



August 30, 2010

Memorandum

TO: Superintendent of Education
FROM: Education Suruhanu
SUBJECT: George Washington High School Inspection

Office of the Speaker
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed. D.
Date _____
Time _____
Received by _____
2010 SEP - 2 AM 10:27
30-10-0760

Hafa Adai Dr. Bretania Underwood:

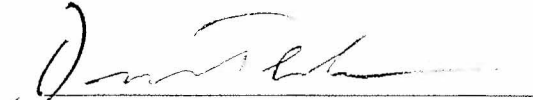
Attached to this memorandum is a report identifying various discrepancies discovered during an inspection of the George Washington High School that took place on August 27, 2010. I strongly recommend that GDOE address the discrepancies identified and rectify them immediately in order to come into compliance with the various provisions of the Fourteen (14) Points of P.L. 28-45, the School Sanitation Code, and/or other laws or regulations of the various regulatory agencies.

Please be advised that not all classrooms or school facilities were inspected. Therefore, GDOE is highly encouraged to assess all other classrooms and school facilities in order to identify any other discrepancies and perform corrective action as necessary. In addition, during the course of the inspection it was discovered that many of the student restrooms were not well stocked with the various sanitary supplies, some restrooms were missing various sanitary dispensers or they were in disrepair, and two restrooms visited were locked. GDOE has been well informed that sanitary supplies must be made available at all times during the school day and that all restrooms be accessible. Such conditions are unacceptable and should be addressed and rectified immediately. Frequent monitoring of the restrooms must be conducted on a regular basis or as often as necessary to ensure that each restroom is properly maintained, cleaned regularly, fully operational, and stocked at all times with toilet paper, soap, and paper towels or functional hand-air dryers.

Please submit to my office, in writing, GDOE's efforts to rectify each of the discrepancies identified in the inspection report, including but not limited to measures taken or to be taken to rectify each discrepancy and a date when such discrepancy would be rectified or the date such discrepancy was rectified.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Best regards,


Dominic Terlaje

Attachment:
OES Inspection report

cc:
Honorable Speaker, 30th Guam Legislature
GEPB (via email)
George Washington High School Administrator (via email)
Billy Cruz, GDOE Maintenance Manager (via email)

Government of Guam
Office of the Education Suruhanu (Ombudsman) (the OES)
School Inspection Report

PUBLIC LAW 28-45: 14 POINTS COMPLIANCE

School Representative: Mrs. Flores, Principal
Date of Inspection: August 27, 2010
Weather Condition: Cloudy and warm with some sun.
Student Population: Approximately 2,800 (According to school officials, the school's capacity is around 2,100 students.)

School: **George Washington High**

Location	14 Point (a-n)	Type of Citation (PH=DPHSS, F=Fire Dept, E=EPA, S=Suruhanu)	Date of Citation	Demerits	Description of Finding	Comments
Campus	1	N/A	8/27/10	N/A	The school may be experiencing difficulties in adequately monitoring 2,800 students during breaks.	There are 12 school aides assigned to cover the entire GW campus. However, additional personnel may be necessary in order to ensure adequate monitoring of student activity especially during lunch break and/or other break periods when the entire student population is generally not in the classrooms.
Student common use restrooms.	i&l	S	8/27/10	N/A	According to school officials, some restrooms are experiencing low water pressure making it difficult to flush any such toilet properly. Observed that a majority of the student restrooms were not properly supplied with the various sanitary supplies and some restrooms were missing various sanitary dispensers or the dispensers were in disrepair.	GDOE has been well informed that sanitary supplies must be made available at all times during the school day. Such conditions are unacceptable and should be addressed and rectified immediately. Frequent monitoring of the restrooms is strongly recommended to ensure that each restroom is properly maintained, cleaned regularly, fully operational, and stocked at all times with toilet paper, soap, and paper towels or functional hand-air dryers. Ensure that capable personnel are assigned to perform any such custodial duties and that such duties are performed on a regular basis or as often as necessary.
Campus	f&l	S	8/27/10	N/A	Observed dirty filters in classroom air conditioning units of various classrooms.	When mechanical ventilation is provided it is required to be maintained in a clean & good working order. Require the individuals responsible for cleaning the A/C filters to properly remove and clean as necessary. Regular scheduled maintenance of the A/C units should be performed in order to ensure the effective and efficient operation of any such A/C unit.
Campus	1	S	8/27/10	N/A	Observed outer openings in various classroom doors and windows.	All outer openings are required to be properly sealed. Proper sealing of outer openings would improve the efficiency of any A/C unit. Sealing outer openings could potentially result in substantial energy savings for GDOE. Identify and seal all outer openings. GDOE should consider scheduling the removal of all louvered windows and replace with sliding windows or some other type of energy efficient windows.
Campus	f&l	S	8/27/10	N/A	A/C units in various classrooms not working or not cooling properly.	Public schools are required to provide air conditioned or properly ventilated classrooms in which the sensible air temperature is no greater than 78 °F. Ventilation must be adequate in order to provide proper circulation of needed air within a room by either windows or mechanical ventilators. When mechanical ventilation is provided, it must be kept clean and in good repair. Public Health considers temperatures above 84 ° F inadequate. In the event a classroom temperature measures above 84 ° F and/or when the relative humidity exceeds a specific measurement, Public Health may require the closure of such room until such measures can be taken to improve air circulation so that the room temperature can be adequately maintained. Identify and repair or replace any A/C unit not working or not cooling properly. If ventilation cannot be improved immediately, the students must be transferred to a more suitable room. Rooms that are not properly ventilated may present various health issues for students and others.

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Campus	I	S	8/27/10	N/A	Observed light shields not properly secured to light fixtures in various classrooms. Some light shields were found in disrepair and should be replaced.	School equipment is required to be in good repair. Ceiling light fixtures should be provided with proper light shield or an acceptable protective sleeve covering each bulb. Light bulbs should be properly covered as a safety precaution.
A wing boys restroom 1st floor	I	S	8/27/10	N/A	Observed cigarette butts inside urinals.	The law prohibits smoking on school grounds. All school personnel and students should be properly reminded that smoking is not allowed on campus.
C-102	I	S	8/27/10	N/A	Ceiling fan not working. One of the A/C units is noisy and drips water inside the classroom occasionally. Electrical outlets not working by the right side counter located near the C-102 door.	School equipment must be in good working order. Identify and repair or replace all items in disrepair or not working properly.
D wing boys restroom 1st floor.	i&l	S	8/27/10	N/A	Observed that such restroom was closed.	Restrooms should be made accessible, clean, in good working order, and properly supplied with the necessary supplies at all times.
B-109	I	S	8/27/10	N/A	Observed that emergency lights are not working.	Emergency lights may be required in such room because there are no windows that allow natural sun light to enter the room. Repair and/or replace immediately to ensure that lighting is provided during a power outage.
B-205	I	S	8/27/10	N/A	Left side A/C unit is noisy and the right side A/C unit is not working.	Mechanical ventilation is required to be in good working order at all times. Identify and repair the A/C units as necessary.
B wing boys restroom 2nd floor.	i&l	S	8/27/10	N/A	Observed that such restroom was closed.	Restrooms should be made accessible, clean, in good working order, and properly supplied with the necessary supplies at all times.

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E-103 ROTC	f&l	S	8/27/10	N/A	Ventilation is generally inadequate. There are four different A/C units in such room but not all of them are cooling properly or it may be that such units may not be able to sufficiently ventilate or properly cool such room. Observed six floor fans in operation. The air temperature measured approximately 84 °F with very few students present in the room at the time of the inspection. According to the teacher, the room becomes much warmer on hot days and also in the afternoon. According to the teacher, there may be an issue with the amperage provided to such room which may preventing the installation of additional A/C units.	Public schools are required to provide air conditioned or properly ventilated classrooms in which the sensible air temperature is no greater than 78 °F. In addition, ventilation must be adequate in order to provide proper circulation of needed air within a room by either windows or mechanical ventilators. When mechanical ventilation is provided, it must be kept clean and in good repair. Public Health considers temperatures above 84 ° F inadequate. In the event a classroom temperature measures above 84 ° F and/or when the relative humidity exceeds a specific measurement, Public Health may require the closure of such room until such measures can be taken to improve air circulation so that the room temperature can be adequately maintained. Identify and repair or replace any A/C unit not working or not cooling properly. However, for this particular room, additional or more a powerful A/C unit may need to be installed. If ventilation cannot be improved immediately, the students may need to be transferred to a more suitable room. Rooms that are not properly ventilated may present various health issues for students and others. An assessment of the electricity supply for such room supply to such room should be performed before any additional electrical equipment is installed or operated. Note: According to the teacher, such conditions in the room have been ongoing for approximately one year and work requests have been submitted reporting the problem.
ROTC	l	S	8/27/10	N/A	Observed light bulbs without light shields or protective sleeves.	School equipment is required to be in good repair. Ceiling light fixtures should be provided with proper light shield or an acceptable protective sleeve covering each bulb. Light bulbs should be properly covered as a safety precaution.
ROTC	l	S	8/27/10	N/A	Observed that emergency lights are not working.	Emergency lights may be required in such room because there are no windows that allow natural sun light to enter the room. Repair and/or replace immediately to ensure that lighting is provided during a power outage.
Campus	l	S	8/27/10	N/A	Fire alarm system not operational. (GFD approved a Fire Watch Program as a temporary measure until GDOE installs a working fire alarm system.)	Although GFD has authorized the use of a Fire Watch Program as temporary fire prevention measure, I strongly encourage GDOE to begin repairing, replacing, and/or upgrading each school's fire alarm system immediately.
Campus	l	S	8/27/10	N/A	Bus transportation in the afternoon is generally delayed for more than an hour for some students and for others, the wait is generally 30 minutes.	Although efforts are ongoing to attempt to rectify this issue, I would strongly recommend that GDOE stay in close contact with DPW officials concerning this matter. In addition, GDOE should assign the necessary personnel to communicate with DPW officials throughout the school year for the status of bus operations. I would also recommend that the GDOE Safety Office communicate with DPW officials on the status of bus safety inspections to verify that any school bus transporting students has obtained the necessary safety certificate.