

March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

The Honorable Senator Michelle Kidani  
Chair, Senate COmmittee on Education  
415 South Beretania, Street, Room 228  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Recommendation for Kristi Miyamae to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, GM568

Dear Senator Kidani and Members of the Committee on Education,

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 three years 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

**GM-568**

Submitted on: 3/10/2022 10:25:09 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/11/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sandra Yap	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good afternoon. I strongly support GM 568 to consider confirmation to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, KRISTI MIYAMAE, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

I've known and worked with Ms Miyamae for over 10 years as a teacher and a teacher trainer and leader. She has continuously supported teachers and their pursuit of best teaching practices and will be an excellent member of the Standards Board.

I ask for your support in confirming Ms. Miyamae to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

Thank you,

Sandra Yap

Retired Teacher