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Weak Education and Schools in Hawaii

Even though we absolutely dread having to get up at six in the morning and having to go to school, schools are crucial if we are to find jobs and live up to our full potential. Unfortunately, the kids and public schools in Hawaii AREN'T living up to their full potential. Fifty-six percent have less than a basic understanding in science. This is more than half of 8th graders in Hawaii that don't understand science! Forty percent have less than a basic knowledge in reading and math. Many kids in Hawaii's schools don't care about what they're learning: or what they're not learning. What's more, we only have 163 days of classes! If we don't make our public schools right, we won't fix other problems such as unemployment, which then can lead to homelessness. Education is the future. We need to start in the beginning to fix these problems. Clarence T.C Ching helped tremendously, and so can we!

All the problems we face in this world today have solutions, weak education is one we can certainly repair. The first thing I think we should do is give the principals greater power! One person looking over a school is better than the board of education looking over 291 schools on all islands. We should start small and fix one school at a time. Also, principals can oversee the money and make specific changes the school needs to make. Of course, the governor can make changes that apply to all schools, but the principal should still be the top of their school.

Another solution is smaller class sizes. This has been PROVEN to increase grades. This is an effective and easy way to increase test scores, attention, grades and motivation. The kids in each class should be less than 15 students, right now, the average child to teacher ratio in Hawaii is about 17: 1, ranked 39th in the United States. Kindergarten through third grade is the

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best time to decrease class sizes. Decreasing class sizes will definitely help Hawaii's kids become well versed in school and have better attention and motivational skills through their lifetimes.

Addition to this, we need to make the school calendar longer. There should be at least 180 days, which is the average number of instructional days in the U.S.A. This will increase kids learning and help them in life. The number of school days is important, because practice makes perfect! Teachers need more time teach, and kids more time to learn.

Clarence T.C Ching wanted to (and did) help with education, research, and care. Without a good school, he might not have been so successful in live and worked so much for Hawaii's future and people. We need higher quality schools for our keiki.