differentiated instruction, standards-based lesson planning, unit planning & assessment, etc.
 - (c) Seminars could also focus on keeping teachers updated in specific subjects: science, history, etc.
- Real World Example: Real Estate licenses come due every two years. To be able to renew, one must take at least one 4 hour CE course and submit with their application. T So consideration would be to have a CE for either

Goal 4: Expect all teachers to strive for National Board Certification

How to Measure:

- (a) Offer grants to cover cost & even higher pay increases upon completion.
- (b) Require National Board Certified teachers to create a collaborative site. Share final project, required to receive National Board Certification, with all teachers.

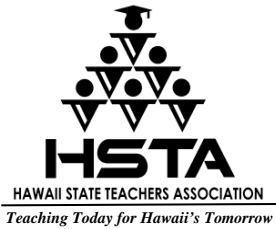
Goal 5: Offer alternative ways to achieve HQ status

How to measure:

Requirements for license should be expanded to allow for the diversity of learners and experience found in our community. There is a wealth of knowledge in the retired community is a great resource. Qualified and effective teachers come in many different shapes and sizes.

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board has rapidly undertaken major changes in the past year precipitated by a scathing auditor's report. Please review the Auditor's Report and SB2591 (Session 2010) and provide your feedback.

The Hawaii Teacher Standard Board needs to strategically plan. 3 year short term and 5 year long term goals should be set and met. Critical issues such as keeping every child's education current by updating standards and furthering teacher development need to be at the heart of all Hawaii Teacher Standard Board decisions. Child, teacher, school, island and state success all go hand in hand.



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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND HOUSING

RE: Hawaii Teacher Standards Board Nominations

April 12, 2010

WIL OKABE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association would like to make a statement for the record regarding the Governor's nominations to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

We want to make it very, very clear that this in no way reflects on the individuals who are being nominated.

The nomination letters from the governor are flawed. The nominations do not specify which of the groups specified by law the nominees represent. Each seat on the board represents a specific stakeholders' group. Section 302A-801 states: The board shall consist of fifteen members, including not less than six licensed teachers regularly engaged in teaching at the time of the appointment, three educational officers employed at the time of the appointment, the chairperson of the board of education or the chairperson's designee, the superintendent or the superintendent's designee, a representative of independent schools, the dean of the University of Hawaii college of education or the dean's designee, and two members of the public; provided that the dean's designee shall be chosen from the member institutions of the teacher education coordinating committee established under section 304A-1202.

We would like to also call your attention to Section 302A-801 which states that "the governor shall appoint the members of the board pursuant to section 26-34, from a list of qualified nominees submitted to the governor by the departments, agencies, and organizations representative of the constituencies of the board."

Since the inception of the board, the governors have complied with the law by choosing from the list nominated by the HSTA. Again, the nominations went outside of the list of nominees to appoint members of the board. In the last three years, the HSTA submitted fifteen names to the governor to fill the vacant teacher seats on the board. Out of the 15 names, two were nominated in 2009. During the other two years, there were no attempts to fill the vacancies in spite of the recommendations sent to the governor.

In 2007, the governor nominated individuals that were not recommended by any constituency groups. This committee did the right thing and did not act on the recommendations.

Again, it is not a statement about any of the individuals who are being nominated but the fact that the governor's office failed to follow the procedure prescribed by law.

Thank you.

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: Steve_Hirakami/HAASPCS/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us
Sent: Wednesday, April 07, 2010 9:42 AM
To: EDH Testimony
Subject: Letter of support for Jonathan Kissida GM431
Attachments: ATT00001.gif

Senator Sakamoto and members of the committee,

My name is Steve Hirakami, Director of Hawaii Academy of Arts and Science Public Charter School located in Puna on Hawaii Island. I highly recommend Jonathan Kissida to a seat on the Hawaii Teachers Standard Board. Jon will bring to the panel a fresh, innovative perspective to the board. Although Jon is a young teacher, his intellect, perspective on teaching, open-minded approach, and willingness to be a team player are qualities that will serve the position well. Jon has a broad perspective on teaching as he has taught at a private school, traditional public school, and currently is teaching at a charter school. His experience also includes a large city, Honolulu, an outer island city, Hilo, and currently is teaching in Puna, which is a very rural area.

Jon and I had a brief discussion on this appointment and one of his comments really impressed me. His comment went something like this: "This position is all about making it better for the children in Hawaii. As time moves on, the standards change for the children's education. This must be reflected in how we think about the standards for teaching. We need to modernize and improve the way we accredit and license teachers to keep up with the new demands in education for our children." It convinced me that Jonathan is right person for this position.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Steve Hirakami
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