DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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JON J.P. FERNANDEZ
Superintendent of Education

October 7, 2014

32-14 - 2108
Office of the Speaker
Judith T. Won Pat. Ed.D

Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Ed. D
Speaker
I Mina'trentai Dos na Liheslaturan Guahan
155 Hesler Place
Hagåtna, GU 96910

Date: _10·10·14_

Time: _3:46pm_

Received By: _____

Re: Relative to supporting the implementation of the Pre-Kindergarten Program within the Guam Department of Education.

Håfa Adai Speaker Won Pat,

Attached please find Guam Education Board Resolution ("GEB") No. 2014-08 relative to supporting the implementation of the Pre-Kindergarten Program within the Guam Department of Education adopted by the GEB on September 23, 2014.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Joseph Sanchez at jsanchez@gdoe.net or 300-1635. Thank you for your continued support of the Department.
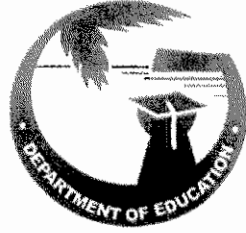
Senseramente,

JON J.P. FERNANDEZ

Attachment

cc: Chairman and Members, Guam Education Board
        Deputy Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction

2108

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2014-08

Introduced by: **Guam Education Board Members**

RELATIVE TO SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM WITHIN THE GUAM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, quality pre-kindergarten programs prepare children to do their best by nurturing their social-emotional, cognitive, and physical development; enhancing their self-confidence; and fostering a lifelong desire to learn; and

WHEREAS, ensuring access to quality pre-kindergarten for 4-year-olds whose parents choose to send them has proven to be one of the soundest educational investments the public can make, providing demonstrated, significant, long-term savings on the costs of special education, grade retention, welfare and crime; and

WHEREAS, during their K–12 years and beyond, children who attend quality preschool perform better on standardized achievement tests in reading and math; exhibit more positive behaviors in the classroom; are more likely to graduate from high school, continue their education and be more prosperous as adults; and

WHEREAS, quality preschool programs should be funded adequately in order to assure adherence to established standards of quality and to attract and keep certified Early Childhood Education professionals and compensate them at levels comparable to those in the Guam Department of Education's K-12 system; be inclusive of children with special needs; be offered in culturally, ethnically and linguistically appropriate settings; be clearly articulated with the K-12 system and programs serving younger children; be linked to full-day, affordable early care and education programs to meet the needs of working families; and be subject to research-based evaluation to assure desired outcomes for children;

WHEREAS, during the SY2014.2015, the Guam Department of Education will begin planning for the phase-in program commencing SY2015.2016 through a pilot of a full-day Pre-Kindergarten Program in four elementary schools (one classroom at each school in the Haya, Kattan, Luchan and Lagu districts);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Guam Education Board of the Guam Department of Education supports state, local, and federal efforts to invest in voluntary, high-quality Pre-Kindergarten for 4-year-olds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Guam Education Board will work with a broad spectrum of community members and policy makers to increase voluntary access to high-quality Pre-Kindergarten for 4-year-olds in a variety of settings, including schools, child care centers, Head Start programs and family child care homes.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE GUAM EDUCATION BOARD ON THIS 23$^{\text{TH}}$ DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2014.

Jose Q. Cruz, Ed.D.
Chairman, Guam Education Board

Jon J.P. Fernandez
Executive Secretary, Guam Education Board