



The Power and Promise of Public Education: Focus on Ideas That Transform, theme for the 2019-2020 School Year

Warren Hyde to: boe\_hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us 07/31/2019 08:29 PM

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Dear Hawaii Board of Education,

I am a resident that put my children through private schools on Oahu. I am doing it all over again with my grand children and am committed to help my children fund private school tuition for their children. My concern is I have one grandchild in the public school system that will not have the same opportunity as my other grandchildren.

Decade after decade the Hawaii public schools remain amongst the lowest performing system in our nation. Curiously, the residents of Hawaii accept this. Parents in Hawaii need to no longer accept poor performance. I am not referring to only low socio-economic parents, I am referring to our middle class and upper middle class families that utilize the public school system. The quality of education our middle class receives is significantly lacking and our kids are unable to compete in a larger society. Parents: It is time to expect better for our children and for our society. Middle class parents think their children are doing fine, however, let's think about how capable and competent our children would be if they had a quality education?

The Promise of Public Education should be strengthened to address the poor performance of Hawaii's children. An internet search produces multiple promise plans, most are stronger than Hawaii's plan. I suppose Hawaii being the first promise continues to appease cultural advocates. When speaking to DOE personnel, no one seems to be able to explain school design, empowerment, and innovation.

The superintendent seems to avoid addressing achievement. These inspirational words sound good, however, if everyone has difficulty explaining it, I am concerned the inspirational words will be just that, words.

I ask you to care about the children and for our society. The fact that Hawaii's children aren't literate is unacceptable and a superintendent should address it and commit to challenge the status quo. I urge you to recommend a better plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

W. Hyde

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