



STATE OF HAWAII
Kualapu'u School
Public Conversion Charter

P O Box 260
Kualapu'u, Molokai, Hawaii 96757
Phone: (808) 567-6900, Fax: (808) 567-6906

March 5, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with my utmost support and enthusiasm that I am writing this letter of recommendation for Dr. Katina Soares to continue on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

Dr. Soares has proven herself to be thoughtful and action oriented when it comes to studying recommended policies that affect the quality of our children's educators. She has the integrity to maintain her educational and personal values, and at the same time she is able to adapt or recognize local circumstances that require specific and sometimes temporary solutions.

Dr. Soares comes with a background as a rural educator, as a home-grown local teacher/school counselor and administrator from Molokai, has experience as an administrator in BOTH a charter school and DOE school, and have lead schools the Hawaiian Immersion programs and with a Hawaiian focus. All of her experiences can add depth and breath to the HTSB's discussions when making important decisions about our educational system.

Please consider Dr. Katina Soares's continued membership on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

Sincerely,

Lydia Trinidad
Principal

GM-573

Submitted on: 3/9/2022 2:46:37 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Josh Reppun	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please consider this an unqualified recommendation of Molokai HS Principal, Katina Soares to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. I wrote a recommendation when she applied for the interim position. This letter duplicates, but expands on the letter I wrote when she applied to finish a previous member's term last year. I have had occasion to work with Principal Soares multiple times over the past six years, most especially as she implemented elements of the What School Could Be "Innovation Playlist" in collaboration with all Molokai public and charter schools. Her understanding of what school could be, what teaching could be is remarkable and visionary, She understands what it means for kids to be most likely to succeed. She also understands what teachers need to do to prepare themselves to guide, coach, mentor and sponsor today's kids as they navigate towards a set of "durable skills" and social and emotional competencies, especially during this C19 pandemic. Moreover, Principal Soares truly understands what it will take to shape the next generation of teachers. The skills, habits and dispositions these teachers will need to support student-centered, real world learning Principal Soares knows well. Her faculty members have been on the cutting edge of student voice, student agency, teacher collaboration and intentional school design since she returned to Molokai to assume the position of principal. Her work pulling the entire Molokai community together to explore the "profile of a Molokai graduate" is, in my opinion, a model of what innovative leadership looks, sounds and feels like. She knows well that our challenge in the years ahead is to invest in the human capital that is our public school teachers. Please give Principal Soares another opportunity to help set the standard for effective and innovative 21st century teaching here in Hawai'i.

DAVID IGE
Governor
STATE OF HAWAII



KEITH T. HAYASHI
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Rebecca Winkie, PhD
COMPLEX AREA SUPERINTENDENT

Alison K B Place
TA PRINCIPAL

Maunaloa Elementary School

P O Box 128
128 Maunaloa Highway
Maunaloa, Hawaii 96770
Phone 808-774-8300 Fax 808-552-2004

LATE

March 10, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of the re-appointment of Dr. Katina Soares (GM 573) to the Hawaii Teachers Standards Board (HTSB). I wholeheartedly recommend her for this position.

I have known Dr. Soares for many years, both professionally and personally and have found her to be honest, forthright and an advocate for education, students, teachers and her community. Her experiences have afforded her diverse insights from varied perspectives which makes her a valuable resource for the HTSB. Dr. Soares has first-hand experience with public education, home school education and charter schools. As a resident of Molokai, she is also very familiar with the challenges of small rural schools and communities and will be an important voice for these underrepresented stakeholders.

Please consider Dr. Katina Soares's continued membership on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

Sincerely,

Alison KB Place