



**Guam Department of Education  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

P.O. Box DE  
Hagåtña, Guam 96932  
Telephone: (671) 300-1547/1536  
Fax: (671) 472-5003  
Email: nbunderwood@gdoe.net  
[www.gdoe.net](http://www.gdoe.net)



**Nerissa Bretania Underwood, Ph.D.**  
Superintendent of Education

2009 OCT 12 PM 2:44

October 08, 2009

Honorable Judith Won Pat, Ed.D  
Speaker, 30<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature  
155 Hesler Place  
Hagatna, Guam 96910

**Subject: Guam Education Policy Board Resolution Number 2009-11**

Dear Speaker Won Pat,

Hafa Adai! Attached please find the aforementioned Resolution 2009-11 passed by the Guam Education Policy Board on October 07, 2009. The resolution is the Memorandum of Understanding between the Governor and the Department Of Education in an effort to improve the fiscal operations of DOE.

Your immediate attention to this matter is most appreciated. If you have further questions, please contact me at 300-1547.

Sincerely yours,

**NERISSA BRETANIA UNDERWOOD, Ph.D.**

Attachment

Cc: Governor of Guam  
Phil Maestri, USDOE

30-09-1191  
Office of the Speaker  
Judith T. Won Pat  
Date: 10/09/09  
Time: 11:15  
Received by: [Signature]

1202

**GUAM EDUCATION POLICY BOARD  
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2009-11**



Introduced by:

Guam Education Policy Board Members

**RELATIVE TO SUPPORTING A MEMORANDUM OF  
UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM AND THE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE  
FISCAL OPERATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Government of Guam is responsible for the provision of an adequate education as established in the Organic Act of Guam, 48 USCA, § 1421(g)(b); and

**WHEREAS**, the Every Child is Entitled to an Adequate Public Education Act defines the services that the government of Guam must be provided to the students attending the public schools; and

**WHEREAS**, 17 G.C.A. Section 3112(a)(17) mandates that the Guam Education Policy Board (GEPB) approve a budget for Department of Education (DOE) and transmit it to the Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to create a budget for DOE accurate figures need to be provided to the GEPB in a timely fashion; and

**WHEREAS**, in going through the budget approval process the GEPB also found some of the same deficiencies with the DOE's fiscal management system that the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) also identified in the September 28, 2009 letter; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Education's financial computer system is outdated given that it was implemented more than two decades ago; and

**WHEREAS**, the GEPB finds that insufficient training has been provided to the Business Office personnel; and

**WHEREAS**, the GEPB recognizes that the Government of Guam possess the expertise and technological ability to assist DOE; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor of Guam, the Speaker of 30<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature, the Chairman of the GEPB and the Superintendent of Education have all agreed that the financial issues of DOE can be addressed through a Memorandum of Understanding; and

**WHEREAS**, all parties agreed that the MOU would not constitute a reorganization of DOE, rather the MOU would constitute a temporary measure implemented to ensure that DOE is provided immediate assistance to improve the efficiency of the Business Office; and

**WHEREAS**, the roles and responsibilities of the Superintendent shall remain the same as specified in 17 GCA §3103.

GUAM EDUCATION POLICY BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 2009-11  
Page 2 of 2

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the GEPB agrees that the fiscal operations of DOE is in need of help for both local and federal funds; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Guam Education Policy Board supports implementing a rigorous training program for the Business Office to be conducted by various Government of Guam agencies; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the GEPB is in support of the Superintendent entering into a MOU to improve DOE's fiscal management; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that GEPB is in support of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a period beginning Fiscal Year 2010 until December 31, 2010; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the terms of the MOU include a quarterly evaluation and progress report to be submitted to the GEPB, Governor and Speaker of the 30<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that at the projected end date of the MOU the parties shall revisit the MOU to make a determination to continue, end or amend the terms of the MOU; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Guam; I Mina Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guahan and the US Department of Education.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTS RESOLUTION NUMBER 2009-11 ON THIS 7th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2009.**



\_\_\_\_\_  
**JOE S. SAN AGUSTIN**  
**Chairman**  
**Guam Education Policy Board**



\_\_\_\_\_  
**NERISSA BRETANIA UNDERWOOD, PH.D.**  
**Executive Secretary**