

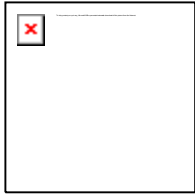
From: Committee on Rules 36GL <cor@guamlegislature.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 4:41 PM
To: Clerks; Rennae Meno
Cc: Speaker Therese M. Terlaje
Subject: Messages and Communications for Doc. No. 36GL-21-1086*
Attachments: 36GL-21-1086.pdf

Håfa Adai Clerks,

Please see attached M&C Doc. No. 36GL-21-1086 for processing:

36GL-21-1086	Guam Education Board Reporting Requirements for September 23, 2021* Guam Education Board Reporting Requirements for Board Meeting held on September 23, 2021*	Department of Education Guam Department of Education
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Si Yu'os Ma'åse',



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Vice Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes
36th Guam Legislature
I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
163 Chalan Santo Papa Hågatña Guam 96910
Email: cor@guamlegislature.org

"Disclaimer: This message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information which is privileged, confidential, proprietary, or exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient or the individual responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are strictly prohibited from disclosing, distributing, copying, or in any way using this message. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender and immediately delete any copies you may have received. Thank you."

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Speaker Therese M. Terlaje <speaker@guamlegislature.org>
Date: Mon, Sep 27, 2021 at 3:35 PM
Subject: Messages and Communications for 36GL-21-1086
To: Legislative Secretary Amanda Shelton <officeofsenatorshelton@guamlegislature.org>, Committee on Rules 36GL <cor@guamlegislature.org>

Håfa Adai,

Please see attached M&C Doc. No. 36GL-21-1086.

36GL-21-1086	Guam Education Board Reporting Requirements for September 23, 2021.*	Department of Education
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Si Yu'os Ma'åse',

Maria Abante
Legislative Assistant

Office of Speaker Therese M. Terlaje
Committee on Health, Land, Justice and Culture

I Mina'trentai Sais na Liheslaturan Guahan

36th Guam Legislature

Office Location: Ada Plaza Center, Suite 207, 173 Aspinall Avenue, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Address: Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

T: (671) 472-3586 F: (671) 989-3590 Email: speaker@guamlegislature.org

website: www.senatorterlaje.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tia Lynn S. Salas** <tlssalas@gdoe.net>

Date: Mon, Sep 27, 2021 at 11:42 AM

Subject: GEB September 23, 2021 Regular Meeting - Reporting Requirements

To: <michael.weakley@guam.gov>, Speaker Therese M. Terlaje <speaker@guamlegislature.org>

Cc: Jon Fernandez (Superintendent) <jonfernandez@gdoe.net>, Christie Lyn San Nicolas <clsannicolas@gdoe.net>

Hafa Adai,

Please see the attached documents for the Guam Education Board's Regular Meeting held on September 23, 2021.

Thank you.

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Respectfully,

Tia Salas

Office of the Superintendent

Guam Department of Education

501 Mariner Avenue

Barrigada, GU 96913

Email: tlssalas@gdoe.net

Tel: (671)300-1627/1536

Guam Department of Education



Speaker Therese M. Terlaje <speaker@guamlegislature.org>

GEB September 23, 2021 Regular Meeting - Reporting Requirements

Tia Lynn S. Salas <tissalas@gdoe.net>

Mon, Sep 27, 2021 at 11:42 AM

To: michael.weakley@guam.gov, "Speaker Therese M. Terlaje" <speaker@guamlegislature.org>

Cc: "Jon Fernandez (Superintendent)" <jonfernandez@gdoe.net>, Christie Lyn San Nicolas <clsannicolas@gdoe.net>

Hafa Adai,

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Thank you.

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Respectfully,
Tia Salas
Office of the Superintendent
Guam Department of Education
501 Mariner Avenue
Barrigada, GU 96913
Email: tissalas@gdoe.net
Tel: (671)300-1627/1536

36GL-21-1086
**OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER
THERESE M. TERLAJE**

~~09~~ 27 2021

11:42am

Time: _____
Received: _____

Guam Department of Education

COMMITTEE ON RULES

RECEIVED:

September 27, 2021
3:35 P.M.

GEB Reporting Requirements September 23, 2021 Meeting.pdf
2677K

September 24, 2021

The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
Governor of Guam
513 West Marine Corps Drive
Ricardo J. Bordallo Complex
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Honorable Therese M. Terlaje
Speaker
Thirty-Sixth Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear Governor Leon Guerrero and Speaker Terlaje:

Håfa Adai! Pursuant to Public Law 31-233, Section 38, *Reporting Requirements for Boards and Commissions*, attached are copies of the Guam Education Board's meeting agenda, ad, approved minutes and other documents as discussed at the September 23, 2021, regular board meeting. The meeting was held in the 3rd floor conference room, GDOE Building B, Tiyan.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 300-1627.

Senseramente,



JON J. P. FERNANDEZ
Superintendent of Education

Attachments

**Guam Education Board
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Thursday, September 23, 2021
6 PM
3rd Floor Conference Room, Bldg. B, Tiyan**

AGENDA

- I. Meeting Call to Order**
- II. Approval of Minutes**
 - 1. Minutes of June 29, 2021 Regular Meeting - Subject to Board Action
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 - 1. Correspondence received by the Board after August 17
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 - 1. Islandwide Board of Governing Students (IBOGS) Report
 - 2. Guam Federation of Teachers (GFT) Report
 - 3. Mayor's Council of Guam (MCOG) Report
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 - 4. Policy Review & Strategic Planning Committee

- a. Strategic Planning Committee Report
- 5. Fiscal Management Committee
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 - ii. Unaudited Statement of Appropriation, Expenditures, and Encumbrances for Fiscal Year 2021
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- VII. New Business**
 - 1. Approval of FY 2022 Spending Plan – Subject to Board Action
- VIII. Executive Session** (Board Policy 125.12)
- IX. Adjournment**

VOTING MEMBERS: Mark B. Mendiola, Chairwoman, Mary A.Y. Okada, EdD, Vice-Chair, Peter Alecxis D. Ada, Felicitas B. Angel, Lourdes M. Benavente, Karlyn RCG Borja, Robert A. Crisostomo, Maria A. Gutierrez, Ron L. McNinch, PhD

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: Elyssa Cuevas (SSHS) - IBOGS Representative, Timothy Fedenko - GFT Representative, Mayor, Melissa B. Savares, MCOG Representative

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Jon J. P. Fernandez, GDOE Superintendent

Pressure growing on Asia to cancel planned coal projects

By Beh Lih Yi

Thomson Reuters Foundation

KUALA LUMPUR - With six nations accounting for over 80% of planned new coal projects globally, winning commitments to cancel those projects could help November's COP26 U.N. climate summit "consign coal power to history," a key goal of organizers, researchers said.

Proposed new coal power capacity globally has plunged 76% since the Paris Agreement in 2015, with 44 countries agreeing to end new projects, according to a report by think-tank E3G released on Tuesday.

Asia, however, is still at the center of the world's remaining pipeline, which means action by six countries alone - China, India, Vietnam, Indonesia, Turkey and Bangladesh - could remove over four-fifths of planned projects before construction.

Ending the use of coal - the most polluting fossil fuel - for power production has been a key focus for climate change activists, leading to funding and insurance for new projects rapidly drying up.

Swiftly ending coal use is seen as vital to global goals of capping global warming at "well below" 2 degrees Celsius and ideally 1.5C and avoiding

swiftly worsening climate threats such as harsher storms, floods, wildfires and crop failures.

But coal remains a mainstay for power generation in Asia, which accounts for 75% of global coal demand, according to the International Energy Agency.

Countries with significant coal deposits or energy systems reliant on the fuel have been slow to abandon it, tied down in part by the costs of abandoning still-functioning plants and mines or reluctant to break commitments to new plants.

China also remains a major funder of new coal energy, even as declining



INDONESIA: A local farmer looks on as he works on a paddy field at a village near a coal-fired power plant in Suralaya, Banten province, Indonesia, on July 11, 2020.

Willy Kurniawan/Reuters

prices for solar and wind power make green energy more competitive than coal in most parts of the world.

"The economics of coal have become increasingly uncompetitive in comparison to renewable energy, while the risk of stranded assets has increased," said Chris Littlecott, the report author and an associate director at E3G.



HUNT: Fishermen on a boat drive pilot whales toward the shore during a hunt on May 29, 2019, in Torshavn, Faroe Islands. Andrija Ilic/AFP/Getty Images

Hundreds of dolphins driven into fjord and killed on Faroe Islands

COPENHAGEN (dpa) - Hundreds of dolphins have been driven into a fjord and killed on the Faroe Islands, according to media reports and environmentalists.

According to the Faroese radio station KVF, more than 1,400 of the animals were killed in the Skalafjord on Sunday evening.

As reported by the Danish Broadcasting Corp. on Tuesday, the action has reignited the local debate about the traditional whale hunt. This hunt is called "grindadráp" and has been practiced for centuries on the islands in the North Atlantic, which are part of the Danish kingdom but are largely autonomous.

Even the former chairman of the Faroese association for pilot whaling told KVF that the killing of such a large number of dolphins was excessive.

The current head of the association feared for the reputation of the Faroe Islands. It was time to seriously discuss whether the hunting of dolphins should continue to be allowed, he told the online medium In.fo.

'A line has been crossed here'

The environmental organization Sea Shepherd posted a long video on Facebook showing men pulling the animals out of blood-red water onto a beach.

The organization spoke of the largest group of marine mammals ever killed in a single action on the Faroe Islands. A school of dolphins is something beautiful to admire and should not be dragged onto a blood-soaked beach, one user wrote in response.

"The hunt is senseless and caused great animal suffering according to eyewitnesses. A line has been crossed here and a new dimension of hunting has been reached," the Swiss-based marine conservation organization OceanCare also criticized.

Whaling on the Faroe Islands dates back to Viking times. The animals are driven by ships and boats into a bay, slaughtered there and the meat is then distributed to the participants.

Mainly pilot whales are killed, but sometimes also dolphins.

According to Faroese counts, a total of 576 pilot whales and 35 white-sided dolphins were killed in 2020, meaning the number of over 1,400 dolphins killed is exceptionally high.



GUAM EDUCATION BOARD

501 Mariner Avenue
Barrigada, Guam 96913-1608
Telephone Number: (671) 300-1627
Facsimile Number: (671) 472-5003
Website Address: www.gdoe.net/geb



Guam Education Board REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING Thursday, September 23, 2021 6 PM

3rd Floor Conference Room, Bldg. B, Tiyan

AGENDA

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- IX. Adjournment

The public is welcome to view the meeting via live stream at <https://www.facebook.com/DOEGuam>.

Individuals requiring special accommodations or information or wish to submit public testimony via email may contact Tia Salas by email: tissalas@gdoe.net.

Agenda to be available on GEB website at least 72 hours before the meeting.

This advertisement was paid by GDOE local funds.

Some special needs students may have class 5 days a week

By Jolene Toves
jolene@postguam.com

Fernandez said it will be up to the special needs student's IEP team to determine if the student will attend in cohorts or receive additional days of in-person instruction.

Every special needs student has an IEP team and based on the recommendations of that team the schools are able to provide accommodations.

"Last year we were able to have a some students who requested and discussed it with their IEP team and we were able to accommodate them," Fernandez said.

Some special needs students based on their IEP did receive more days of in-person instruction compared to the rest of the student population.

As GDOE returns in cohorts on

Monday, Fernandez said accommodation for special needs students will be available.

IEPs are valid for one year. However, parents and teachers as well as administrators can call for an IEP meeting at any time to address the needs of the students.



Jon Fernandez

Deputy Superintendent of Operations Erika Cruz clarified that the accommodation must be written into the student's IEP.

"However, it is not blanket that all special education students are able to do a five-days-a-week face-to-face model of learning," Cruz said. "It will all depend on the IEP."

That means the accommodation

will not be made for all 1,752 students enrolled in GDOE's special education program.

Assistant Superintendent of Special Education Tom Babauta has previously addressed concerns that some of these students could fall through the cracks.

"As much as we understand that this is going to be a setback, everything is going to be based on a team getting together looking at meeting, but we can't give more to our special needs kids than the rest of the population," Babauta said at an input session with parents earlier this month. "I know it sounds like it would make more sense to front-load our kids and allow them to go as many days as possible because it would be open, but then it becomes a parity of fairness issue."

The return of all GDOE students in two cohorts will entail alternating schedules allowing 50% of the student population on campus on any given school day. Students would receive five days of instruction over a two-week period.



Guam Memorial Hospital Authority

Aturidät Espetät Mimuriät Guåhan
850 Governor Carlos Camacho Road, Tamuning, Guam 96913
Opera tor: (671) 647-2330 or 2552 | Fax: (671) 649-5508



This Public Notice is paid for by government funds, and is paid for by Guam Memorial Hospital Authority.

NOTICE OF ZOOM VIDEO PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority (GMHA) will be conducting a Public Hearing on hospital new rates, fees, and charges. Documents relating to this proceeding are available on our website at www.gmha.org under About GMHA – Reports & Minutes – Public Notices – Public Information. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Sydie Taisacan, Program Coordinator IV at 648-7989, Mr. Frumen Patacsil, Hospital Quality Improvement Specialist at 648-7945 or Ms. Yukari B. Hechanova, Chief Financial Officer, at 648-6746.

Date: **Thursday, September 23, 2021**
Time: **10:00 a.m.**
Zoom Video Conferencing: **Zoom Video Public Hearing Details and Link to join:**
<https://gmha-org.zoom.us/j/99472297459?pwd=YXJlL1Jpcmh5Mko3ejFUSllyL2FHUT09>
Meeting ID: 994 7229 7459
Passcode: 470814

The details and link to this public hearing is also available on the GovGuam Public Notices Portal at <https://notices.guam.gov/>.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Public Defender's Board of Trustees will have a meeting Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 12:30 PM in the PDSC conference room of the Public Defender Service Corporation, located at MVP Sinajana Commercial Building, Unit B, 779 Route 4, Sinajaña, Guam 96910. The meeting will be held via video conferencing and a link to the meeting is available through the PDSC website or PDSC YouTube Channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOML-DJGGsY_Y9qzALT6mw.

Agenda: Call to Order * Roll Call * Proof of Due Notice of Meeting * Determination of Quorum * Approval of Minutes * Old Business * New Business * Executive Session * Public Discussion * Adjournment and Next Meeting Date

Copies of the agenda will be available prior to the meeting at the Public Defender Service Corporation.

Individuals requiring special accommodations are asked to contact Ms. Cathy Gogue at 475-3100.

/s/ **F. Philip Carbullido**
Chairman



MARK B. MENDIOLA
Chairman

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD

501 Mariner Avenue
Barrigada, Guam 96913-1608
Telephone Number: (671) 300-1627
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MARY A.Y. OKADA
Vice-Chair

Guam Education Board
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Thursday, September 23, 2021
6 PM

3rd Floor Conference Room, Bldg. B, Tiyan

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The public is welcome to view the meeting via live stream at <https://www.facebook.com/DOEGuam>.

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MARK B. MENDIOLA
Chairman

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD

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MARY A.Y. OKADA, Ed.D.
Vice Chair

**GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

Tuesday, June 29, 2021

6 pm

3rd Floor Conference Room, GDOE Building B

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS

Mark B. Mendiola, Chairman
Mary A.Y. Okada, EdD, Vice-Chair

Peter Alexis D. Ada
Felicitas B. Angel
Lourdes M. Benavente
Karlyn RCG Borja
Robert A. Crisostomo
Maria A. Gutierrez
Ron L. McNinch, PhD

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Elyssa Cuevas
IBOGS Representative

Timothy Fedenko
GFT Representative

Mayor, Melissa B. Savares
MCOG Representative

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Jon J.P. Fernandez
GDOE Superintendent

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Mark B. Mendiola, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Mr. Fernandez, Superintendent and Executive Secretary, took the roll call. The following members were **present** for the meeting:

Voting Members:

Mendiola, Mark B. – Chairman
Okada, Dr. Mary A.Y. – Vice-Chair
Ada, Peter Alexis D.
Angel, Felicitas B. – via Zoom video conference
Benavente, Lourdes M. – via Zoom video conference
Borja, Karlyn RCG
Crisostomo, Robert A.
McNinch, Dr. Ron L.

Non-Voting Members:

Cuevas, Elyssa – IBOGS Representative
Fedenko, Timothy – GFT Representative – via Zoom video conference

Legal Counsel:

Nasis, James

Absent:

Gutierrez, Maria A. – Excused
Savares, Melissa B. – MCOG Representative – Excused

The Superintendent announced that eight (8) members of the Board were present, constituting a quorum.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Crisostomo motioned, seconded by Dr. Okada, to approve the minutes from the May 18, 2021, regular monthly meeting. The Board voted by voice with a vote of 8-0 for the motion, motion passed.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Chairman Mendiola announced that under Board Policy 125.6 affords the community to address the board. He announced that each person who signed up on the public participation list will be given three (3) minutes to address the board. Chairman Mendiola announced the lineup for public participation.

Mrs. Cassandra Sachdev is the first participant and represented Moda Gino's. She thanked the board for allowing her the community to voice their concerns on BP 401. She acknowledges the numerous changes that happened in the past school year and noted the decision for school uniforms not to be mandated. Cassandra assured the board that all the vendors completely understood and supported the non-mandating of uniforms as COVID-19 affected all parents, students, and families. She also asked the board to please consider the vendors when it comes to board policy 401. As vendors, they are contracted with the public schools and work closely with the parent-teacher associations, parent-teacher organizations, and parent-teacher-student associations. We come to agreements to school uniforms – colors, materials, shorts, pants, and other items that determine the quality of the school uniform. Mrs. Sachdev reminded the board that as part of their agreement the vendors hold inventory of the uniforms as well. She asked that the board keep vendors in mind that should they choose not to reinstate board policy 401, that vendors request guidance and assistance for the remaining inventory of school uniforms. Cassandra reminded the board that should the board need vendors to provide extra support, including more uniform vouchers for parents, to please let the vendors know so that they may do whatever they can to support parents and students in need of support.

Mrs. Sachdev concluded her testimony and the Chairman thanked her for her input. Chairman Mendiola then asked the board members if they had any question. None responded and so he called the next participant.

Mr. Kekoa Tydingco, a business owner who works with Mr. Bic Sobti, who testifies today as a parent, business owner, and as a person who works in the private sector. He stated that he would like to share a few points why he supports the reinstatement of mandatory uniforms. Mr. Tydingco stressed that as a parent, he believes uniforms plays a crucial part in school safety, stating that with the ratio of students to staff, uniforms make it easier for school staff, faculty, and administrators to identify students. He addresses his second point that uniforms make students' social-economical statuses less distinctives. Students will not have to worry about being judged by their peers because their clothes are not the latest fashion. His final point is that uniforms only increases student moral and pride in their school. Mr. Tydingco notes in his closing that all over the world, students are required to wear uniforms and says that uniforms give parents and students one less thing to worry about. The Chairman asked his fellow board members if anyone had questions. With no questions, he thanked Mr. Tydingco and called upon the final public participant.

Attorney Daniel Somerfleck, Director of Guam Legal Services, wanted to address two (2) issues with the board this evening. The first issue is parents requesting to record IEP meetings and pointed out that currently, the Guam Department of Education (GDOE) has an unwritten and unapproved policy that does not allow parents to record IEP meetings and have made two (2) exceptions to that policy yet nothing is written.

Dr. McNinch then asked for Attorney Somerfleck to explain what IEP stands for, which then Attorney Somerfleck responded, "Individual Education Plan," and continued to explain how an IEP is developed for students. Somerfleck stated that he has attended hundreds of these IEP meetings and noted they are not simplistic and parents who speak English as second language or parents who may have a cognitive disability struggle to understand. He implored the board as policy members for the GDOE to create clear and fine terms pertaining to recordings of IEP meetings. Attorney Somerfleck referred to

meeting with the Superintendent, stating it was a very productive meeting and is grateful for the Superintendent's support. The Superintendent, according to Somerfleck, agreed to develop a written policy and pointed out that the development of this policy is the board's duty. He stated that the community depends on the board to develop policies of how schools move forward.

Attorney Somerfleck's second issue was in regards to psychologists who work specifically with our students with special needs. To his knowledge, GDOE only has one psychologist who meets qualifications; everyone else are school counselors. He knows the two positions differ greatly as they are entirely different education tracks and their functions in most public education systems are different and their roles are crucial in evaluating the needs of our students if they are receiving services. He thanked the Chairman and the board for extending his time.

Mr. Robert Crisostomo stated that he would like to clarify Attorney Somerfleck's two issues that he brought up. Mr. Crisostomo asked who have schools been using for IEP meetings if there is only one psychologist. Somerfleck responded school counselors. Mr. Crisostomo then noted that it is a credential thing and Somerfleck agreed and then listed the requirements to be considered a school psychologist. Mr. Crisostomo noted that it may be too much in forward thinking for the coming school year but, if possible, maybe outsource to psychologists in the community. Mr. Mendiola notably agreed.

Mr. Crisostomo then addressed Mr. Somerfleck's first issue of the unwritten policy. Mr. Crisostomo commented that he did not understand why these meetings are not being recorded. He continued by stating that if IEP meetings are not recorded, then it becomes a "he said, she said" situation. Somerfleck responded saying it is more important for parents to record the IEP meetings so that they may review and be prepared for the next IEP meeting. He closed by saying he had good cooperation from the Superintendent and that it was appropriate to bring it up to the policy board. Chairman Mendiola thanked Attorney Somerfleck for his advocacy and bringing his concerns to the board.

Mr. Mendiola said he will refer Somerfleck's correspondences with the Superintendent to the Curriculum committee as well as the parent representative on the board to review the recommendations. Mr. Mendiola says he will ensure that all procedures will be followed if a policy should be drafted. Mr. Mendiola acknowledged Mr. Crisostomo. Mr. Crisostomo noted that a policy should be created prior to the upcoming school year. Mr. Mendiola reminded Mr. Crisostomo that he wants to ensure that necessary research and discussion take place. The Superintendent was acknowledged and he noted that he did forward the correspondence to the board and the school psychologist. As the GDOE approaches training sessions for the coming school year, he will be sure that the recording policy be addressed as well.

The Superintendent reminded Attorney Somerfleck that GDOE's practice is in line with the current Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) guidance. He continued to say that as the board considers the policy overall, GDOE will work with Mr. Somerfleck to ensure the policy is discussed and support the board's efforts. Mr. Fernandez assured that staff from GDOE and Mr. Somerfleck's office will sit down in the near future to discuss the credentialing of school psychologists as well other issues that have arisen. The GDOE will work with the board and keep them abreast of the updates on training of personnel and school staff.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Fernandez for his input and recommended that Mr. Somerfleck provide a copy of his testimony. Somerfleck responded that he will provide references and information that would be useful to the board. The Chairman thanked Attorney Somerfleck for his testimony.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

CORRESPONDENCE – Chairman Mendiola noted that the board has addressed the correspondence of Attorney Somerfleck and requested to move forward to the Superintendent's report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT –

Summer School – Mr. Fernandez reported that we are midway through the summer school program. Initially, we started with only 1,500 students and now we have approximately 6,000 students enrolled at 40 of our school sites so GDOE has seen quite an expansion. Mr. Fernandez noted that this is direct line with board's request that we expand learning recovery opportunities for our students.

GDOE/DYA Internship Program – Mr. Fernandez noted that many of our students can be seen at various participating agencies as many of them opted to participate in an internship program coordinated by GDOE and the Department of Youth Affairs (DYA) and supported by the Governor. The internship is funded through GDOE's federal funds and will continue for the next six weeks. Mr. Fernandez was happy to share that this is similar to a once robust internship program that he and his peers participated and that this internship program is one of many ways GDOE is addressing learning recovery as students are afforded on-the-job training.

Grab 'n' Go to End on July 16 – Mr. Fernandez announced that a press release has been sent out that the Grab 'n' Go meal distributions will end on July 16, which also marks the end of the summer school program. He noted that because we are looking for students to return to five days of instructions, the department is looking to gear its focus on providing breakfast and lunch in school cafeterias to our students. Mr. Fernandez also noted that reminders have been included to the bags of food being distributed to parents and families about the discontinuation of the Grab 'n' Go meals. He also shared with the board that this program was a critical support and if another shut down should occur, the GDOE will be able to resume the program as long as it has proper leeway to prepare necessary food supplies and if the federal government allows it. He noted that GDOE is ready to return to normal operations for the coming school year.

Mr. Fernandez stated that information on the preparation for the opening of the school year is provided in their folders and the task force will be able to address any questions. Updated numbers of vaccinations are also included in the board member packets. He noted that we may not be at the 80% marker right now but we can track our progress to that goal as the opening of the school year approaches. Mr. Fernandez shared that there have been questions on

Mr. Fernandez shared that work with facilities planning continues. He noted that the GDOE is still at 30% of the design process. Weekly meetings, Fernandez shared, will commence as they prepare financing packets.

Mr. Fernandez announce that any items regarding financing will be addressed later in the meeting.

Chairman Mendiola acknowledged Mr. Peter Ada.

Mr. Ada wanted clarifications that the students participating in the internship program were high school students and that if they are high school students, are they receiving credit or service-learning hours.

Deputy Superintendent Joseph Sanchez responded to Mr. Ada's questions stating that students cannot receive credit if they are being compensated. He also responded that the department is looking to offer elective credit for the internship program for the next cycle.

Dr. Okada motioned, seconded by Mr. Crisostomo, to approve the Superintendent's Report. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

V. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

IBOGS Report – Miss Elyssa Cuevas briefly covered two student reports provided in the board packets. She first summarized the details of June 16 IBOGS meeting with Deputy Superintendent Joe Sanchez,

where he reviewed the proposed grading policies and state strategic plan. They also discussed board policy 350 and tiered grading system with 6 grading levels.

Miss Cuevas introduced the second student report which focused on a school uniform student survey that was open from June 11 to June 18. She noted that 54 students participated in the school uniform student survey. Miss Cuevas shared that 88.9% of students wanted uniforms optional while the other 11.1% voted to make uniforms mandatory. She closed her report by noting that students believe uniforms should be optional as many families still continue to struggle financially.

GFT Report – Mr. Fedenko noted some minor technical difficulties in not being able to see the meeting but carried out his report. He noted that GFT continues to attend meetings with the board and their committees. Mr. Fedenko shared that GFT is preparing for the tuberculosis clinic they usually host at the beginning of the school year. He ended his report by saying he is looking forward to safe school year.

MCOG Report – Mr. Fernandez shared the notes of Mayor Savares' report. Her report stated that mayors continue to assist and coordinate food commodities distribution sites in their respective villages. Mayors also are coordinating sister squadrons to assist schools in preparation for the coming school year. Her report also noted that several mayors have been working with schools to dispose of green waste and have been working with the Department of Agriculture to obtain the proper permits.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) Executive Committee – No report.

2) Instructional & Academic Support Committee

Head Start Report – Ms. Lou Benavente noted there were two items up for approval for Head Start. The item of business was to make a motion to approved the minutes for the Head Start Report for June 2021.

Ms. Catherine Schroeder shared several updates to her report. For summer school, the Head Start program has 190 students enrolled and set a maximum capacity to 10 students per classroom. Of the 190 students, 23 are virtual students. The program has been very successful according to the parent surveys they received.

Ms. Schroeder's other update was for their policy council's approval on a memorandum of understanding with the University of Guam's Department of Agriculture. They have worked with this department for many years and have formalized agreement that was approved at the policy board's meeting two weeks ago. Ms. Schroeder also shared that Dr. Tanisha Acfalle was approved to be the community partner for the policy council. She also noted new directives from the new director of Head Start and said the information may be found in the board members' packets.

Ms. Schroeder shared another point that the Head Start program is looking at full enrollment for the program by January 2022. She pointed out that they are aware that full enrollment is based off the COVID-19 guidelines and stated they are also looking at outdoor classes as an option to adhere to social distancing guidelines.

Ms. Benavente motioned, seconded by Ms. Borja, to approve the Head Start Report. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Ms. Benavente requested a motion of action to approve the memorandum of understanding with the University of Guam. She elaborated upon the memorandum that was also included in the packets.

Ms. Benavente motioned, seconded by Ms. Borja, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Guam. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Grading Policy - Ms. Benavente reported that her committee hosted several stakeholder presentations and input sessions to discuss the proposed grading policy for next school year. This was discussed during three board work sessions. She thanked Ms. Karla Borja for heading one work session. Ms. Benavente requested to keep the grading policy on the agenda and would like to put it to a vote at the next regular board meeting in July and is also requesting for one more board session before the next board meeting.

SY 2021-2022 Amended Calendar - Ms. Benavente reported that the committee met with all stakeholders to discuss the change in the calendar for School Year 2021 – 2022. She then listed the changes for the proposed amended calendar and pointed out the number instructional days, professional development days, and days set aside for parent-teacher conferences. She pointed out the start day was changed from August 10 to August 12. Head Start days have been updated to match the proposed amended calendar.

Ms. Benavente motioned, seconded by Mr. Ada, to approve the revised school calendar for School Year 2021 - 2022. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

3) Safe & Healthy Schools Committee

DSRTF Updates – Dr. Okada recognized the work that will continue in preparation for the upcoming school year as the committee identifies the healthiest and safest ways to bring our students back to face-to-face instruction while keeping COVID-19 guidelines in mind. She noted that there will be much activity taking place between this point in time and the beginning of the next school year.

School Uniform Policy – Dr. Okada shared that 4,182 individuals participated in a school uniform survey that was administered to parents/guardians, administrators, personnel, and staff. At the elementary level, Dr. Okada shared that overall, 62% of those who took the survey would like the reinstatement of the school uniform policy. She also shared several comments from the survey.

Mr. Ada shared how he conducted an unofficial survey of his own to determine how parents felt about the mandating of uniforms for students. He shared some parents' thoughts and as well as some of the insights he gained as he attended several principal meetings. Mr. Ada acknowledged the IBOGS representatives' hard work to gather student responses and reiterated his support to reinstate the policy.

Ms. Cuevas expressed her belief that uniforms should be optional. She noted that majority of students and their families are still struggling financially. She recommended that if the board policy should be reinstated, that more should be done to provide more support for those direly struggling. Ms. Cuevas also noted that uniforms are not a top priority for most students as many were more concerned adjusting to different models of learning.

Dr. McNinch shared that uniforms are an economic relief for most families as students are more pressured to fit in with the latest fashion. He continued to note that uniforms make it easier to identify school-aged individuals. He commended the IBOGS representatives for their efforts to rally against the survey and to never lose that fire to fight. He did note that if students found online learning a struggle that online teaching is more difficult.

Dr. Okada stated that during one work session, she noted that there was tremendous support from the school administrative teams to support any students who are struggling. She also acknowledged the vendors and hope the vendors will do all they can to help our students return to sense of normalcy when they return to school.

Mr. Crisostomo stated that we cannot lose sight of why we are reinstating the uniform policy and point is safety. He shared his experience a public-school principal and reminded all those in attendance how the vendors provided support, but students still did not feel inclined to wear their uniforms. He noted that the board is a policy board and safety should be the top priority.

Mr. Fernandez acknowledged that this is a board decision, but student voices are always welcomed. He reminded all that votes will not always go favorably but that is why we have the board as they are tasked to make the difficult decisions that will benefit our students. Mr. Fernandez thanked the IBOGS and the rest of the board for the survey.

Mr. Fedenko noted valid points at several work sessions. He pointed out that Mr. Fernandez stated that the board is not voting to change the policy but to reinstate it. Mr. Fedenko stated that the uniform policy could be revised to address some of the issues that were brought up during the work sessions and board meetings. He reminded the board that they voted to suspend the policy last year and questioned has much changed since last year. Mr. Fedenko asked to think compassionately as to why the board suspended the policy in the first place. He empathized with the IBOGS representative and recommended that the board extend the suspension of the policy. Mr. Fedenko asked the board to think compassionately of others since he cannot vote on the matter.

Chairman Mendiola thanked Mrs. Gutierrez and the committee on their hard work. He appreciated the many point of views that came to light during the discussion. He shared that the board did ask for the survey to get input from all our stakeholders. He noted that business owners have made a commitment to supporting our families during this time.

Dr. Okada motioned, seconded by Mr. Ada, to approve the reinstatement of Board Policy 401, the mandated school uniform policy, for SY 2021 - 2022. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

- 4) **Policy Review & Strategic Planning Committee** – Mr. Crisostomo stated the work of the committee is on-going and acknowledged Deputy Superintendent Joe Sanchez for his hard work at collecting input and conducting presentations with our stakeholders. Mr. Crisostomo continued on by requesting that the board to reinstate a seventh committee solely committed to data. He reminded the board of the purpose for a committee that can focus on analyzing specific data sets for the different committees.

Mr. Crisostomo motioned, seconded by Dr. McNinch, to approve add the Data Set Committee. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

- 5) **Fiscal Management** – Chairman Mendiola stated they recently had work session for his committee but would like focus more on the updates to the amended budget for FY 2021-2022. He first addressed the Declaration of Financial Status Designation for February and March of 2020-2021 and referred to several corrective actions taken by the department to meet its financial obligation.

Mr. Fernandez then read out Resolution 2021-06. He reiterated the Chairman's sentiments that it is a bit dated but it brought to the board for its affirmation.

Mr. Ada motioned, seconded by Mr. Crisostomo, to approve add the Data Set Committee. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Amended Budget for FY 2021-2022 – Chairman Mendiola shared that the committee had the opportunity to meet with the Superintendent, our management team, and the budget and financing chair of the Legislature. He shared that Senator Joe San Agustin has given the board and the GDOE another opportunity to resubmit the budget. Mr. Mendiola has brought a resolution to amend the budget for fiscal year 2021 – 2022 which includes a decrease \$80 million. He reminded all that July 15 is when the department go before the legislature to justify the budget. Mr. Mendiola noted one particular change and that is an increment in pay for our school nurses. He stated that the resolution has been included in the packets.

Dr. Okada summarized the amendments made to the fiscal year budget for 2021-2022. She noted that detailed changes are explained in detail in the packets.

Dr. Okada motioned, seconded by Mr. Crisostomo, to approve Resolution 2021-08. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

VII. NEW BUSINESS – Mr. Crisostomo recommended that we do more to recognition for other personnel that go above and beyond to support our students. Mr. Fernandez responded that we used to host recognition ceremonies for employees that have gone above and beyond to support our students but because of COVID-19, the ceremonies stopped. Mr. Mendiola also noted that we celebrated student teams as well as retired employees. Mr. Fernandez said he looks forward to hosting those recognition ceremonies again. Chairman Mendiola also reminded those in attendance to recommended anyone of the World War II generation who did not receive a high school diploma, he would like to recognize them and give them an opportunity to receive an honorary high school diploma.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT – None.

Mr. Crisostomo motioned, seconded by Dr. McNinch, to adjourn the meeting. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Mr. Mendiola adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:

For: Michelle Franquez

Date: July 18, 2021

TIA LYNN S. SALAS
Administrative Officer

MINUTES OF JUNE 29, 2021, REGULAR BOARD MEETING:

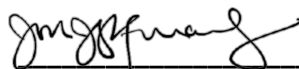
() Approved as submitted

() Approved subject to corrections

() Other: _____



MARK B. MENDIOLA
GEB Chairman



JON J. P. FERNANDEZ
Executive Secretary/GDOE Superintendent

Date: September 23, 2021

Date: September 23, 2021



GUAM EDUCATION BOARD

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MARK B. MENDIOLA
Chair

MARY A. Y. OKADA
Vice Chair

**GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, July 20, 2021
6 pm**

**3rd Floor Conference Room, GDOE Building B
MINUTES**

VOTING MEMBERS

Mark B. Mendiola, Chairman
Mary A. Y. Okada, Ed.D, Vice-Chair
Peter Alecxis D. Ada
Felicitas B. Angel
Lourdes M. Benavente
Karlyn RCG Borja
Robert A. Crisostomo
Maria A. Gutierrez
Ron L. McNinch, Ph.D

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Elyssa Cuevas
IBOGS Representative
Timothy Fedenko
GFT Representative
Mayor, Melissa B. Savares
MCOG Representative

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Jon J.P. Fernandez
GDOE Superintendent

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Mark B. Mendiola, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Mr. Fernandez, Superintendent and Executive Secretary, took the roll call. The following members were present for the meeting:

Voting Members:

Mendiola, Mark B. – Chairman
Ada, Peter Alecxis D.
Angel, Felicitas B.*
Benavente, Lourdes M. – via Zoom video conference
Borja, Karlyn RCG
Crisostomo, Robert A. – via Zoom video conference
Gutierrez, Maria A. – via Zoom video conference
McNinch, Dr. Ron L.

Non-Voting Members:

Cuevas, Elyssa – IBOGS Representative – via Zoom video conference
Fedenko, Timothy – GFT Representative

Legal Counsel:

Stake, James

Absent:

Okada, Dr. Mary A.Y. – Vice-Chair (excused)
Savares, Melissa B. – MCOG Representative

* Arrived after roll call

The Superintendent announced that seven (7) members of the Board were present, constituting a quorum.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Ada motioned, seconded by Ms. Borja, to approve the minutes from the June 29, 2021, regular monthly meeting, subject to corrections. The Board voted by voice with a vote of 7-0 for the motion, motion passed.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

CORRESPONDENCE – Mr. Mendiola noted that he received two letters from the Guam Federation of Teachers (GFT) regarding the negotiations for the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) for the GDOE support staff and the CBA for GDOE teachers. He stated that he would refer this item to the Executive Committee of the Board and from there the Board will appoint six members to the negotiating committee. He stated that if any of the Board members are interested in participating in this discussion to please inform the Superintendent. He commented that in the past, the superintendent usually has a negotiation team that he assigns to meet with the GFT and then when the negotiations comes forward, it comes through the board liaison that would become from the Executive Committee.

Mr. Fernandez stated that he would like to seek the input of Mr. Fedenko on behalf of the GFT. He noted that Mr. Fedenko indicates that the support staff contract did expire, obviously we are in a pandemic situation but we do want to get negotiations back on track. He stated that he would ask the board if they would consider the possibility of extending that contract until such time that they have the chance to renegotiate - maybe for a year or two years - just so that there is no gap. Right now, because the contract has expired, the contract doesn't exist.

Mr. Mendiola responded that he would like to consider that option. He asked the Superintendent if there is any clause in that portion of the agreement that says the contract will continue on in the event of a pandemic.

Mr. Fernandez responded that what he would like to do by the next board meeting, if he could have the chance to research what the options are. He noted that it usually takes time to negotiate but if extending the contract is something that we cannot do he will inform the board.

Mr. Mendiola stated that we will go in that direction and he just wants to make sure that when we are ready to inform the board it will come from the Executive Committee. He asked whether there were any comments.

Ms. Gutierrez commented that the board will have to take action on this and noted that in the past the contract had expired and they were able to extend the contract in good faith. She recommended that during the next board meeting, that the board take action to extend the contract because of the pandemic but noted that both parties would have to agree.

Mr. Mendiola commented that it is the direction he would like to take and asked the Superintendent to take note.

Mr. Mendiola then informed the board that he received a letter that was addressed to him and the Vice-Chair from the International Royal Inc., Mr. Bic. He noted that the letter basically stated that the International Royal Inc. is committed to assisting parents by providing uniform vouchers for those who cannot afford to purchase uniforms.

Moving on, Mr. Mendiola then informed the board that the Superintendent received a letter from the Department of Administration (DOA) and the board was cc'd in the letter. He stated that the letter was regarding the disbursement of cash and the letter highlighted the Territorial Educational Facilities Fund. Mr. Mendiola noted that the Superintendent would update the board once they come to the budget section of the meeting.

Mr. Mendiola also informed the board that he had just signed the Superintendent's Personnel Action.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT –

The Superintendent provided highlights from his report.

Summer School Nearly Complete. Summer school for elementary and middle school students ended on Friday, July 16, 2021. The fourth session of summer school for high school ends July 22, 2021. For high school students who were able to attain sufficient credits to graduate, Rainbow Graduation details are as follow: Rainbow Graduation (for all high school summer graduates), drive-through graduation ceremony Southern High School, Monday, July 26, 2021, 9:00am to 11:00am

Grab-and-Go School Meal Services. The last Grab-and-Go school meal distribution took place Friday, July 16, 2021. In preparation for returning to full face-to-face instruction next school year, school meal operations will shift to in-school meal services only. Since March 2020 to July 2021, more than seven million school meals were distributed to eligible children on Guam.

Preparation for School Year 2021-22. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control issued updated guidance on July 9, 2021. Under the new guidance, in-person instruction is prioritized as are efforts to vaccinate all eligible individuals, including students aged 12 and above. Face masks continue to be encouraged in enclosed, congregate settings, including school facilities, and 3-foot physical distancing is still recommended. Importantly, the guidance stresses that the physical distancing requirement should not be used to prohibit in-person instruction, but other layered mitigation strategies (masking, temperature checks, ventilation, etc.) should remain in place. GDOE is working with the Governor's office and DPHSS to ensure that updated DPHSS guidance is consistent with the new CDC guidance, which will allow GDOE to open for in-person instruction five days a week for all students.

Ms. Gutierrez motioned, seconded by Ms. Benavente, to approve the Superintendent's Report. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 7-0. The motion passed.

Ms. Borja asked the Superintendent to follow up; she noted that she recalls that DPW has plans to restripe some of the roads but some of our schools and the areas right in front of our schools, need a little bit of work before school starts because people cannot see where the sidewalk and easement are. She commented that it is really critical especially in high traffic areas. She noted that Mayor Savares did say that they were working with DPW to help but unfortunately the mayor isn't present to provide an update. She asked the Superintendent if we could follow up on that issue.

Mr. Mendiola agreed that Ms. Borja made a good point and commented that he knows that some mayors do assist with traffic control at the beginning of the school year.

Mr. Crisostomo asked whether there are any changes in the bus protocol. He asked with the now relaxed restraints from the Governor's Office, will Bus Operations be filling up the buses or are they still going to have only one person per seat?

Mr. Fernandez responded that Bus Operations is working with DPHSS and they should have updated guidance by or before Friday. He stated that he reviewed the executive orders and the Public Health guidance relative to school bus transportation as well as CDC guidance and they don't have limits on the capacity of the buses at that level. Unless DPHSS comes in and sets a limit, their recommendation is to maximize distancing as much as possible but it doesn't give any clearer guidance than that. He noted that the other guidance that is typically given in the school bus setting is mandating the use of a mask as well as if possible, opening up the windows for ventilation. He stated that those are the recommendations of which he is aware. He noted that DPHSS is working with DPW and he was informed today that by Friday, they should have DPHSS's input. He commented that he doesn't believe that there will be any incorporation of temperature checks as part of the operation for reasons stated earlier but we will stand by and wait for DPHSS's final guidance.

V. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

IBOGS Report – No report.

GFT Report – Mr. Fedenko acknowledged that the letters were sent out regarding the CBA and commented that Ms. Gutierrez was correct when she commented on what happened in the past when the contract had expired. He stated that the GFT and the GDOE have a good working relationship and the GFT does not want a repeat of what happened in the past. Mr. Fedenko also announced that they would be providing PPD testing for the teachers and that the information would be posted on their website.

MCOG Report – No report.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) **Executive Committee** – No report.

2) **Instructional & Academic Support Committee**
Head Start Report -

Ms. Benavente motioned, seconded by Ms. Gutierrez, to approve the Head Start Report. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 7-0. The motion passed.

Ms. Schroeder reported that there are two items on the action for the board. She noted that at the Head Start Policy Council meeting on Wednesday night, they discussed the requests that they were submitting to Region IV. The requests made to Region IV were for consideration to place shelters on some of the campuses which would allow them to have extended outdoor classrooms. She noted that because the costs for these shelters are over \$5,000, it requires approval from the Regional Office. She also noted that nothing would be done until the administrators at the schools agreed to have the shelters added to the campus and stated that it would be available for use by the entire school and not limited to just the Head Start class. The second item that was sent to Region IV for approval was to purchase a new shipping container. Ms. Schroeder noted that the container they have is 21 years old, rusty, and they are unable to move it from the Piti Warehouse and Head Start would like to move it to the Tiyan compound. She commented that they received permission from CoreTech to move it closer to the office so that they can store any excess furniture or records.

Ms. Schroeder then informed the board that they are requesting to move the start time of the limited-term, part-time aides up a week so that they can help set-up classrooms and if they're new, they could provide them with additional orientations. Ms. Schroeder stated that they do have funds for all of the proposals.

Mr. Fernandez asked Ms. Schroeder if she would need to amend her request for the shipping container if in fact it does not become an option. Mr. Fernandez stated that he understands she submitted her request for the shipping container and to locate it here onsite and has received approval from CoreTech but he hasn't had the opportunity to review and approve it. He stated that he's not saying he's not going to approve the request but he wants to make sure to consider all factors but he also does not want to delay it, if she can get approval and then we can make the decision later or if she wants to amend her request instead.

Ms. Schroeder responded that she agreed that Mr. Fernandez's suggestion would work, if they get approval then they know they can proceed with the other approvals being in place.

Mr. Fernandez agreed and stated at least it would get the approval of funds and then if something should happen to come back at least she would have the approval. Mr. Fernandez stated that he just wanted to inform the board that even though he understands Head Start's situation, we also are at a point where we're taking in an overview of the use of the facilities here and there might be other

things that move and are in place. He noted that he doesn't want to say that it isn't going to happen but he is okay if the board approves this so that it allows it to be authorized and then he can work with Ms. Schroeder as we go through the analysis and process.

Mr. Mendiola asked if anyone had any comments. He then agreed and instructed Ms. Schroeder to work it out with the Superintendent. He stated that he just wants to ensure that the funds will help with what she's really trying to accomplish.

Mr. Fernandez stated that he understands that there might be a purchaser on the site and would like to understand what's happening with all the property. We've had some temporary uses of some of CoreTech's property but in the event that they sell it off to another purchaser than we want to make sure that everything that we're doing is aligned with our access to the site.

Mr. Mendiola acknowledge the attendance of Ms. Felicitas Angel.

Grading Policy - Ms. Benavente reported that in the board packet, the board members would find the recently updated grading policy proposal from the Division of Curriculum and Instruction. She stated that the policy proposals were developed over the course of four months and involved numerous opportunities for input and revision by stakeholders. These proposals, if passed, will update the foundations in Board Policy 350 pertaining to the grading policy and will take effect in the upcoming fall semester 2021.

Ms. Benavente motioned, seconded by Ms. Gutierrez, to adopt the proposed grading policies and related changes to Board Policy 350. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Mr. Ada asked how the proposed changes differ from the current board policy.

Mr. Sanchez responded that with regards to the current COVID policy there was not much difference. It is basically taking the current COVID policies and making them permanent. There are minor additions. For example, the grading criteria scales are single numbers (1, 2, 3, and 4) but we've added point 5. He explained that we've added a procedure for teachers to come up with a composite score. All grades have to end up with a final single grade but because of the system, you're actually grading and testing multiple standards. During the current year, the COVID year, we didn't give teachers a formula to calculate the final grade, we just gave them the final grade levels. He continued to explain that the teachers asked for us to give them a formula so that they could consistently calculate the final grade. We actually gave them two options that they will be able to pull from. The third item was that the final grade was expressed in a number and parents asked if there was a way that we could convert it into a letter grade.

Mr. Ada asked whether it would be consistent amongst all grades.

Mr. Sanchez responded that it would not be consistent for high schools because the high schools have opted to stick to final percentage grades.

Mr. Ada asked numerical for high schools?

Mr. Sanchez responded, yes. He reiterated that elementary through middle school will have a final letter grade and high schools will have both a letter grade and a final percentage grade. Just because it's a percentage grade, it doesn't stop them from utilizing the tiered system like the elementary and middle schools but the difference is that the teachers still wanted to convert them to a percentage.

Mr. Ada asked whether they will be using a ten-point or seven-point grading system for the numerical grading system.

Mr. Sanchez responded neither. The numerical system is four points. He noted that they added a “zero” for the absence of understanding the standard and a “no grade” to the scale.

Mr. Ada asked if there was an “incomplete”.

Mr. Sanchez responded that no, there is no “incomplete”. Mr. Sanchez explained that the only time the student would receive no credit or no grade is if the teacher could not access the student at all.

Mr. Ada continued to ask for more clarification and Mr. Sanchez provided clarification.

Ms. Benavente thanked her colleagues for listening to the recordings from all the work sessions and thanked Mr. Ada for asking for further clarification. She also thanked her colleagues for their support for this matter.

Ms. Gutierrez stated that all the regional meetings that were held, they were sure to reach out to all the stakeholders. She noted that as board members, if they are unable to attend the work session, it’s important to listen to the recordings so that they can listen to all the input from stakeholders. She thanks Ms. Borja for attending all the work sessions and thanked Mr. Sanchez for all the work done for this item.

Mr. Sanchez added that he also wanted to highlight another feature aside from the academic component that is really important, the citizenship and life readiness skills section. He noted that he doesn’t remember a time when citizenship was ever clearly identified in department policy. He explained that what we’ve done is taken twenty-first century skills, life learning skills, and career readiness skills and put them into our citizenship and life readiness grade. He went on to explain the six components that will comprise the grade.

3) Safe & Healthy Schools Committee

DSRTF Updates – Mr. Fernandez stated that he informed Ms. Gutierrez and the board that the critical factors for reopening schools was the three-foot physical distancing which he thinks was an improvement from the prior six-foot distancing, but still posed a problem for some of our school facilities. With the Center for Disease Control’s (CDC) updated guidance that the physical distancing is recommended but not required in order for us to promote in-person learning, that satisfies us so long as DPHSS and the Governor follow through with guidance that is aligned to the CDC’s. We are working with that and our plans are to continue to move forward with face-to-face instruction this coming school year. He noted that we will be putting out information for our stakeholders so that they are also updated and clear on what to expect this school year.

4) Policy Review & Strategic Planning Committee – Mr. Crisostomo stated that he was going to back track to Ms. Lou’s committee. Addressing Mr. Mendiola he stated that he, Mr. Mendiola referred something to her committee from Dan Somerfleck. He asked if that was Ms. Lou’s committee.

Mr. Mendiola responded yes.

Mr. Crisostomo asked if they were going to get a readout before school starts.

Mr. Mendiola responded yes.

Mr. Crisostomo stated that with regard to the Strategic Planning Committee, Mr. Sanchez has been very busy, Mr. Superintendent and he is your one work horse in the Department. Please don’t burn him out. He stated he needs him at least till September and then the Superintendent can burn him

out all he wants. He stated that he needs Mr. Sanchez because they are falling behind on the Strategic Plan and he needs the priorities. He needs the different committees and priorities to turn in their templates to him so that he can start reviewing them but Mr. Sanchez is way too busy. He needs to sit with Dr. Zeni Natividad and iron out what he needs so that when he reports out in August to the Superintendent and the board, that they are prepared to unveil the full strategic plan. Everyone's been read into it. We just have to get back on track again.

Mr. Mendiola noted that he is aware that Mr. Crisostomo would be meeting with Mr. Sanchez tomorrow which is a holiday. He recognized Mr. Sanchez for his hard work and stated that it is appreciated and duly recognized by the board.

5) Fiscal Management – Chairman Mendiola stated in the board packets have our payables. A couple years ago, we were actually tracking and we were able to make payments. As he mentioned earlier, part of the exposure to the Territorial Educational Facilities Fund has put us in a position where some of our payments are behind but we have been managing the cash flow. The letter that we received from DOA solidifies the challenges that the Department faces when it comes to exposure to the Territorial Educational Facilities Fund. It noted that in the financial report, we are tracking pretty well from the releases from the DOA with respect to operations and some other line items areas. However, we won't truly know the extent of what those shortfalls are going to be because Territorial Educational Facilities Fund is tied to the tax collections for property. He noted that they had a busy day before the Legislature. He thanked his colleagues for tuning in and commenting. We resubmitted a revised version of our FY2022 budget and we were able to back out close to about \$80,000,000 from that to use the federal funds to remove some of the local appropriation requirements. The legislature was very open to it because they realized that the DOE is doing everything in its power to maximize its resources. There were some questions for the Superintendent and he will be providing responses. He noted that the one thing that they really pushed for was the Maintenance of Effort because it is our commitment as a local government so that we can have access to those funds. He commented that of course we want to maximize the use of those federal resources. He continued to report the different points discussed at the budget hearing. Mr. Mendiola noted that they asked about the High Risk Status designation, which we have been reporting out to the public. He stated that he has asked the Superintendent that within the next couple of weeks or months, they should go before the new administration out in Washington, D.C. He noted that they really need to push for this because we are budgeting about 2.5 million to pay the Third-Party Fiduciary agent. We need to reintroduce ourselves to the new people who are coming in. We have the top level management's support to stop moving the goal post and we are sticking to the Re-evaluation Plan (REP). We want to firm up that commitment. Vice Chair Okada, he and the Superintendent want to push that effort so that we can build ourselves. We continue to meet the obligations of their special conditions letter. He stated that the superintendent and our team will probably be seeking the board's support to go make our case again in Washington, D.C. so that we can hopefully get ourselves off of this sooner than later.

Mr. Fernandez added that during the budget testimony there were questions about Simon Sanchez. He mentioned to the Legislature that within a months' time, sometime in August we will be ready for a more public presentation of the design progress. We thought it would be the right time to make sure the board is well up to speed and we're happy to inform our stakeholders as well. Right now the design is in progress but most of the discussion has been happening directly with Simon Sanchez stakeholders and the users of the facility to really guide that design. As he mentioned at the hearing, we remain on track and looking at a timeframe to break ground probably around May or June of next year.

Mr. Mendiola thanked everyone for their support and stated that they will continue to support the Superintendent and requested that update the board when necessary as things come across his desk that the board should be aware of.

Mr. Mendiola noted that the Superintendent was invited to provide congressional testimony on food security. He stated that the superintendent provided the testimony. He thanked Senator Mike San Nicolas for inviting him and Guam will be represented by the Superintendent.

Mr. Fernandez stated that it was before the Chairman of the House Rules Committee. He clarified that it was not necessarily a formal congressional hearing, it was more of a roundtable discussion. Chairman McGovern believes that hunger and food security issues are critical across the nation but especially coming out of a pandemic. This particular roundtable was focused on hunger in the territories. Congressman San Nicolas reached out through his staff to invite me to participate and it will take place tomorrow, July 21, 2021 at 5 am.

Dr. McNinch commented that school is about to start and they probably won't meet again before then, he asked the Superintendent if there is anything that the board can do between now and the opening of schools that they should be aware of.

Mr. Fernandez responded that the most important thing that the board is able to do is give us the leadership and guidance and really helping use to return to in-person instruction because that is really critical to our students coming out of this pandemic. He commented that he knows everyone is anxious but at the same time we know that education is important. He stated that there is a lot of work that still has to be done between now and the opening of the schools and he, the management team and operations team will focus on getting that done. He noted that what we're really trying to do and what we will look to the board to join us for are the parent sessions to update them on what to expect for the coming school year.

Mr. Crisostomo asked if the ACT Aspire results would be released to the public. He also mentioned that UOG wants to do a presentation for the leadership degree that they are going to offer and he stated that he would like to get them on the agenda. He noted that it falls under the leadership priority of the strategic plan.

Mr. Mendiola responded duly noted, and stated that he would refer the presentation from UOG to Ms. Lou Benavente's committee and they can provide information for that program. Regarding the Aspire results, he will have the superintendent provide that through the Curriculum Committee to have the discussion and layout the results of that.

Mr. Fernandez responded that he does want to respond to Mr. Crisostomo and joked about how the newspaper sometimes reports as if they're not having discussions as friends. He stated as Mr. Crisostomo knows, we do not bury it under the rug but we typically report it during the Annual State of Education Address at the very least but we would be happy to discuss it with him. He noted that we used to not get the results until later but now we're getting them earlier and we would be happy to discuss it with him in the Curriculum and Instruction Committee how we want to proceed with that. He noted to Mr. Crisostomo that sometimes people don't get his sarcasm.

VII. NEW BUSINESS – None.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT – Ms. Gutierrez thanked her colleagues and the IBOGS team for their prayers noted that she will try her best to join the next meeting after her surgery and asked that we keep her in our prayers.

Mr. Ada motioned, seconded by Ms. Gutierrez, to adjourn the meeting. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Mr. Mendiola adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:

For: Christie San Nicolas

Date: August 13, 2021

TIA LYNN S. SALAS
Administrative Officer

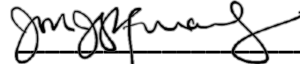
MINUTES OF JULY 20, 2021 REGULAR BOARD MEETING:

- () Approved as submitted
- () Approved subject to corrections
- () Other: _____



MARK B. MENDIOLA
GEB Chairman

Date: September 23, 2021



JON J. P. FERNANDEZ
Executive Secretary/GDOE Superintendent

Date: September 23, 2021



GUAM EDUCATION BOARD

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MARK B. MENDIOLA
Chair

MARY A. Y. OKADA
Vice Chair

**GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, August 17, 2021
6 pm**

**3rd Floor Conference Room, GDOE Building B
MINUTES**

VOTING MEMBERS

Mark B. Mendiola, Chairman
Mary A. Y. Okada, Ed.D, Vice-Chair
Peter Alecxis D. Ada
Felicitas B. Angel
Lourdes M. Benavente
Karlyn RCG Borja
Robert A. Crisostomo
Maria A. Gutierrez
Ron L. McNinch, Ph.D

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Elyssa Cuevas
IBOGS Representative
Timothy Fedenko
GFT Representative
Mayor, Melissa B. Savares
MCOG Representative

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Jon J.P. Fernandez
GDOE Superintendent

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Mark B. Mendiola, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Mr. Fernandez, Superintendent and Executive Secretary, took the roll call. The following members were present for the meeting:

Voting Members:

Mendiola, Mark B. – Chairman
Okada, Dr. Mary A.Y. – Vice-Chair
Ada, Peter Alecxis D.
Angel, Felicitas B.
Benavente, Lourdes M.
Borja, Karlyn RCG
Crisostomo, Robert A. – via Zoom video conference
McNinch, Dr. Ron L. – via Zoom video conference

Non-Voting Members:

Fedenko, Timothy – GFT Representative
Savares, Melissa B. – MCOG Representative – via Zoom video conference

Legal Counsel:

Stake, James

Absent:

Gutierrez, Maria A. (excused)
Cuevas, Elyssa – IBOGS Representative

The Superintendent announced that eight (8) members of the Board were present, constituting a quorum.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Angel motioned, seconded by Ms. Borja, to approve the minutes from the July 20, 2021, regular monthly meeting, subject to corrections. The Board voted by voice with a vote of 8-0 for the motion, motion passed.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Mrs. Darlene Stremmelaar and Mr. Paul Stremmelaar read their testimonies into the record regarding their concerns and issues with the out-of-district policy and their experience with Oceanview Middle School.

Ms. Kayoko Kushima and Ms. Malia Castro spoke in support of the Stremmelaars' testimonies.

Mr. Mendiola addressed the crowd and thanked them for their testimonies. He informed everyone that later in the meeting, the Board may go into executive session.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

CORRESPONDENCE – Mr. Mendiola noted that he received a letter from the Guam Youth Congress Speaker Lorenzo that he believes was also sent to all board members regarding the Period Poverty Act of 2021 requesting a position of the board on a proposed bill to basically provide feminine hygiene products in the school system. He noted that he asked Speaker Lorenzo some questions as well as to provide some support and informed the Board that she is asking for either individual support or support from the board with respect to the bill. He noted some issues that they may need to discuss with her prior to if anyone wanted to come up with a position. He informed Mr. Fernandez that there are some issues pertaining to that bill with respect to the funding source and should any law mandates certain things then there may not be able to use certain funding that may be available from the federal side to support the project. He stated what he would like to do is properly engage a little bit more with the author of the bill and then with the Superintendent and see if some gray areas can be flushed out with respect to the bill.

Dr. McNinch asked if there was a cost estimate attached from the Guam Congress? He stated sometimes there is a fiscal note that will talk about how much the cost would be. He noted he is always fully supportive of student initiatives but did not know if there was a cost initiative.

Mr. Mendiola noted that that was a question he posed to her, and she said that there is a fiscal note but that it was pretty much the Department of Education that will burden the cost, there is no dollar figure. He noted it is also together with the charter school.

Mr. Mendiola stated that he will get more information to share with the Board for them to craft a position to see if that is something the Board would like to take to provide that testimony.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – The Superintendent provided highlights from his report.

School Year 2021-2022 Began on August 6, 2021. Teachers reported for one workday and two professional development days prior to class commencing. Classes began on Thursday, August 12, 2021, at all GDOE public schools. The first day of school saw larger numbers of car riders than in previous years. The long lines of vehicles, coupled with new campus-entry protocols, created delays at most schools. Schools are working to make the adjustments to their arrival and dismissal operations. There appear to be high rates of compliance with regard to masking, temperature checks, hand sanitizing and cleaning. However, schools are still in the process of monitoring and improving their protocols. Due to early traffic issues, buses had difficulties dropping students home on time on day one; however, bus operations continue to adjust during the first week of school.

COVID-19 in Schools. GDOE reported a total of seven new COVID-19 cases identified within GDOE schools on the third day of school. The seven were students who attended six different schools. Currently, the school positivity rate is 0.2% compared to a community-wide seven-day positivity rate of 4.9%. Schools are responding by initiating contact tracing and ensuring students, parents and teachers are informed, quarantined, and tested as needed. DPHSS and GDOE are working on building capacity for GDOE staff to conduct testing for those employees who require it.

Vaccinations for School-based Employees and Students. Governor Leon Guerrero issued Executive Order 2021-17, mandating all Government of Guam employees to be fully vaccinated by September 24, 2021. GDOE is working with DPHSS to maximize the number of school-based employees and students (ages 12 and over) who are fully vaccinated. Currently, we are tracking 76% of school-based employees who are fully vaccinated. Based on the most recent data for children on Guam, 56.2% of 16 - 19-year-olds have been fully vaccinated, while 39.9 percent of 12 – 15-year-olds have received their second dose. We will be gathering detailed employee and student vaccination information during these first couple of weeks, and we will also continue to facilitate vaccination opportunities.

USDOI Master Facilities Planners Completes Assessment, Prepares for Second Round of Workshops. The US Department of Interior is funding a master facility plan for Guam in partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). USACE, through its contractor HHF Planners, based out of Hawaii, has initiated the planning process and will be gathering data and reaching out to key stakeholders for preliminary input. A presentation for the Board is set up for this Thursday, August 19, 2021, to review proposed facility standards that will be used to guide the planning work going forward. A session for school administrators is set for August 26, 2021.

Simon Sanchez Design Process Underway. GDOE has selected Taniguchi Ruth Makio Architects to lead the SSHS design project. TRMA is now 30% through its process and has developed conceptual renderings based on the input from the SSHS planning committee. A public meeting is being scheduled for the week of September 1st. Based on the current schedule, design should be around 90% in December and completed in January. That will be the time frame for issuing the formal bid for construction and financing. The goal will be to award the contract in time for a May groundbreaking.

FY 2022 Budget. The Legislature is currently in session to discuss the FY 2022 Appropriations Act. At the hearing held last June, the Superintendent and GEB Chairman implored the Legislature to ensure that the Maintenance of Effort is funded in order to maintain access to federal funds. The request from GDOE is that the agency receive at least 29% of the total of both projected general fund revenues for FY 2022 as well as projected Territorial Education Financing Fund (property taxes). The budget team is currently reviewing the proposed bill to ensure that the MOE is met.

Mr. Crisostomo asked Mr. Fernandez if a child is in quarantine, is that child on remote learning? Is there a plan in place that automatically converts students to remote learning? He mentioned that with the numbers rising, there cannot be 10 days or 16 days of the students not getting lessons and there has got to be a plan.

Mr. Fernandez responded that the requirement for anyone that is a close contact of an index case ends up being seven to ten days of quarantine. Students will test on days three to five and if they test negative, by the end of their seventh day, they can return to class. For those untested or not required to test, they still must stay out the full 10 days before they can return. There is a plan in place to be able to switch over to online learning for students who are temporarily in quarantine because of COVID-19 and in these first instances, the schools have implemented that plan by providing immediately upon the first day the access to the online class and preparing for any distribution of devices that needs to take place. That is the plan, and it is in place, with the monitoring of it being executed during these first couple of weeks. They will continue to monitor and ensure that it operates smoothly. He mentioned he is aware of some parents that do not want the online method and want the hard copy support if possible and it is something that the teachers have been able to make available in those instances, but the default process is to move the students to online and the department has the equipment, the capabilities, and the training to implement that.

Mr. Crisostomo asked that as the CAR score continues to rise, is the department prepared to go full remote learning as a district if needed?

Mr. Fernandez responded that the schools are ready to go to online on a school or district basis. The department has worked with the principals to have that plan in place to distribute equipment to students and get online learning started if that happens. He noted that the approach right now is all incident-based. Once there is a positive case, they then expand from that incident to contact trace and do the necessary procedures to address those contacts and so forth. Right now, the department can see the potential quarantining of a class at a time or a couple of classes. If the COVID score goes up and the community situation gets more serious than it is right now, the department would understand the Governor at her level looking at a potential shut down or imposition of restrictions for certain sectors and so forth. If it comes to a point where the whole school district shuts down, the department expects that to be probably a function of what is happening in the broader community and the decisions would be made in the conjunction with Public Health and the Governor. The department does not foresee a shutdown of the school district unless everything else in the community continues to peak. The department is prepared for both and our approach on an incident-by-incident basis as well as the anticipation of a possible shut down, the department also has a plan for all students to continue their learning during the school year.

Dr. Okada asked as a follow up on Mr. Crisostomo's question that if the current numbers of students have been identified, are there any students that are on online that are not participating in the regular or separate online program?

Mr. Fernandez asked her to clarify her question.

Dr. Okada responded that based on the number of students that have just recently been identified over the past couple of days, are any of them participating in classes online synchronously with the faculty member giving access during the designated school time? She mentioned the different set up for those that are truly online and those that are now currently at home in a quarantine situation.

Mr. Fernandez responded that right now during the first few weeks, it is kind of a phase one of the department's reopening and they have taken a broader conservative approach to the contact tracing based on the guidance of Public Health. He noted that now, our whole classes are being quarantined. In the future, it would not be as broad an approach. The plan would be going towards a few students out for a certain amount of time which the plan is to figure out how to maneuver when it is only a few students versus the whole class.

Dr. Okada asked right now full classes are being given instruction even with the faculty member online?

Mr. Fernandez responded yes, even all those teachers are also being quarantined under this.

Dr. Okada asked if they are delivering from home?

Mr. Fernandez responded yes, they are not allowed on campus.

Dr. Okada responded correct and asked if the students are attending that class online?

Mr. Fernandez responded yes, for example Finegayan Elementary School teachers immediately sent out the links to Google class. If the teacher and class are quarantined, then they are expected to go online during the time that they are out of school.

Mr. Ada addressed Mr. Fernandez and Deputy Superintendent Joe Sanchez and asked about a Pacific Daily News report about a shortage of secondary teachers. His concern was mainly with the high schools and those filling in. He stated most of them have their bachelor's degree of some sort and asked how many of these teachers are teaching a course that they specialize in that they are filling in because of a shortage of credits?

Mr. Fernandez responded that he believes that was an article from Deputy Sanchez's interview with the Post.

Deputy Sanchez asked him to clarify his question.

Mr. Ada responded that it says the department is short two hundred and some teachers.

Deputy Sanchez responded that 200 is not correct a number and it is much less, less than 50.

Mr. Ada responded that regardless, how many of the teachers that are teaching in the high school that are filling in yet are they teaching majors and minors that they specialize in? He stated his concern are the credits.

Deputy Sanchez responded that he is trying to interpret the question and asked Mr. Ada if he is asking if the teachers who are missing or the vacancies are specialized classes?

Mr. Ada clarified that those that are filling in on a temporary basis because of the shortage, are they teaching a course in that they had majored or minored, either one of the two?

Deputy Sanchez explained the process of hiring teachers based on their degrees. He gave an example of teacher with a bachelor's degree in some type of Science or Math or other area, that teacher would be placed in those particular areas but those are not considered vacancies. He stated those are considered for teachers so they are temporarily assigned teachers but that would be a filled classroom. The vacancies right now would be filled by either a substitute teacher, a teacher's assistant or in some cases other individuals within the school that that is how the department defines the vacancies but if it is a bachelor's degree, that would be a teacher.

Mr. Fedenko commented that he thinks Mr. Ada is talking about the preparatory period.

Mr. Ada responded yes. Preparatory came up.

Mr. Fedenko responded that in the contract, it allows teachers outside their certificate to teach and intervene during preparatory period. He noted that it is not supposed to be a long-term thing and when he gives his report, they will hear and understand that the department is short. It is supposed to alleviate the situation temporarily. If there are not enough substitutes, it puts the students in a classroom rather than put them in the gymnasium, which he has heard happens in high school. He stated that a teacher fills in and they are being compensated for it at their hourly rate. It is in the contract, but it is not necessarily a physical education teacher versus an English teacher. The physical education teacher may be teaching it for instance for that preparatory period filling vacancy type of situation.

Mr. Ada responded that he understands but even with the teacher who is filling in on a preparatory period, if they were teaching physical education and their prep period is for Chemistry, that is where he is trying to find the difference.

Deputy Sanchez responded that potentially, that could happen when there is a class that needs to be covered.

Mr. Ada commented that he remembers during his time of going to school, that a teacher would be thrown in and that is not even their major.

Deputy Sanchez responded that it is not nonchalant. The principal usually tries to recruit a certified teacher in the same area to cover it during their prep period. Only if there is no one available, it is still preferable to have a certified teacher in that classroom.

Mr. Ada commented that he will end it there and he is very concerned with the credits.

Dr. Okada motioned, seconded by Ms. Benavente, to approve the Superintendent's Report. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

V. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

IBOGS Report – Tabled.

GFT Report – Mr. Fedenko shared that the traffic was crazy during the first week of school but noted that it always is during the first week of school – COVID or not. The concerns that teachers have is one that Mr. Ada brought up – a severe teacher shortage. There are class sizes getting maxed out with 30 students in classrooms at some schools. He shared that they understand there is a shortage with staff and noted insufficient numbers at his school site to do proper staffing with at least a shortage of two to three one-to-one school aides. He mentioned their school nurse has gone on to greener pastures and with September 30th coming, there would probably be more teachers retiring including the school technician. He stated people are scared and agreed with Mr. Fernandez that people should get vaccinated. He noted that the teachers should be vaccinated, and the Guam Federation of Teachers (GFT) is in support of the mandate to get vaccinated. He mentioned that they do want to ensure that the department takes every protocol to not punish or make people work outside their area to get tested weekly and that it should be done on campus at their time. If people say they want to get vaccinated, they should be able to go and that is one thing the union wants to protect. One of his worries is the little kids because they cannot get vaccinated. He expressed to parents for those students eligible to receive the vaccination that they should because it is going to get worse, noting that the virus is more contagious than chicken pox. He then expressed the shortage of teachers and suggested that if any were available downtown that they should be used in the subjects or classrooms that they are certified in. Online teachers are going to go off the chart if the schools do not have enough online teachers, noting it was hard to find online teachers for elementary. Another concern is social distancing. He commented that granted it is the first week and everyone is trying to distance their area but noted that it is a very dangerous situation. He suggested an A-B day like last school year because of the shortage of staff and to keep people safe. If there are 300 versus 600 people on campus, it might be a little bit more distanced, more open, and less crowded. He then mentioned that what he saw earlier reminds him of the old days when teachers packed the area because they are upset. He agreed with the Ms. Stremmelaar on the teachers' contract which makes it board issues because the policy contract between the school board and the GFT allows teachers to put their kids closer to their area, one reason is to be more involved with Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO). He stated he was there when the contract was negotiated and asked the Board to please act on it.

MCOG Report – Mayor Savares congratulated the GDOE team for welcoming the students back to school. She shared that most mayors were out helping with traffic control at the schools they felt were necessary to be at. Some areas of concern the village mayors have is the need for more assistance than just their community maintenance workers, especially in the high populated areas along major thoroughfares, such as Barrigada, Tamuning and Mangilao. She noted the temperature checks and screenings as well as parents wanting to walk their children to school on the first day causing the delay. One of the recommendations from the mayors is if GDOE has any funding or partnership available and noted that they also discussed the military sister squadron partnership but because it is early in the morning, they are not available. She stated that the mayors are trying to think of other creative ways to assist the schools with traffic control, especially on the busy days. She shared that Wettengel Elementary School had two cruisers from the Guam Police Department assisting and noted other schools such as Maria Ulloa Elementary School having congestion at the traffic light. She asked how can we work together as a team to better traffic flow? She then asked on behalf of Mayor Hofmann if there is any CARES Act money that can be used for security for the first two days and to help with the faculty and staff with taking temperatures and escorting families to screening them before going to the classrooms? She then shared another concern that the mayors have been receiving many calls and pictures from parents regarding the

students not social distancing at the school and in the buses. The third concern was the grass cutting at the schools. She stated that in the past, the mayors have had the opportunity to handle grass cutting and part of the scope of work was to also cut at least two feet outside the perimeter fence for safety reasons so that there is not vegetation right up to the fence line. She shared that the mayors are handling what they can around the school perimeter, but the concern was if that was part of the scope of work of the grass cutting contract.

Mr. Mendiola addressed Mr. Fernandez and suggested that if the additional support or help with funding is available that the department can use those additional funding to support with the screening at the schools.

Mr. Fernandez responded that he has been in touch with Mayor Hofmann, and he has alerted him on things that are being reported for the first week. He stated that he and his team want to observe how things are working in the first week because schools are adjusting based on what they are seeing and what they are experiencing. He noted that after the department gets through these first couple of weeks, he would like an opportunity, if possible, to meet with the mayor's council to go over and make sure everyone is on the same page regarding our approach and observations at the schools and at that time, look at recommendations to improve how things are going. He noted the difficulty to predict how many of the issues and practices will be prolonged versus being associated with the first week of school. He shared that in some schools, they have encountered very hectic day ones and then on day two, things have really smoothed out because principals saw what was happening and made quick adjustment to improve the flow of traffic and made the screening process a little bit more efficient. He stated that he thinks that process will continue and in a couple of weeks, the department can look at what has happened and see what we can do to further improve the situation. He then thanked the mayor for her support and asked if they can arrange for that opportunity, it would give them a chance to see what is happening in our schools and update and inform them as our mayors and partners and see what recommendations come out of that discussion.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) Executive Committee – No report.

**2) Instructional & Academic Support Committee
Head Start Report –**

Ms. Benavente motioned, seconded by Ms. Borja, to approve the Head Start Report. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Ms. Benavente informed the Board that she received the update on the cohorts earlier this evening and asked for it to be sent to all members.

Ms. Schroeder reported that there was a notice yesterday of cancellation of today's classes and the restarting of the classes. She stated that Head Start had to push back their parent-child day which would push back their first day of classes, which was supposed to be tomorrow. She stated that they talked to their policy council regarding this and the recommendation. She shared that she proposed the recommendation to them to begin classes on Monday and go into their cohorts every other day and every other Friday, which would be Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Monday, Wednesday and then Tuesday, Thursday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. She stated that the rationale behind this is that it is developmentally appropriate, and their classrooms need some continued adjustments to meet the fidelity of their curriculum and to maintain our COVID standards. She noted that their goal for the office of Head Start is that they have full enrollment and noted that it did not say they had to be going five days a week at this point in time. She shared that at the moment, they are at 90% enrollment with 34 slots on reserve for their special needs children and the children on their wait list. Head Start is trying to place them at the closest district school because some of the classrooms are already maxed

out at 20. She then informed the Board that her request to them is for approval to go ahead and change their calendar to reflect where they are with the start on Monday and Monday, Wednesday, Friday cohorts and do the cohorting and gradually increase their days per child and go full 20 children as soon as they can. She noted that they are waiting on outdoor classroom type equipment so that they can spread the children out with activities. They have also started making some adjustments in the classrooms to get smaller furniture and tables for the children.

Dr. Okada asks if Head Start goes to the cohort model – Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Tuesday, Thursday – is Head Start causing any undue burden on the parents who may have to work?

Ms. Schroeder responded that that was one of their concerns with this proposal and that is why they took it to the Policy Council and the Policy Council recommended to start off this way with the intention of moving as fast as they could to five days a week.

Dr. Okada commented that it is only because childcare is not considered and the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) ends on September 1st, those individuals that do not have jobs would need to be considered that some of them have to go back to work. If they cannot send their kids back to school five days a week, then what does that cause for the family?

Mr. Mendiola responded understood.

Ms. Benavente asked because they are changing the calendar for Head Start, the first day of school, she wanted to make sure that they can approve it tonight and not have to go back to the committee.

Mr. Fernandez responded that they do not necessarily need approval for the cohorts and so forth because it is not spelled out in the calendar. It is just the change that needs approval. He explained that the Guam Education Board is the governing board for Head Start and the question that Dr. Okada raised is a good question and part of the decision-making. He mentioned that he raised similar questions with Ms. Schroeder prior to the meeting; however, as Head Start is structured, it does rely very heavily on the input of the policy council which is both represented by parents on the Head Start Policy Council. He stated that in his view, he is deferring to their judgment and sentiment at this time with the caveat that there is a sentiment of moving towards five days as expeditiously as possible once that can be done. He explained that they did have the same concerns and the same options with many people give great weight and the policy council having heavy parent representation. If they are recommending and supporting this, as long as they think about how to get to the five days, they would like to keep that and keep the board updated on the progress.

Ms. Benavente motioned, seconded by Ms. Angel, to approve the beginning date for Head Start to read August 25, 2021. The motion was amended.

Ms. Benavente motioned, seconded by Mr. Ada, to approve the beginning date for Head Start to read August 23, 2021. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Ms. Schroeder reassured the Board and the public that if children do show up to school tomorrow, Thursday or Friday, the instruction to her staff is to accept them and try to get a hold of their parents and if there is an issue, they would deal with that within the program and take care of the children until they show up.

**3) Safe & Healthy Schools Committee
DSRTF Updates – Tabled.**

- 4) **Policy Review & Strategic Planning Committee** – Mr. Crisostomo stated that he wanted to go back to the Instructional and Academic Support Committee. He asked the Chairman which committee he had referred the issues from Dan Somerfleck to.

Mr. Mendiola responded that it was the Instructional and Academic Support Committee. He noted that the Superintendent would provide an update on those issues.

Mr. Fernandez stated that he would be distributing for the board's update, a memo reflecting the conversation that we've, both that I've had separately with Dan Somerfleck from Guam Legal Services as well as the similar presentation he made to the board. He stated that in this update he will reference the recordings of Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings. Mr. Somerfleck had asked that a written policy be developed regarding recordings at IEP meetings. That written guidance has been developed as a draft and is already on its second draft that is up for final review at my level. He noted that it will be a written directive coming out of the Superintendent's Office. If the Board then wants to move it into a policy or consider it at the policy level a work session and final input on that would be appreciated. He noted that he did have the staff work on an additional draft so that we could bring it to the board for your consideration as you would like to act on that.

Mr. Crisostomo stated, addressing the Superintendent and the Chairman, school has already started, and he is sure they are having IEP meetings already. He stated he thinks they should move on this rather than wait several more meetings to decide. He asked when exactly are we going to put this on for a vote because as he said, when they had Dan Somerfleck, we need to push this so that when school starts we're ready to go. Here we are, school started and we're still discussing the 2nd draft, 3rd draft. He stated if you could please put it on the agenda and we can get it going he'd like to vote on it.

Ms. Benavente noted that she and Ms. Borja can add to it. She stated that Ms. Borja has been meeting with her Guam Advisory Panel for Students with Disabilities (GAPSD) group and she, Ms. Benavente has been meeting with Deputy Erika Cruz. She noted that Ms. Borja has been reaching out to parents so that we can get all the input that we can before we take a vote on it. She stated that they wanted to get all the concerns, pros and cons and everything first.

Ms. Borja commented that the GAPSD met last month and there was discussion on this topic. She noted that in addition there was also a smaller parent group initially. She stated that they want to do a couple more parent input sessions before the final vote. She also noted that they were not able to meet with the teachers during the summer and they would like to speak with the teachers that way all stakeholders involved at an IEP team would have input prior to us finalizing a policy. She noted that they would like to have this ready by September and they understand that school is open but they were unable to reach the teachers. We want to make sure that teachers can provide input to be fair to everyone and have input from everyone.

Mr. Mendiola stated that the Superintendent is providing a memo to the Board with respect to the two issues that were brought up by Dan Somerfleck. He noted that it is on our radar, the committee has been working, we tasked them. He added that he thinks it's prudent on our part to ensure that we have all stakeholders involved and input coming through.

Mr. Fernandez added on a second note, having to do with the qualifications for school psychologists to do psycho-educational evaluations, we did review this concern and also met with Director Somerfleck and his staff on this matter to discuss the issues. He noted that it should just be clear that we are compliance with the requirements on the qualifications to conduct the evaluations. Even though we are in compliance we do have staff who have expressed interest in obtaining additional training and certification independent of any requirement to do so. Our division staff did go and meet with the Guam Commission for Educator Certification (GCEC) at their board meeting yesterday to

request certain endorsements from the Certification Commission pertaining to the certification qualifications for this particular purpose. The GCEC is considering our request and that discussion will continue. He noted that that is the updated and we do want to let the Board know that we are pushing forward to try to address the concerns that were raised. We will follow along with the Board's timeline as to how and when we can address these based on the conversation and information we provide as well on our side.

Mr. Mendiola stated that he believes this addresses the issue.

Mr. Crisostomo informed the board members that in light of the opening of school and starting, everyone was stressed out and he didn't want to add additional stress to the principals and the people attending the meeting. He asked Mr. Sanchez to cancel the August meetings until September we'll start up again and get it all done by the end of September. He noted that there is nothing new to report other than good opening for GDOE, glad to get the students back. He commented that that bus situation needs to be fixed. He noted that he saw the line for Tamuning Elementary and it went all the way down to the ITC intersection. He stated that it is unacceptable and bus drivers need to start taking temperatures, give confidence to the parents.

5) Fiscal Management – Mr. Ada motioned, seconded by Mr. Crisostomo, to approve add the Data Set Committee. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Updated Financials – Mr. Mendiola noted that the updated financial reports were in the board packet. He stated that we are tracking our payables, we recently received some funding from Territorial Education Facilities Fund (TEFF) and we're tracking about 2 million dollars by the end of the fiscal year and hopefully we'll be able to close that gap with respect to paying our receivables. He noted that we will continue to track the cash flow for the Department.

USDOE Special Conditions – Mr. Fernandez noted that he just met with Christine Jackson and Frank Cooper-Nurse yesterday. He stated that they meet on a monthly basis to go over what is happening on our end and trying to figure out what USDOE will be doing on their end. For us, the critical activities right now are completing the annual inventory which is due for submission at the end of September to USDOE. We are working through the annual physical inventory for fixed assets. He noted that it has been a challenging year in the sense that in 2019 we were at about forty some thousand assets, and we are now up to sixty-six thousand assets. We are going to start to see more of these assets coming in with the deployment of federal funds. He noted that this should be addressed this summer and submitted to USDOE for their review and hopefully a favorable response. In addition, USDOE is very interested in an updated on our employee time tracking system that we are piloting for our consolidated grant programs and are ready to take live shortly. They are interested in learning what the plan is for not just implementing but expanding the employee time tracking system to cover other USEd funded programs and beyond. He noted that we will be scheduling a meeting with Christine Jackson to do a virtual brief of that system so that she's aware of that as we move forward with implementation. Mr. Fernandez stated that we are at the tail end of procuring fixed assets management supports. He noted that that is also something that USDOE is interested in getting an update on to facilitate inventory and accounting for our fixed assets. He stated that they did have a lengthy discussion about looking at long term planning for the receiving, unloading and distribution of all the supplies and equipment that we anticipate getting. He noted that we are starting to see containers coming in at the Port that require unloading, tagging, distribution to the schools and we do have an interim process in place with temporary support from personnel and C & I because a lot of these are instructional materials. He stated that we need to come up with a longer-term plan knowing that the volume of things that are coming in will continue at a high level with the funds that are being expended on the federal side. He informed the board that we will alert them to what that plan is and what the needs are as we move forward. He stated that on the USEd side there is a lot of uncertainty about what is happening and whether they will be able to come on site or if they'll have

to do a virtual visit. He noted that it doesn't look very optimistic for an onsite visit and they're looking at the possibility of a December virtual visit to go over some of these items that we talked about and review them hopefully for potential action on the special conditions. He stated that we will continue to work with them and hopefully it will change, and they'll be able to come here on site because there are certain things that they won't get validated virtually and that will be an impediment to our progress. He noted that we are making efforts to make connections with the leadership at USEd and we do have a couple of conversations that I will be having over the next week, similar to what we did with the last administration. We hope those connections can be solidified and help us in our efforts regarding special conditions and high risk.

Declaration of Financial Status Designation – April & May 2021 –

Dr. Okada motioned, seconded by Ms. Benavente, to adopt Resolution 2021-07, Relative to Approving the Corrective Financial Recovery Plan Prepared in Response to the Code C-Watch Issued by the Education Financial Supervisory Commission for the Months of April and May of Fiscal Year 2021. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

VII. NEW BUSINESS –

- 1) Superintendent's Evaluation** - Mr. Mendiola noted that it is that time of the year where they have an opportunity to provide collaborative feedback to the superintendent in terms of the evaluation. In the past it was handled by the Executive Committee, but they have asked Dr. McNinch to lead and spearhead this portion of the Board's duties and responsibilities which is to evaluate their sole employee, the Superintendent of the Department of Education. He stated if there were no objections, he would like to have Dr. Ron McNinch, with the Executive Committee, start the discussion with the Superintendent in terms of the formatting and the rubric with respect to the evaluation of the Superintendent. He asked Dr. McNinch if he would be willing to assist and undertake this task again for the Board through the Executive Committee.

Dr. McNinch responded that he would.

Mr. Mendiola stated that they would create a timeline with the superintendent and have that discussion with the Dr. McNinch and through the Executive Committee they would bring forth the evaluation of the superintendent.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION –

Dr. Okada motioned, seconded by Mr. Crisostomo, to move into Executive Session at 7:37p.m. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Ms. Angel motioned, seconded by Ms. Borja, to rise out of Executive Session at 7:55p.m. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT –

Dr. Okada motioned, seconded by Ms. Borja, to adjourn the meeting. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Mr. Mendiola adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:

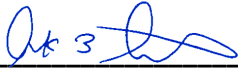


TIA LYNN S. SALAS
Administrative Officer

Date: September 19, 2021

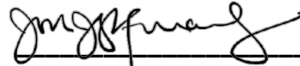
MINUTES OF AUGUST 17, 2021, REGULAR BOARD MEETING:

- Approved as submitted
 Approved subject to corrections
 Other: _____



MARK B. MENDIOLA
GEB Chairman

Date: September 23, 2021



JON J. P. FERNANDEZ
Executive Secretary/GDOE Superintendent

Date: September 23, 2021

Final Grading Policy Proposals submitted to Guam Education Board

Updated 7-8-21

Stakeholder Presentations and Input Session	
Friday, April 16, 2021 at 2:00 P.M. Curriculum and Grading Policy Working Group/Admin/Teachers	Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 6pm Parent Presentation and Input Session with SPED Parents
Friday, May 07, 2021 at 2:00 P.M. Curriculum and Grading Policy Working Group/Admin/Teachers	Saturday, June 5, 2021 at 9am Open Presentation and Input Session with Parents
Friday, May 14, 2021 at 1:00 P.M. Curriculum and Grading Policy Working Group/Admin/Teachers	Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 2:00 P.M. Joint Board Union Curriculum Textbook Committee
Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 6pm Presentation and Input Session with Island-wide PTO Reps	Friday, June 11, 2021 at 3pm Island-wide Board of Governing Students
Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 6pm Open Presentation and Input Session with Parents	

Guidance to admin, teachers, parents, and students: When participating and engaging in policy discussion, please take note of the following points:

1. Efforts to make changes to policies or procedures are meant to address concerns brought up by teachers, staff, admin, parents and students. No change in policy or procedure results in the status quo.
2. There are always multiple sides to an issue, and sometimes issues themselves conflict. Not always a right or wrong... and not always good. Sometimes we have to choose the best choice from a set of bad choices, or the “least bad” approach.
3. In the end, not everyone will be happy, but we need to be comfortable knowing that we considered as many options as we reasonably can. However, once policy is passed or decision is made, we have a duty to implement and enforce.

Grading Policy Proposals for GEB

Kindergarten – 8 th Grade	High School
1. 1st and 3rd Quarter (Mid-semester) will be used as a Progress	1. 1st and 3rd Quarter (Mid-semester) will be used as a Progress

Period/Grade or “Point-in-time” snapshot for each semester and NOT a summative quarter grade. Summative or Final Grades will be given at the end of 1st and 2nd semesters.

- a. This Progress Period/Grade will be reflected as either:
- i. **Pass (P):** Enough evidence to determine passing
 - ii. **Not Enough Evidence (NE):** Not Enough Evidence to determine passing
 - iii. **No Grade (NG):** No contact with student or no evidence submitted. This grade will remain until changed by teacher or school official and will NOT automatically convert to an “F” as per existing grading policy.

NOTE: Administration has the discretion to allow or require tiered grading to be reported for the Progress Period/Grade.

- 2. Grading for 2nd Quarter/1st Semester and 4th Quarter/2nd Semester will reflect a Standards-Based/Tiered Grading system with 6-levels classified as the following categories:**

- 4 – Exceeds Standard
- 3 – Proficient
- 2 – Approaching Proficiency
- 1 – Needs Support
- 0 – Unable to Perform
- NE – No Grade / No Evidence

NOTE: Increments of .5 may be used to recognize partial mastery of a level.

- 3. Criteria for each level include the following:**

Period/Grade or “Point-in-time” snapshot for each semester and NOT a summative quarter grade. Summative or Final Grades will be given at the end of 1st and 2nd semesters.

- a. This Progress Period/Grade will be reflected as either:
- **Pass (P):** Enough evidence to determine passing
 - **Fail (F):** Not Enough Evidence to determine passing
 - **No Grade (NG):** No contact with student or no evidence submitted. This grade will remain until changed by teacher or school official and will NOT automatically convert to an “F” as per existing grading policy.

NOTE: Administration has the discretion to allow or require percentage grades to be reported for the Progress Period/Grade.

- 2. Grading for 2nd quarter/ 1st Semester and 4th quarter/2nd Semester will be reflected as a percentage grade.**
- 3. Students who are transferring will be given a transfer grade based on their current progress in the form of a percentage grade.**
- 4. High School teachers may utilize the same Standards-Based/Tiered Grading system as K-8th grades, however, students’ final/composite grades must be reflected as a percentage grade.**
- 5. There are two allowable methods for teachers to select from in order to incorporate Standards-Based/Tiered Grading into their grading system and to determine the students’ final/composite grade.**
 - b. METHOD 1: Overall Proficiency Levels/Tiered Grades will be converted to percentages.**
 - Step 1: Determine the overall Proficiency Level/Tier for each PSST by evaluating the body of evidence.**

4- Exceeds Standard: In addition to demonstrating understanding and mastery of standard, content knowledge, and skills, student goes beyond what is explicitly taught or is able to apply the standard or skill to real world situations.

3- Proficient: Demonstrates understanding and mastery of standard, content knowledge, and skills.

2- Approaching Proficiency: Defines and Identifies content knowledge or uses skills alone but needs help demonstrating full understanding of standard.

1- Needs Support: Even with help, the student has difficulty performing basic skills or defining content knowledge and is well below grade level standard.

0- Unable to Perform: Even with significant help, the student is not able to perform any of the basic skills or define content knowledge.

NE- No Grade/ No Evidence: No Work or Not Enough Work submitted to make a final determination. (See teacher comments).

NOTE: Increments of .5 may be used to recognize partial mastery of a level.

4. There are two allowable methods for teachers to select from in order to determine the final/composite grade for the course.

a. **METHOD 1:** The final/composite grade will be the average of all Priority Standards, Skills, or Topics (PSSTs).

Step 1: A body of evidence is evaluated to determine the overall proficiency level for each PSST.

Step 2: Convert **each PSST Proficiency Level/Tier to a percentage** using the approved conversion scale noted in this policy.

Step 3: **Average the converted percentages of all PSSTs** to determine the final/composite grade.

c. **METHOD 2:** Proficiency Level/Tier for each artifact using a proficiency level/tiered grade **will be converted to a percentage** using the approved conversion scale.

Step 1: **Convert all grades for each artifact using a proficiency level/tiered grade** to a percentage using the approved conversion scale. This allows for PL/Tiered grades to be combined with artifacts graded using traditional percentages.

Note: **some teachers may not be using all of the artifacts to determine the final PSST level.** For example, evidence of earlier work during the semester may be removed, or resubmitted assignments may replace earlier drafts. This is fine. **In these cases, the teacher will only have to convert the artifacts that will be used to determine the final PSST level.**

Step 2: Determine the overall percentage grade for each PSST by **averaging all the artifacts** (or the artifacts that will be used to determine PSST level) for each PSST.

Step 3: Average the overall percentage grades for all PSSTs to determine the **final/composite grade for the course.**

6. The weight afforded to each artifact/assignment or groups of artifacts/assignments will be at the discretion of the teacher.

Step 2: To determine the final/composite grade, the overall proficiency levels for all PSSTs are averaged to the nearest tenth decimal place.

b. **METHOD 2:** The final/composite grade will be based on overall teacher judgment.

Step 1: A body of evidence is evaluated to determine the overall proficiency level for each PSST.

Step 2: The final/composite grade will be based on overall teacher judgment through a review of all PSSTs taught during a grading period.

5. **The final/composite grade will be converted to a letter grade using the following conversion scale:**

3.6 – 4.0 = A+
3.0 – 3.5 = A
2.8 – 2.9 = B+
2.5 – 2.7 = B
2.0 – 2.4 = C+
1.5 – 1.9 = C
1.0 – 1.4 = D
Below 1.0 = F

6. To allow students and teachers to focus on the core subject areas, **report card grades will only be required for English Language Arts (Reading, Language, Spelling), Math, Science, Social Studies and CHamoru.** All other subjects will still be taught and incorporated into regular instruction, however, **final grades will only focus on the subjects noted here for SY2021-22.**

7. Whenever utilizing Proficiency Levels/Tiered Grades and converting them to percentages, **the following conversion scale shall be used:**

4.0 = 100%
3.5 = 95%
3.0 = 90%
2.5 = 80%
2.0 = 70%
Below 2.0 = 50%

8. **Citizenship and Life Readiness Skills** will be reported in the manner noted below.

End...

<p>Citizenship and Life Readiness Skills will be reported in the manner noted below.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">End...</p>	
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CITIZENSHIP and LIFE READINESS Skills
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Kindergarten – 8th Grade	High School
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<p>1. Citizenship and Life Readiness Skills will be determined by the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Engagement: Participates in class discussions and activities, asks and answers questions, and is on-task either in-person or on video conferences, depending on model of learning or event. b. Organization and Planning: Organizes notes, handouts, supplies, and instructional materials; plans assignments, activities and tasks effectively; and manages time efficiently to meet deadlines. c. Completion and Submission of Assignments: Completes and submits assignments regularly and on time. d. Conduct: Displays respectful and appropriate conduct when communicating with teachers, peers, and others either online or during face-to-face instruction. e. Accountability: Follows school rules and takes responsibility for actions. f. Attendance & Punctuality: Attends class regularly and on time. 	<p>1. Citizenship and Life Readiness Skills will be determined by the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Engagement: Participates in class discussions and activities, asks and answers questions, and is on-task either in-person or on video conferences, depending on model of learning or event. b. Organization and Planning: Organizes notes, handouts, supplies, and instructional materials; plans assignments, activities and tasks effectively; and manages time efficiently to meet deadlines. c. Completion and Submission of Assignments: Completes and submits assignments regularly and on time. d. Conduct: Follows school rules and displays respectful and appropriate behavior when communicating with teachers, peers, and others either online or during face-to-face instruction. e. Accountability: Takes responsibility for actions. f. Attendance & Punctuality: Attends class regularly and on time.
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2. Citizenship and Life Readiness Skills will be reported using the following categories:

- (4) Excellent**
- (3) Satisfactory**
- (2) Needs Improvement**
- (1) Unsatisfactory**
- (NE) Not Enough Evidence/No Evidence, or No Effort**

End...

2. Citizenship and Life Readiness Skills will be reported using the following categories:

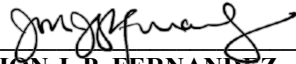

- (E) Excellent**
- (S) Satisfactory**
- (U) Unsatisfactory**

End...

End...

**Department of Education CALENDAR (Amended September 23, 2021)
SY 2021-2022 (173 School Days)**

August 6, 2021	Friday	Teacher Workday #1
August 9–11, 2021	Monday – Wednesday	Professional Development Days #1 – #3
August 12, 2021	Thursday	- First Day of Classes - Beginning of 1ST Semester
August 9–16, 2021	Monday - Monday	Head Start Preservice
August 17, 2021	Tuesday	Head Start Parent-Child Day / Home Visits
August 23, 2021	Monday	Head Start First Day of Classes
August 30 – September 3, 2021	Monday – Friday	Professional Development Days #4 – #8
September 6, 2021	Monday	LABOR DAY – HOLIDAY
September 20, 2021	Monday	- Southern High School & JPTSA- 1st Semester Progress Report - Head Start Child Assessments and Home Visits- No Classes
October 19, 2021	Tuesday	- 1st Semester Progress Reports - Southern High School & JPTSA End of Block I- 1st Semester
October 20, 2021	Wednesday	- Southern High School & JPTSA Beginning of Block I- 2nd Semester
October 21, 2021	Thursday	Head Start Staff Development- No Classes
October 25, 2021	Monday	- Southern High School & JPTSA – Block I- 1st Semester Grades due at the end of the duty day
October 29, 2021	Friday	Elementary School/Head Start Parent-Teacher Conference
November 1, 2021	Monday	Middle School Parent-Teacher Conference
November 2, 2021	Tuesday	ALL SOULS DAY – HOLIDAY
November 3, 2021	Wednesday	High School Parent-Teacher Conference
November 11, 2021	Thursday	VETERANS DAY – HOLIDAY
November 23, 2021	Tuesday	Southern High School & JPTSA – Block I- 2nd Semester Progress Report
November 25, 2021	Thursday	THANKSGIVING DAY – HOLIDAY
November 26, 2021	Friday	Flexible Makeup Day #1
December 8, 2021	Wednesday	OUR LADY OF CAMARIN DAY – HOLIDAY
December 20–31, 2021	Monday – Friday	CHRISTMAS BREAK - NO CLASSES
January 3, 2022	Monday	Classes Resume
January 3–4, 2022	Monday – Tuesday	Head Start Staff Development- No Classes
January 10, 2022	Monday	- End of 1nd Semester - Southern High School and JPTSA – END Block I- 2nd Semester
86 SCHOOL DAYS		
January 11, 2022	Tuesday	- Beginning of 2nd Semester - Southern High School & JPTSA-Beginning of Block II-1ST Semester
January 14, 2022	Friday	- 1st Semester Grades due at the end of the duty day - Southern High School & JPTSA – Block I- 2nd Semester Grades due at the end of the duty day
January 17, 2022	Monday	MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY – HOLIDAY
January 21, 2022	Friday	Elementary School/Head Start Parent-Teacher Conference
February 10, 2022	Thursday	Southern High School & JPTSA –Block II- 1st Semester Progress Report
February 21, 2022	Monday	<i>Southern High School & JPTSA – Parent-Teacher Conference</i>

March 7, 2022	Monday	GUAM HISTORY & CHAMORRO HERITAGE DAY – HOLIDAY
March 8, 2022	Tuesday	Secondary Schools – Chamorro Language Competition
March 14, 2022	Monday	- 2ND Semester Progress Report - Southern High School & JPTSA- End of Block II- 1st Semester
March 15, 2022	Tuesday	Southern High School & JPTSA- Beginning of Block II-2nd Semester
March 18, 2022	Friday	Southern High School & JPTSA – Block II- 1st Semester Grades due at end of duty day
March 25, 2022	Friday	High School Parent-Teacher Conference
March 28, 2022	Monday	Middle School Parent-Teacher Conference
March 28 – May 13, 2022	Monday – Friday	DISTRICT-WIDE ASSESSMENT Testing Window for Elementary and Secondary Schools
April 11–15, 2022	Monday – Friday	SPRING BREAK
April 18, 2022	Monday	Flexible Makeup Day #2
April 19, 2022	Tuesday	Classes Resume
April 22, 2022	Friday	Southern High School & JPTSA –Block II- 2nd Semester Progress Report
May 9, 2022	Monday	Head Start Assessment and End-of-the-Year Home Visits- No Classes
May 24, 2022	Tuesday	- End of 2nd Semester/Last Day of Classes - Southern High School & JPTSA – END of Block II 2ND Semester
May 25, 2022	Wednesday	Professional Development Day #9
May 26, 2022	Thursday	- Teacher Workday #2 - 2nd Semester Grades due at the end of the duty day - Southern High School & JPTSA- Block II- 2nd Semester Grades due at the end of the duty day
87 SCHOOL DAYS		
May 27, 2022	Friday	SCHOOL VACATION BEGINS
In the event make up days are utilized, the end of the quarter shall be adjusted accordingly.		
In the event that the Make Up Days are utilized, the last day of the 4 th Quarter and the Teacher Work Day shall change accordingly (P.L. 28-45).		
In the event that additional make up days are necessary, the available Professional Development Day(s) shall be used as a school day(s).		
In the event of a school closure due to COVID-19, the Model of Learning will transition to distance learning for all students.		
Semester Grades are due at the end of the duty day on the date set.		
SUMMARY	FLEXIBLE MAKE UP DAYS	APPROVED BY THE 10th GEB
173 School Days 2 Teacher Work Days 2 Parent-Teacher Conference Days 9 Professional Development Days 186 Days	November 26, 2021 April 1, 2022	 <hr/> JON J. P. FERNANDEZ SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION  <hr/> MARK B. MENDIOLA CHAIR, GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
		9/23/2021 DATE 9/23/2021 DATE

Updated: September 23, 2021

**GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2021-07**



Introduced by:

Guam Education Board Members

RELATIVE TO APPROVING THE CORRECTIVE FINANCIAL RECOVERY PLAN PREPARED IN RESPONSE TO THE CODE C-WATCH ISSUED BY THE EDUCATION FINANCIAL SUPERVISORY COMMISSION FOR THE MONTHS OF APRIL & MAY OF FISCAL YEAR 2021.

WHEREAS, 17 GCA Chapter 3 §3133 established the Education Financial Supervisory Commission (EFSC) to develop financial performance indicators that produce a monthly financial designation status for the Guam Department of Education (GDOE); and 17 GCA Chapter 3 §3133(d)(3) defines Code C-Watch as a negative variance report exceeding two percent (2%) of the approved budget amount when combining year-to-date actual and annualized projections at the time of reporting; and

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2021 the EFSC issued Declarations of Financial Status Designation for the months ending April and May 2021, and that these EFSC FSDs were transmitted and received by the Guam Education Board (GEB) office August 12, 2021; and

WHEREAS, 17 GCA Chapter 3 §3133(e)(3) requires that the GEB review, modify and approve by resolution the Corrective Financial Recovery Plan (CFRP) and submit it to the EFSC within fifteen (15) working days of receipt from the Superintendent of Education; and

WHEREAS, on August 16, 2021 the Superintendent of Education provided to the GEB a CFRP to address the projected Code C-Watch shortfalls for the period ending April 30, 2021 and adjusted period ending May 31, 2021, indicating C-Watches in the categories of 111 Salary, 113 Benefits, and 362 Water; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guam Education Board approves the attached Corrective Financial Recovery Plan(s) submitted to the Board on August 16, 2021 by the Superintendent of Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution 2021-07 and the attached CFRP(s) be transmitted to the EFSC.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE GUAM EDUCATION BOARD ON THIS 23rd DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2021.

MARK B. MENDIOLA
Chair, Guam Education Board

JON J.P. FERNANDEZ
Executive Secretary, Guam Education Board

August 16, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members, Guam Education Board

FROM: Superintendent of Education

RE: EFSC Declaration of Financial Status Designations, Code C-Watch, Corrective Financial Recovery Plan for 2021 Fiscal Year to Date: YTD date month ending May 2021.

On June 24, 2021 the Education Financial Supervisory Commission issued Declarations of Financial Status Designation for the FY21 months ending April and May 2021. The documents were received by the Guam Education Board on August 12, 2021. The EFSC summary spreadsheets for the FY21 April and May 2021 FSDs are attached. The Corrective Financial Recovery Plan as required by law follows. This plan must be provided to the Guam Education Board within twenty (20) working days of receipt of the EFSC issued Watch. The GEB shall review, modify and approve by resolution, the Financial Recovery Plan and submit it to the EFSC within fifteen (15) working days of receipt from the Superintendent of Education.

Code C-Watch Corrective Financial Recovery Plan

In summary and pursuant to the FY21 Spending Plan as approved by GEB Resolution 2020-07, GDOE began the fiscal year with a projected shortfall of \$33M and consequently, anticipated reoccurring C-Watches (projected shortfalls) in a number of operational object classes throughout the fiscal year. As such, the GEB Resolution 2020-07 authorized the Superintendent to consider and implement austerity measures and budgetary cuts, inclusive of a hiring freeze; reductions in the scale and scope of locally funded programs/activities, essential contracts and services; a cross-leveling of all staffing to reduce personnel; maximizing and re-programming federal funding to supplement the needs of students, teachers and classroom instruction; requesting the Governor to earmark both local and federal funding under her authority for GDOE operational offsets, wherever applicable; and requesting the Legislature for a supplemental to GDOE appropriations.

In addition to implementing the above austerity measures and budgetary cuts authorized, The Corrective Financial Recovery Plan (CFRP) to remedy these C-Watches throughout the fiscal year is to also transfer funding from personnel lapses and other object categories on a quarterly basis. We would note, GDOE anticipates a higher reimbursement rate for meals served under the federal Child Nutrition Program to generate lapses in to further address C-Watches throughout the fiscal year.

The follow table reflects the EFSC designated C-Watches:

A	B	C	D	E	F
Operations Plan Budget	Month	Account	Expenditure	Proj. Remaining	Proj. Lapse/Shortfall
\$ 115,709,055.00	Apr-21	111 Salary	73,602,417.00	\$ 52,680,667.00	\$ (10,574,029.00)
\$ 37,534,858.00	Apr-21	113 Bene	27,957,892.00	\$ 19,854,936.00	\$ (10,277,970.00)
\$ 115,709,055.00	May-21	111 Salary	83,698,226.00	\$ 42,641,463.00	\$ (10,630,634.00)
\$ 37,534,858.00	May-21	113 Bene	31,814,083.00	\$ 16,091,804.00	\$ (10,371,029.00)
\$ 3,428,088.00	May-21	362 Water	2,490,428.00	\$ 1,245,214.00	\$ (307,554.00)

111 Salary

The projected shortfall \$10,574,029 in April 2021 and adjusted \$10,630,634 in May 2021 incorrectly reflected Operations Plan at \$115,709,055. When corrected and recalculated, the projected shortfall results are as follows:

A	B	C	D	E	F
Operations Plan Budget	Month	Account	Expenditure	Proj. Remaining	Proj. Lapse/Shortfall
\$ 117,209,055.00	Apr-21	111 Salary	73,602,417.00	\$ 52,680,667.00	\$ (9,074,029.00)
\$ 117,209,055.00	May-21	111 Salary	83,698,226.00	\$ 42,641,463.00	\$ (9,130,634.00)

The corrected shortfall is the result of PPE expenditures that saddle FY20 and FY21; as well as one-time annual leave payments for retiring and severing employees. GDOE anticipates the shortfall will continue to diminish with austerity measure savings, journal adjustment entries and modifications to address any remaining shortfall balances from lapses in other categories as part of the year-end process.

113 Benefits

The projected shortfall \$10,277,970 in April 2021 and adjusted \$10,371,029 May 2021 incorrectly reflected Operations Plan at \$37,534,858. When corrected and recalculated, the projected shortfall results are as follows:

A	B	C	D	E	F
Operations Plan Budget	Month	Account	Expenditure	Proj. Remaining	Proj. Lapse/Shortfall
\$ 40,004,562.00	Apr-21	113 Bene	27,957,892.00	\$ 19,854,936.00	\$ (7,808,266.00)
\$ 40,004,562.00	May-21	113 Bene	31,814,083.00	\$ 16,091,804.00	\$ (7,901,325.00)

The corrected shortfall is the result of PPE expenditures that saddle FY20 and FY21; as well as one-time annual leave payments for retiring and severing employees. GDOE anticipates the shortfall will continue to diminish with austerity measure savings, journal adjustment entries and modifications to address any remaining shortfall balances from lapses in other categories as part of the year-end process.

362 Water

The projected shortfall, \$307,554 in May 2021 is the result of insufficient monthly allotments to cover late fees and will be addressed by a budgetary modification from austerity measure savings, lapses in other categories to address the FSD C-Watch and projected shortfall.

The corrective actions and responses of remediation of the EFSC Financial Status Designations (FSD) for the FY2021 months ending April and May 2021 have been addressed and are referenced in the attached draft Resolution No. 2021-007 for the GEB approval in the next scheduled meeting Please let me know if you would like to discuss this matter in greater detail.



JON J.P. FERNANDEZ

Attachments

cc: Deputy Superintendent of Finance and Administrative Services

**GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2021-09**



Introduced by:

Guam Education Board Members

RELATIVE TO APPROVING THE CORRECTIVE FINANCIAL RECOVERY PLAN PREPARED IN RESPONSE TO THE CODE C-WATCH ISSUED BY THE EDUCATION FINANCIAL SUPERVISORY COMMISSION FOR THE MONTHS OF JUNE & JULY OF FISCAL YEAR 2021.

WHEREAS, 17 GCA Chapter 3 §3133 established the Education Financial Supervisory Commission (EFSC) to develop financial performance indicators that produce a monthly financial designation status for the Guam Department of Education (GDOE); and 17 GCA Chapter 3 §3133(d)(3) defines Code C-Watch as a negative variance report exceeding two percent (2%) of the approved budget amount when combining year-to-date actual and annualized projections at the time of reporting; and

WHEREAS, on August 26, 2021 the EFSC issued Declarations of Financial Status Designation for the months ending June and July 2021, and that these EFSC FSDs were transmitted and received by the Guam Education Board (GEB) office September 3, 2021; and

WHEREAS, 17 GCA Chapter 3 §3133(e)(3) requires that the GEB review, modify and approve by resolution the Corrective Financial Recovery Plan (CFRP) and submit it to the EFSC within fifteen (15) working days of receipt from the Superintendent of Education; and

WHEREAS, on September 9, 2021 the Superintendent of Education provided to the GEB a CFRP to address the projected Code C-Watch shortfalls for the period ending June 30, 2021 and adjusted period ending July 31, 2021, indicating C-Watches in the categories of 111 Salary, 113 Benefits, and 362 Water; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guam Education Board approves the attached Corrective Financial Recovery Plan(s) submitted to the Board on September 9, 2021 by the Superintendent of Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution 2021-09 and the attached CFRP(s) be transmitted to the EFSC.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE GUAM EDUCATION BOARD ON THIS 23rd DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2021.

MARK B. MENDIOLA
Chair, Guam Education Board

JON J.P. FERNANDEZ
Executive Secretary, Guam Education Board

September 9, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members, Guam Education Board

FROM: Superintendent of Education

RE: EFSC Declaration of Financial Status Designations, Code C-Watch, Corrective Financial Recovery Plan for 2021 Fiscal Year to Date: YTD date month ending July 2021

On August 26, 2021 the Education Financial Supervisory Commission issued Declarations of Financial Status Designation for the FY21 months ending June and July 2021. The documents were received by the Guam Education Board on September 3, 2021. The EFSC summary spreadsheets for the FY21 June and July 2021 FSDs are attached. The Corrective Financial Recovery Plan as required by law follows. This plan must be provided to the Guam Education Board within twenty (20) working days of receipt of the EFSC issued Watch. The GEB shall review, modify and approve by resolution, the Financial Recovery Plan and submit it to the EFSC within fifteen (15) working days of receipt from the Superintendent of Education.

Code C-Watch Corrective Financial Recovery Plan

In summary and pursuant to the FY21 Spending Plan as approved by GEB Resolution 2020-07, GDOE began the fiscal year with a projected shortfall of \$33M and consequently, anticipated reoccurring C-Watches (projected shortfalls) in a number of operational object classes throughout the fiscal year. As such, the GEB Resolution 2020-07 authorized the Superintendent to consider and implement austerity measures and budgetary cuts, inclusive of a hiring freeze; reductions in the scale and scope of locally funded programs/activities, essential contracts and services; a cross-leveling of all staffing to reduce personnel; maximizing and re-programming federal funding to supplement the needs of students, teachers and classroom instruction; requesting the Governor to earmark both local and federal funding under her authority for GDOE operational offsets, wherever applicable; and requesting the Legislature for a supplemental to GDOE appropriations.

In addition to implementing the above austerity measures and budgetary cuts authorized, The Corrective Financial Recovery Plan (CFRP) to remedy these C-Watches throughout the fiscal year is to also transfer funding from personnel lapses and other object categories on a quarterly basis.

The following table reflects the EFSC designated C-Watches:

A	B	C	D	E	F
Operations Plan Budget	Month	Account	Expenditure	Proj. Remaining	Proj. Lapse/Shortfall
\$ 115,709,055.00	Jun-21	111 Salary	93,910,824.00	\$ 32,844,850.00	\$ (11,046,619.00)
\$ 37,534,858.00	Jun-21	113 Bene	35,383,197.00	\$ 12,292,227.00	\$ (10,140,566.00)
\$ 3,428,088.00	Jun-21	362 Water	2,839,750.00	\$ 946,583.33	\$ (358,245.33)
\$ 115,870,355.00	Jul-21	111 Salary	102,771,376.00	\$ 22,850,265.00	\$ (9,751,286.00)
\$ 41,343,263.00	Jul-21	113 Bene	38,878,676.00	\$ 8,552,540.00	\$ (6,087,953.00)
\$ 3,428,088.00	Jul-21	362 Water	3,201,015.00	\$ 640,203.00	\$ (413,130.00)

111 Salary

The projected shortfall \$11,046,619 in June 2021 and adjusted \$9,751,286 in July 2021 is the result of PPE expenditures that saddle FY20 and FY21; as well as one-time annual leave payments for retiring and severing employees. GDOE anticipates the shortfall will continue to diminish with austerity measure savings, journal adjustment entries, the postponement of certain procurements, budgetary offsets and modifications to address any remaining shortfall balances from lapses in other categories as part of the year-end process.

113 Benefits

The projected shortfall \$10,140,566 in June 2021 and adjusted \$6,087,953 in July 2021 shortfall is the result of PPE expenditures that saddle FY20 and FY21; as well as one-time annual leave payments for retiring and severing employees. GDOE anticipates the shortfall will continue to diminish with austerity measure savings, journal adjustment entries, the postponement of certain procurements, budgetary offsets and modifications to address any remaining shortfall balances from lapses in other categories as part of the year-end process.

362 Water

The projected shortfall, \$358,245.33 in June 2021 and adjusted \$413,130 in July 2021 is the result of insufficient monthly allotments to cover late fees and will be addressed by a budgetary offset against DOI Compact Impact funds to address the FSD C-Watch and projected shortfall.

The corrective actions and responses of remediation of the EFSC Financial Status Designations (FSD) for the FY2021 months ending June and July 2021 are being addressed and referenced in the attached draft Resolution No. 2021-09 for the GEB approval in the next scheduled meeting Please let me know if you would like to discuss this matter in greater detail.


JON J.P. FERNANDEZ

Attachments

cc: Deputy Superintendent of Finance and Administrative Services