

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
166-37 (LS)	Amanda L. Shelton	Relative to recognizing John F. Kennedy High School (JFKHS) on the occasion of its sixty-three (63) years of educating the people of Guam; and commending the Guam JFKHS Mega Reunion Committee for planning and hosting the various events to mark this historic milestone.	7/27/23 12:11 p.m.	7/29/23 7:45 p.m.	7/27/23					

Resolution No. 166-37 (LS)

Introduced by:

Amanda L. Shelton	
Chris Barnett	William A. Parkinson
Frank Blas, Jr.	Sabina Flores Perez
Joanne Bowen	Roy A. R. Quinata
Christopher M. Duenas	Joe S. San Augustin
Thomas J. Fisher	Dwayne T. D. San Nicolas
Jesse A. Lujan	Telo T. Taitague
Tina Rose Muiña Barnes	Therese M. Terlaje



Relative to recognizing John F. Kennedy High School (JFKHS) on the occasion of its sixty-three (63) years of educating the people of Guam; and commending the Guam JFKHS Mega Reunion Committee for planning and hosting the various events to mark this historic milestone.

BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN:

WHEREAS, John F. Kennedy High School (JFKHS), originally founded as *Tumon* Junior-Senior High School, first opened its doors to the public in 1959 as a small school located in the heart of the village of *Tamuning*; and

WHEREAS, the campus originally served students from seventh (7th) grade through twelfth (12th) grade, initially serving an average of two thousand eight hundred (2,800) students; and their first (1st) Senior Class graduated in 1960; and

WHEREAS, in 1964, the Seventh (7th) Guam Legislature passed Bill No. 202, which became Public Law 7-113, that was introduced by Senator J.U. Torres and signed into law by Governor Manuel F.L. Guerrero to formally change the school's name to John F. Kennedy High School as a way to honor President John F. Kennedy for his actions in World War II; and for removing the United States Naval Security Clearance requirement that prevented people from freely traveling to and from Guam, and restrict the development of Guam's tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, later that year, Senator George M. Bamba introduced a bill to appropriate Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) to design and build a statue that would resemble President John F. Kennedy; and it was passed and enacted into law as Public Law 8-74; and

WHEREAS, John F. Kennedy High School has a rich history of academic achievements, such as the notable charter of the National Honor Society in 1962 and the establishment of the Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (AFJROTC), which is now one of the longest-running programs since 1970, and has since produced many commendable military officers; and

WHEREAS, Guam recognizes the importance of tradition and preservation of cultural heritage as it allows our people to connect with their ancestors and history while deepening our sense of unity, belonging, and local pride; and

WHEREAS, John F. Kennedy High School commemorates its proud history by hosting mega reunion events, where generations of John F. Kennedy High School alumni, and their families and friends, gather to reminisce over memories and rekindle friendships while reinvigorating their spirits in appreciation of life; and

WHEREAS, in early 2014, alumni Wesley Sison and Arlene Bretoi had an ambitious idea to organize a reunion that included a diversity of classmates from the Class of 1979; and as their idea further expanded, eventually the classes grew to include the Class of 1975 and the Class of 1978; and

WHEREAS, enlisting help from other JFKHS graduates such as Eddie Cruz, this alumni group committed to hosting a one hundred fifty (150) person reunion event in San Francisco, California; and six (6) weeks before the event, less than fifty (50) tickets were sold; however, within the month, an additional one hundred (100) attendee tickets were reserved, making the event reach a maximum capacity of two hundred (200) attendees; and

WHEREAS, following its grand success, a second reunion gathering was held in San Diego, California in 2016; and a third gathering was held in Las Vegas, Nevada in 2018; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the JFKHS Sixtieth (60th) Anniversary celebration to honor their legacy was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, Typhoon Mawar devastated the island of Guam, compelling the Core Committee of the Mega Reunion to reschedule its events to a later date; and

WHEREAS, due to their perseverance, the 2023 Mega Reunion will be celebrated with numerous events, beginning with a Friday Night Mixer at Dusit on July 28, 2023; a Saturday Night Gala at Dusit on July 29, 2023; and lastly, ending the festivities with a Sunday Picnic in *Inadahan* on July 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, aside from organizing the reunion, these John F. Kennedy High School alumni also honored their alma mater by commissioning another John F. Kennedy statue to replace the previous statue installed by Public Law 8-74; and

WHEREAS, the new bronze statue proudly stands as a symbol of resiliency and dedication of the previous and future students of John F. Kennedy High School; and

WHEREAS, all funding for the festivities and accomplishments of the JFKHS Mega Reunion Committee comes from the generosity of friends and alumni of John F. Kennedy High School, and is donated to the *Tumon*-John F. Kennedy High School Islanders Alumni Association Inc. which serves as a non-profit organization to support the funding for extracurricular activities and scholarships that benefit students of the school; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 John F. Kennedy High School Mega Reunion Committee is comprised of Chairperson Bobbie Paulino Meno, Mary Aguon, Denise Cruz, Mike Quinata, Gerri Flores, David Punzalan, Clare Cruz, and CEO Eddie Cruz; and the Mega Reunion Committee is also coordinated with individuals who represent their graduating class year from the Class of 1965 through the Class of 2020; and

WHEREAS, these JFKHS alumni have worked tirelessly to coordinate these complex reunions and events for their peers to celebrate the proud legacy of the *Tumon* Junior-Senior High School, and ultimately for their namesake, John F. Kennedy High School; and

WHEREAS, this JFKHS Mega Reunion Committee has also contributed to promoting Guam's culture to those who are off-island; and it has consistently created new and revitalized bonds within the community; now therefore, be it

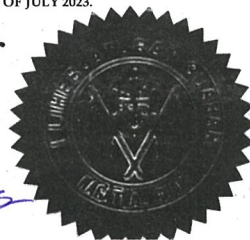
RESOLVED, that *I Mina Trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guahan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize John F. Kennedy High School (JFKHS) on the occasion of its sixty-three (63) years of educating the people of Guam; and commend the Guam JFKHS Mega Reunion Committee for planning and hosting the events to mark this historic milestone; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Chairperson Bobbie Paulino Meno, CEO Eddie Cruz, and John F. Kennedy High School Principal Barbara R. Adamos; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hagan Guahan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN ON THE 27TH DAY OF JULY 2023.


THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker


AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary



I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2023 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 166-37 (LS)

Introduced by:

Amanda L. Shelton
Chris Barnett
Frank Blas, Jr.
Joanne Brown
Christopher M. Dueñas
Thomas J. Fisher
Jesse A. Lujan
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
William A. Parkinson
Sabina Flores Perez
Roy A.B. Quinata
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Therese M. Terlaje

Relative to recognizing John F. Kennedy High School (JFKHS) on the occasion of its sixty-three (63) years of educating the people of Guam; and commending the Guam JFKHS Mega Reunion Committee for planning and hosting the various events to mark this historic milestone.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÅHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS**, John F. Kennedy High School (JFKHS), originally founded as
4 *Tumon* Junior-Senior High School, first opened its doors to the public in 1959 as a small
5 school located in the heart of the village of *Tamuning*; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the campus originally served students from seventh (7th) grade
2 through twelfth (12th) grade, initially serving an average of two thousand eight hundred
3 (2,800) students; and their first (1st) Senior Class graduated in 1960; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in 1964, the Seventh (7th) Guam Legislature passed Bill No. 202,
5 which became Public Law 7-113, that was introduced by Senator J.U. Torres and signed
6 into law by Governor Manuel F.L. Guerrero to formally change the school's name to
7 John F. Kennedy High School as a way to honor President John F. Kennedy for his
8 actions in World War II; and for removing the United States Naval Security Clearance
9 requirement that prevented people from freely traveling to and from Guam, and restrict
10 the development of Guam's tourism industry; and

11 **WHEREAS**, later that year, Senator George M. Bamba introduced a bill to
12 appropriate Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) to design and build a statue that would
13 resemble President John F. Kennedy; and it was passed and enacted into law as Public
14 Law 8-74; and

15 **WHEREAS**, John F. Kennedy High School has a rich history of academic
16 achievements, such as the notable charter of the National Honor Society in 1962 and
17 the establishment of the Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (AFJROTC),
18 which is now one of the longest-running programs since 1970, and has since produced
19 many commendable military officers; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Guam recognizes the importance of tradition and preservation of
21 cultural heritage as it allows our people to connect with their ancestors and history while
22 deepening our sense of unity, belonging, and local pride; and

23 **WHEREAS**, John F. Kennedy High School commemorates its proud history by
24 hosting mega reunion events, where generations of John F. Kennedy High School
25 alumni, and their families and friends, gather to reminisce over memories and rekindle
26 friendships while reinvigorating their spirits in appreciation of life; and

1 **WHEREAS**, in early 2014, alumni Wesley Sison and Arlene Bretoi had an
2 ambitious idea to organize a reunion that included a diversity of classmates from the
3 Class of 1979; and as their idea further expanded, eventually the classes grew to include
4 the Class of 1975 and the Class of 1978; and

5 **WHEREAS**, enlisting help from other JFKHS graduates such as Eddie Cruz, this
6 alumni group committed to hosting a one hundred fifty (150) person reunion event in
7 San Francisco, California; and six (6) weeks before the event, less than fifty (50) tickets
8 were sold; however, within the month, an additional one hundred (100) attendee tickets
9 were reserved, making the event reach a maximum capacity of two hundred (200)
10 attendees; and

11 **WHEREAS**, following its grand success, a second reunion gathering was held
12 in San Diego, California in 2016; and a third gathering was held in Las Vegas, Nevada
13 in 2018; and

14 **WHEREAS**, in 2020, the JFKHS Sixtieth (60th) Anniversary celebration to
15 honor their legacy was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

16 **WHEREAS**, in 2023, Typhoon Mawar devastated the island of Guam,
17 compelling the Core Committee of the Mega Reunion to reschedule its events to a later
18 date; and

19 **WHEREAS**, due to their perseverance, the 2023 Mega Reunion will be
20 celebrated with numerous events, beginning with a Friday Night Mixer at Dusit on July
21 28, 2023; a Saturday Night Gala at Dusit on July 29, 2023; and lastly, ending the
22 festivities with a Sunday Picnic in *Inalåhan* on July 30, 2023; and

23 **WHEREAS**, aside from organizing the reunion, these John F. Kennedy High
24 School alumni also honored their alma mater by commissioning another John F.
25 Kennedy statue to replace the previous statue installed by Public Law 8-74; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the new bronze statue proudly stands as a symbol of resiliency and
2 dedication of the previous and future students of John F. Kennedy High School; and

3 **WHEREAS**, all funding for the festivities and accomplishments of the JFKHS
4 Mega Reunion Committee comes from the generosity of friends and alumni of John F.
5 Kennedy High School, and is donated to the *Tumon*-John F. Kennedy High School
6 Islanders Alumni Association Inc. which serves as a non-profit organization to support
7 the funding for extracurricular activities and scholarships that benefit students of the
8 school; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the 2023 John F. Kennedy High School Mega Reunion Committee
10 is comprised of Chairperson Bobbie Paulino Meno, Mary Aguon, Denise Cruz, Mike
11 Quinata, Gerri Flores, David Punzalan, Clare Cruz, and CEO Eddie Cruz; and the Mega
12 Reunion Committee is also coordinated with individuals who represent their graduating
13 class year from the Class of 1965 through the Class of 2020; and

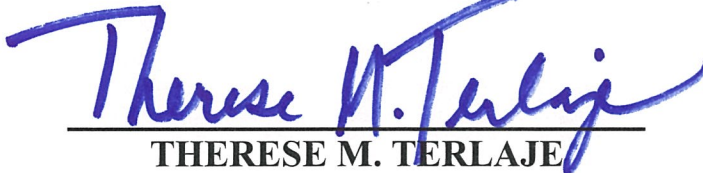
14 **WHEREAS**, these JFKHS alumni have worked tirelessly to coordinate these
15 complex reunions and events for their peers to celebrate the proud legacy of the *Tumon*
16 Junior-Senior High School, and ultimately for their namesake, John F. Kennedy High
17 School; and

18 **WHEREAS**, this JFKHS Mega Reunion Committee has also contributed to
19 promoting Guam’s culture to those who are off-island; and it has consistently created
20 new and revitalized bonds within the community; now therefore, be it

21 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guahan* does hereby,
22 on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize John F. Kennedy High School (JFKHS) on
23 the occasion of its sixty-three (63) years of educating the people of Guam; and
24 commend the Guam JFKHS Mega Reunion Committee for planning and hosting the
25 events to mark this historic milestone; and be it further

1 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the
2 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Chairperson
3 Bobbie Paulino Meno, CEO Eddie Cruz, and John F. Kennedy High School Principal
4 Barbara R. Adamos; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan*
5 *Guahan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 27TH DAY OF JULY 2023.**



THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker



AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary



Office of Senator

AMANDA L. SHELTON

Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman

Committee on Maritime and Air Transportation, Parks, Tourism, Higher Education, and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 37th Guam Legislature

July 28, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: All Senators

37th Guam Legislature

From: Senator Amanda L. Shelton *Ashelton*

Re: Presentation Notice for Resolution No. 166-37 (LS)

Buenas yan Håfa Adai!

Please join us for the presentation of **Resolution No. 166-37 (LS) – Amanda L. Shelton.** – “Relative to recognizing John F. Kennedy High School (JFKHS) on the occasion of its sixty-three (63) years of educating the people of Guam; and commending the Guam JFKHS Mega Reunion Committee for planning and hosting the various events to mark this historic milestone.”

The resolution will be presented on Saturday, July 29, 2023, **7:45 PM** at the Dusit Thani Resort & Spa.

We look forward to your attendance and participation.

