

"...recognized and acknowledged as an influential instructional leader nationally, statewide, and complex wide...is proactive in supporting the growth and leadership of administrators and teachers...is proactive in institutionalizing best practices, action research, and statewide initiatives throughout all grades and school wide..."
Patricia Park
OCISS Assistant
Superintendent, 2013

"...a leader among his peers statewide. Steve has implemented Thinking Maps statewide. As an instructional leader, Steve has greatly influenced all teachers to be committed to all students, including other schools."
Dr. John Brummel
Complex Area
Superintendent, 2013

Professional Profile

Committed to improving instructional and assessment practices founded on community context

Institutionalized campus-wide cultures for continuous progress and student learning

Experienced leader in state, complex, and school initiatives

Higher Education

Doctor of Education in Professional Educational Practice

University of Hawai'i at Manoa, 2014

Masters in Educational Administration

University of Hawai'i at Manoa, 1992

Masters in Elementary Education

University of Hawai'i at Manoa, 1988

Professional Education Degree

University of Hawai'i at Manoa, 1984

Bachelor of Education Degree

University of Hawai'i at Manoa, 1983

Employment

Principal, Pearl Ridge Elementary

July 2014–present

Director, Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Student Support, OCISS

July 2013 - June 2014

Principal, Mililani 'Ike Elementary

January 2003 - June 2013

Principal, Mililani Waena Elementary

February 2000 - December 2002

Specialist, Office of Accountability and School Instructional Support, OASIS

January 1998 - January 2000

Principal, Major Sheldon Wheeler Elementary

February 1995 - December 1998

Vice Principal, Pearl Ridge Elementary

July 1994 - January 1995

Vice Principal, Waialua Elementary

July 1992 - June 1994

Cohort Vice Principal, Pearl Ridge Elementary

July 1991 - June 1992

Grade 6 and Resource Teacher, Mililani Uka Elementary

July 1988 - June 1991

Grade 6 Teacher, Leihoku Elementary

September 1984 - June 1988

"...Principal Nakasato is an exceptional principal. He is totally accessible and fosters an environment of mutual respect and open communication. He cares deeply about the school, the families, students and staff at 'Ike and it shows in all he does."

Jill Kyhos

School Community Council
Chairperson, 2011

"Mr. Nakasato did a great job of coming up with the first Academic and Financial Plan for the school. He was able to clearly articulate Act 51, its intent and subsequently our purpose as an SCC. What makes his performance even more impressive is that he was able to do all this while starting a new school and dealing with all of the issues that come with opening a brand new school."

Tony Gaston

School Community Council
Chairperson, 2006

Leadership Initiatives

- Educational Institute of Hawaii (EIH), Senior Advisory, 2015
- Educational Reform: Science/Social Studies Standards, Special Education/Student Support Services, System of Standards, 2014
- WASC Accreditation, 2004, 2007, 2013, 2015
- K-12 Construct: Thinking Maps, Mathematics Consortium, 2012
- School-Based Inclusionary Practices, 2012
- State Leader for Data Team Processes, 2011
- Michael Fullan "Walking the Talk: Hawaii in Motion", 2010
- State Leader for Response to Intervention Processes, 2008
- Pilot Principal for the Danielson Teacher Observation Protocol, 2007
- Mililani Complex, Character Counts!, 2006
- Transforming our Teaching and Learning Broadcasts, 2005, 2006, 2011
- State Leader for Professional Learning Communities, 2003
- HODOE Pilot School for Standards-Based Grading, 2003
- Appointed principal to open new school, Mililani 'Ike Elementary, 2003

State and District Presentations

School Leadership

- Leadership Symposium, 2013, 2014
- College of Education Common Core State Standards Symposium, 2013
- Thinking Maps, La Kaku'i, 2012
- Chaminade University, Leadership for Educational Administrators, 2011
- Thinking Maps Leadership, 2011
- Professional Development & Educational Research Institute, 2010
- Moanalua High School, 2010
- International Center for Leadership in Education, Summer Symposium, 2009
- Leadership Kakela Ka'ike, 2009
- New Principals Academy, 2009
- Administrator Certificate for Excellence Program, 2008

Data Teams

- Leadership Symposium, 2012, 2011
- Moanalua High School, 2012, 2011
- Central District Principals, 2011
- International Center for Leadership in Education, Model Schools, 2010

Professional Learning Communities

- Administrator Certificate for Excellence, 2007
- GEAR UP Hawaii: Showcase of Promising Practices, 2006, 2007
- Roosevelt Complex Schools, 2006
- Professional Development & Educational Research Institute, 2006, 2005

Administrator Certificate for Excellence Program

- School Safety/Opening School, 2011
- Learning Leader, 2010
- Professional Learning Communities, 2008
- Student Supervision, 2006

Standards-Based Reporting

- Central District Principals, 2003, 2004, 2005
- HODOE Educational Leadership Conference, 2005
- Leeward District Principals, 2005
- North Area Learning Team, 2004

"...Mr. Nakasato has done an excellent job in establishing clear academic goals and objectives for Mililani 'Ike. The focus on instructional improvement is shared by all school stakeholders..."

Gary Griffiths
Complex Area
Superintendent, 2004

"...He is to be commended for his sincere efforts to develop relationships with his staff and community. He has helped his staff towards a greater awareness of the standards using the expertise and knowledge gained from his state-level experience..."

Betty Mow
Deputy District
Superintendent, 2000

"...He has a very positive attitude and a warm, caring, and enthusiastic nature...he is a team player that leads by example and held in high regard and trust..."

Ray Sugai
Pearl Ridge Elementary
Principal, 1994

Professional Appointments

Hawaii Government Employees Association, Unit 6 Board Director, 2006-08
Hawaii Teachers Standards Board, Director, 2005-2007

Professional Certificates

Professional Educational Administrator
Hawaii State Department of Education, 1999

Professional School Administrator
Hawaii State Department of Education, 1993

Professional Elementary
Hawaii State Department of Education, 1986

Professional Honors

National Distinguished Principal, Central District, 2007

Island Insurance Foundation, Excellence in Leadership-Semi Finalist, 2007

Hawaii State Teachers Association, Central District Teacher Recognition, 1991

Nominee for Leeward District Teacher of the Year, 1987

Educational Research and Publications

Researching Developmental Evaluation among HODOE Data Coaches,
A Dissertation submitted to the College of Education, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Summer 2014

HODOE Formative Assessment Through the Data Team Process
A Consultancy Report submitted to the College of Education, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, December 2012

Got Health? The Hawaii Partnership for Standards-Based School Health Education, Journal of School Health, volume 70, Number 8, October 2000

Physical Education Content Standards: Moving from the Blue Book to HCPS II, Standards Desk Reference, Office of Accountability and School Instructional Support, Department of Education State of Hawai'i, January 1999

Health Education Content Standards: Moving from the Blue Book to HCPS II, Standards Desk Reference, Office of Accountability and School Instructional Support, Department of Education State of Hawai'i, January 1999

Core Beliefs

Lead one vision

Value social and cultural contexts

Focus on instruction and assessment practices

Employ complex solutions for complex problems

School improvement is teacher generated

Student improvement is teacher generated

Student improvement is student generated