



Office of the Education Suruhanu (Ombudsman)
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September 30, 2010

Memorandum

TO: Superintendent of Education
FROM: Education Suruhanu
SUBJECT: PC Lujan Elementary School Inspection

Håfa Adai Dr. Bretania Underwood:

Attached to this memorandum is a report identifying various discrepancies discovered during an inspection of the P.C. Lujan Elementary School that took place on September 29, 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 rules 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 asses all other classrooms and school facilities in order to identify any other discrepancies and perform corrective action as necessary. In addition, the expired fire extinguishers noted in this inspection report is a repeat discrepancy from the January 22, 2010 Public Health inspection that has not yet been rectified.

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 proposed date when such discrepancy was rectified or would be rectified.

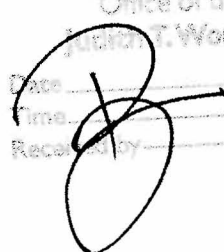
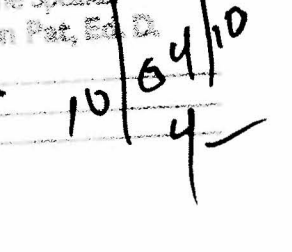
If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.


Si Yu'os Ma'åse',


Dominic Terlaje

Attachment:
OES Inspection report

cc:
Honorable Speaker, 30th Guam Legislature
Chairman, GEB
PC Lujan Administrator
Billy Cruz, GDOE Maintenance Manager
Tom Nadeau, DPHSS DEH Administrator
Captain Joey Muna, GFD
Chief of Staff, Governor's office
Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General

30-10-0869
Office of the Speaker
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed. D.
Date:  10/04/10
Time: 4-
Received by: 

2010 OCT 25 AM 8:52


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

School Representative: Ms. Iglesias, Assistant Principal Date and time of inspection: September 29, 2010, 10:00 a.m. Weather Condition: Sunny and warm School Population: 480 AMI provides custodial services from 10:00 a.m. to 6 p.m.	School: PC Lujan Elementary
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No.	Loc.	14 pt.	Citation: PH=DPHSS F=Fire Dept E=EPA S=Suruhanu	Date	D e m e r i t s	Description of Finding	Comments	Recommendations. With any recommendation, it is expected where applicable, that GDOE officials would perform a proper assessment and/or evaluation of the particular reported discrepancy and only then, should GDOE take the appropriate course of action to rectify any such reported discrepancy in order to come into compliance with the law.
	Certified Teachers	a	S	9/29/10	N/A	Two different kindergarten classes are without a certified teacher. One class has been without a certified teacher since the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year as a result of being on medical leave and the date of return is not know at this time. Another class has just recently been without a certified teacher since September 27, 2010 as a result of the teacher taking maternity leave and the date of return for this teacher is on or about October 27, 2010.	Under the law, public schools are required under to provide a certified teacher for every class. Although each of the affected classes was assigned a certified teacher at the beginning of the school year, the affected classes currently do not have a certified. Each class is currently being covered by a substitute teacher but they are not certified teachers. However, other certified teachers at the school provide assistance to the substitute teachers. The school has submitted requests for certified teacher replacements accordingly.	In order to come into compliance with the law, a certified teacher who possesses the necessary qualifications should be assigned immediately to each of the affected classes. Currently, there are no exceptions in the law that would allow a non-certified individual to serve as a kindergarten teacher. Identify and assign any available and qualified personnel within GDOE to teach the affected classes.
	Bus transportation	n	S	9/29/10	N/A	Late bus pickup after school.	School officials indicated that the bus transportation has improved since the beginning of the school year. However, there is still one bus route for the afternoon pickup that performs a double run resulting in some students waiting for approximately 30 minutes at the school.	Follow up with DPW officials as necessary on the status of bus transportation and promptly notify such officials of any issues or problems that any such school may be experiencing.
	Various classrooms	l	S	9/29/10	N/A	A/C filters dirty.	When mechanical ventilation is provided, it shall be kept clean and in good repair. Clean filters increase the effective and efficient operation of the air conditioning unit.	Identify and clean air condition filters as often as is necessary. A regular cleaning schedule should be implemented and performed accordingly. Determine whether or not the contract with the custodial vendor would allow such vendor to perform such services.

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	106, 30, 15, 21,	f&l	N/A	9/29/10	N/A	Air conditioning unit not may not be cooling the rooms properly.	Under the law, public schools are required to provide air conditioned or properly ventilated classrooms in which the sensible air temperature is no greater 78 °F. The temperatures in the various rooms visited all measured above 78 °F but less than 82 °F. In addition, the teaches in the affected rooms indicated that their room becomes much warmer around noon time and much warmer on hotter days.	Perform a timely and proper assessment of any affected classroom and make the necessary repairs. Perform an assessment of the affected classrooms to determine whether or not any such classroom may need an additional A/C unit.
	106	l	N/A	9/29/10	N/A	Wood panel behind A/C unit observed with wood rot.	Walls are required to be kept in clean and in good repair. It appears that the wood rot may be caused by water condensation from the A/C unit.	Identify and replace all wood rot. Take measures to prevent any water from dripping on the wood.
	Classroom handwashing sinks and common use restroom sinks.	i & l	S	9/29/10	N/A	Observed empty paper towel dispensers in both the common use restroom facilities and at various classroom sinks.	For various health and sanitary reasons, single-service towels shall be provided and made available at all times. PH requires single-service paper towels to be provided within the appropriate dispenser. With classrooms that have more than one sink, the teacher must designate one sink as the main sink and as such, the permanent and acceptable paper towel dispenser must be provided next to such designated sink. After pointing out the problem, efforts to stock the dispensers were initiated.	Ensure that all common use restroom facilities and designated hand washing sinks in the K to 2nd grade classrooms have single-service paper towel dispensers and that such dispenser is always provided with an appropriate and sufficient stock of paper towels. An electric hand-air dryer is an acceptable alternative to a paper towel dispenser. A restroom log or monitoring sheet should be created and implemented accordingly. School custodians, the third party custodial vendor, or other assigned personnel should be required to monitor such areas on a regular basis, report, and respond accordingly.

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	Campus	i & l	S	9/29/10	N/A	Permanently mounted soap dispensers in disrepair.	For various health and sanitary reasons, permanently mounted soap dispensers fully stocked with soap are required at all times during the school day. Although the permanent soap dispensers may be in disrepair or missing, hand pump soap dispensers are being provided. However, according to PH officials, hand pump soap dispensers are acceptable as a temporary measure and that permanently mounted soap dispensers must be provided and properly maintained.	Continue efforts to purchase and install permanent soap dispensers. Hand pump soap dispensers should only be used as a temporary measure.
	Girls D wing restroom	l	S	9/29/10	N/A	Observed that the front lower portion of the bowl has a large opening exposing the ceramic material of the bowl.	Restroom fixtures are required to be in good repair. Although the bowl other wise works and there are no leaks, there are sharp edges as a result of the ceramic being exposed.	Remove and replace the broken toilet bowl as soon as possible.
	Campus	l	S	9/29/10	N/A	Fire alarm system not operational.	Public schools are required to provide a working fire alarm system. According to GFD, the temporary Fire Watch Program must be continued until the school's fire alarm system is operational.	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 immediately. Please provide the status of GDOE's efforts to rectify the school's alarm system, when any such work is expected to begin, and the time frame in which it would take to complete any such work.

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	Campus	1	S	9/29/10	N/A	The school's fire extinguishers annual service date has expired. Cafeteria dining hall fire extinguisher has expired.	According to various GFD officials, fire extinguishers are required to be re-serviced annually by a party licensed to perform such services. The annual service inspection tag for the various extinguishers at the school was marked or punched in April 2008 and the tag also indicates that the extinguisher expires in 12 months from the date punched. In other words, the fire extinguishers expired on April 30, 2009 and should have been re-serviced by May 1, 2009 and again re-serviced in 12 months from the 2009 date punched which would have been on or around June 2010. The school was also cited for this particular issue in PH's inspection report dated January 22, 2010. School officials indicated that requests to have their fire extinguishers re-serviced were submitted soon after they were made aware of such issue. GFD also highly recommends that monthly monitoring of the fire extinguishers be conducted.	Require school officials to examine their schools fire extinguishers as necessary, to verify that the annual service date has not expired. Monthly monitoring of the fire extinguishers would enable school officials to quickly identify and report any issues found with their fire extinguishers including expiration of the annual service date. GDOE Safety Office should develop a master list of all the schools, log the annual service dates for all fire extinguishers, and provide reminders to school officials in advance of the annual service expiration date. In addition, the GDOE Safety Office should coordinate with the fire extinguisher vendor well in advance of the expiration date of the fire extinguishers or when fire extinguishers are reported in disrepair in order to ensure that a sufficient amount of properly working fire extinguishers are always made available in the schools. Proper planning and scheduling must be a priority concerning the availability of working fire extinguishers to ensure the safety of the students and others.