



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD
650 IWILEI ROAD, SUITE 201
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

May 14, 2020

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

TESTIMONY ON GM 704 AND GM 705

SUBMITTED BY LYNN HAMMONDS FOR THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education:

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) **strongly supports** GM 704 for the nomination of Dawn Raymond and GM 705 for the nomination of Kristi Miyamae as members of the HTSB.

Ms. Raymond has attended HTSB meetings as she was previously nominated by the Governor prior to the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year. She has been an actively participating member and hopes to serve on the Teacher Standards Committee and the Legislative Committee in the 2020-2021 school year if confirmed by the Committee on Education. Ms. Raymond has held offices in the Hilo Chapter of the Hawaii State Teachers Association as well as other commission seats and holds a current teaching license in Special Education.

Ms. Miyamae has extensive experience as a teacher at both the elementary and middle school level, currently at Mililani Middle. She holds a master's degree in Special Education from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Ms. Miyamae has been active in the Hawaii State Teachers Association and holds a current teaching license in English, Mathematics, Special Education, and Special Education Mild/Moderate.

The HTSB thanks the Senate Committee on Education for considering the confirmation of Ms. Raymond and Ms. Miyamae as members of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

May 11th, 2020

Dear Senator Kidani and Senate Members,

I am pleased to write a letter of testimony on behalf of Kristi Miyamae. I was privileged to work alongside Kristi as a fellow educator for the past year as a 7th grade team teacher. During that time, she was able to both impress me as a teacher and continue to establish herself as a dedicated, thoughtful and student centered educator within our team and school.

Kristi is the type of person who goes above and beyond for her students. She makes it a point to create lessons and learning opportunities that both engage and make students critically think about what they are learning so they are able to internalize the concepts. As an authentic and genuine professional, I would turn to Kristi over my other peers for her valued opinion to facilitate my own teaching and to discuss how to improve my lessons. She was never too busy to find time to help me gain perspective and served as a sounding board to offer honest and trustworthy feedback.

Additionally, Kristi is a diligent, organized and efficient professional. She is routinely the first to volunteer to help arrange, coordinate, and facilitate team activities and events for our students. Her timely and organized communication with parents, paired with the consistent tracking of her students' progress was something I aimed to emulate within my own teaching practice as well. This organization and insight allows our team to identify and collaborate on strategies to help our students and helps our team function efficiently.

Kristi is also a compassionate, caring, and extremely thoughtful teacher. You can feel her genuine desire for her students to thrive and the time and effort she puts into teaching when you walk in her classroom. She makes herself available to her students during her free time and regularly has students in her classroom during recess, lunch and afterschool working on assignments or club activities. Her dedication to her overall teaching practice and toward what her students learn, is a quality I admire and wish to emulate in my own teaching.

I highly recommend Kristi for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board nomination and believe she is a qualified, trustworthy and dedicated teacher who I enjoy working with. Not only will she bring the kind of skills and commitment that benefit our school, she will contribute a wealth of advice and knowledge to help support teachers in Hawaii with their practice.

Sincerely,

Kayla Van Matre
7th Grade Science Teacher
Mililani Middle School
kayla.van_matre@k12.hi.us

May 11th, 2020

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Kayla Van Matre
7th Grade Science Teacher
Mililani Middle School
kayla.van_matre@k12.hi.us

GM-705

Submitted on: 5/13/2020 10:35:41 PM

Testimony for EDU on 5/14/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louise K. Cayetano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chairwoman Kidani, Vice-Chair Mercado Kim and members of the Education Committee,

My name is Louise Cayetano, a teacher at Fern Elementary in Honolulu. I am also a member of the HSTA State Board of Directors' and speak in strong support of Ms. Kristi Miyamae's appointment to the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board.

Over the years, as a member of the HSTA State Board of Directors' Ms. Miyamae has played an active role in ensuring proposed business items align with our union's Vision and Mission statements and policies. She makes fair and thoughtful decisions after listening to related discussion on the floor. She will definitely be an asset to the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board bringing a variety of experiences to the table and is comfortable about sharing her opinion on matters if it's possible to improve the way things are done.

I thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Sincerely,

Louise
Cayetano
STEM
teacher
Fern Elementary
School
Middle
Street
, Hawaii 96819

1121

Honolulu

GM-705

Submitted on: 5/10/2020 10:29:35 PM

Testimony for EDU on 5/14/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amanda Lacar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Education Committee Members,

My name is Amanda Lacar and I have known Kristi Miyamea since 2013, when she first got me involved in HSTA. I have come to call her one of my closest friends.

If you are seeking an individual that is honest, shows integrity, respectful, open minded and professional, you found her! I believe Kristi would be an asset as a HTSB Member.

She is knowledgeable in Robert's Rules, understands the importance of by-laws and governing documents, and the importance of listening to all sides of a conversation before making a decision.

Kristi is a reliable person that puts her whole heart into what she does. She used her own personal time to meet the new aspiring teachers and newly hired teachers. She was a source of knowledge and resources for them.

Please approve Kristi Miyamea to be a member of the HTSB.

Mahalo,

Amanda Lacar

Aliamanu Middle School

Special Education Teacher