

**12TH CNMI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, May 19, 2011 at 8:30 a.m.
Tinian Jr. Sr. High School Library
Tinian, MP 96952**

FINAL MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present:

Marylou S. Ada
Lucia L. Blanco-Maratita
Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero
Herman T. Guerrero
D. Tanya King
Joycelynn Y. Atalig

All members present, there is a quorum.

PSS Staff Present:

Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D. – Commissioner of Education
Jackie Quitugua – Associate Commissioner for Curriculum & Instruction
Tim Thornburgh – Federal Programs Officer
Melissa DLR. Palacios – Director, Head Start Program
Charley Kenty – Human Resource Director
Richard Waldo – Finance Director
Julian Hofschneider – Principal, Tinian Jr. Sr. High School
Eric San Nicolas – Vice Principal, Tinian Jr. Sr. High School
Kelley Butcher, Esq. – Chief Legal Counsel
George Hasselback, Esq. – Legal Counsel
Jerry Guerrero – Internal Auditor (via VTC)
Alaysha Muna – Certification & Licensure Officer (via VTC)
Valerie K. Malwelbug – BOE Administrative Officer

General Public:

There were no members of the public.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Member Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero moved to adopt the agenda, Vice Chair D. Tanya King seconded, all five members voted yes, motion carried.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Member Deleon Guerrero moved to adopt the Minutes of the April 27, 2011 Special Board Meeting; Member Lucia L. Blanco-Maratita seconded, all five members voted yes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice Chair King moved to go into executive session at 9:03 a.m. for purposes of discussing legal updates, personnel and other matters, Member Herman T. Guerrero seconded, all five members voted yes, motion carried. Commissioner Rita A. Sablan also requested that Human Resource Director – Charley Kenty be included in the second part of the Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Legal Counsel Kelley Butcher asked that Federal Programs Officer – Tim Thornburgh, Finance Director Richard Waldo and Financial Consultant Edward Tenorio be allowed to stay in for the first part of the Executive Session to discuss the Financial Status of PSS. At 9:25 a.m., Legal Counsels Kelley Butcher and George Hasselback as well as BOE Administrative Officer Valerie K. Malwelbug were asked to step out for the discussion of contract renewal for Legal Counsel Kelley Butcher.

Legal Counsel Kelley Butcher reported that the Board was apprised of the NMIRF status by Human Resource Officer Kenty and Commissioner Sablan. The Board was updated as to the pending court cases, two (2) pending subpoena case, discipline, student discipline as to sexual harassment complaints; Concerns were raised by Vice Chair King re employee issues in Rota and Commissioner Sablan was tasked to get back to the Board during the next meeting Executive Session. Member Deleon Guerrero moved to renew the contract for Legal Counsel Kelley Butcher, Member Guerrero seconded.

It was a consensus of the Board to break at 11:55 a.m. for lunch and resume back at 1:00 p.m. for Reports. The meeting resumed at 1:13 p.m.

REPORTS

- a. **Chair** – Chair Ada informed everyone that her weekly reports were sent out. The weekly Bucket meeting was done on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 due to other events scheduled on Friday, May 13, 2011.
- b. **Board Committees:**
 - i. **CIA** – None
 - ii. **CIP** – None
 - iii. **FPA** – Committee Chair Guerrero submitted a written report on two (2) meetings.

- iv. **SEEIP** – Chair King said she scheduled one but was cancelled.
- v. **LIA** – Chair Guerrero reported that the Committee met to discuss the BOE-PSS opposition to the Education Tax Credit and the Education Act;
- vi. **Ad Hoc** – Chair Deleon Guerrero attempted to call a meeting but intends to call in a couple of weeks
- vii. **School Reform** – Chair Deleon Guerrero reported that the committee met on May 11, 2011. Item 12 on the agenda is one that the committee is recommending for Board approval. Few matters discussed and continued to look at policies for selecting honors, updates on home study, PTA Organizations and school uniform issues.

c. **Student Representative** – Student Representative Joycelynn Y. Atalig reported on her participation in the WASC visit at Rota High School (RHS). She is part of the Accreditation Team for Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr. High School and RHS. She also attended the Teen Pregnancy Forum on Rota and asked if she could be excused at 2 p.m. to meet with Jr. and High School Students to ask questions re: issues and impacts on student learning, etc. Chair Ada gave her permission and was excused.

d. **Commissioner of Education**- Commissioner Sablan reported on two (2) items: Her meeting in Denver focused on Pacific Advisory Board (McREL) and Head Start.

She shared that she, too, was present at the Teen Pregnancy Forum; She thanked Chair Ada and Member Guerrero for being present at the Hopwood Jr. High School (HJHS) Accreditation visit while she was not able to attend; Announced the CNMI PSS Team taking 4th place in the Math Count in Kansas; She informed the Board that she will resend the Graduation Dates/Schedules with the time, date, venue and theme and the Calendar of Events for September 2011.

For Head Start, Program Director Melissa Palacios gave updates on Head Start activities. She further stated that the Education and Disabilities fill position as soon as that's filled, they will open for Coordinator. Family Protective Advocate reannounced due to low number of applicants at the same time upon completion. High number of staff have resigned, four (4) will not meet Mandate re Head Start Act; 1 Resigned, 3 staff currently in San Diego completing the "I am Moving, I am Leading Training as a requirement.

Commissioner Sablan introduced Finance Director Waldo for the Local Report and Federal Programs Officer Thornburgh for Federal Report.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. **ACTION:** Member Guerrero moved to approve the Proposed Policy on Evaluation System for Classroom Teachers; Vice Chair King seconded; all five members voted yes, motion carried.

2. **ACTION:** Member Guerrero moved to approve the Proposed Policy on Evaluation System for School Administrators; Member Blanco-Maratita seconded; all five members voted yes, motion carried.
3. **ACTION:** Member Deleon Guerrero moved to approve the PSS License Agreement re Posting of Regulations to PSS Website; Vice Chair King seconded; Legal Counsel Butcher wanted to clarify that it is not the Agreement itself that is being voted on, it is to consent to get a License, all five members voted yes, motion carried.

The HQT Requirements Matters re repeal of Praxis I requirement was tabled and referred back to the FPA Committee for further review and discussion.

4. **ACTION:** Vice Chair King moved to approve the Revised Proposed Policy on Instructor Classification based on National Certification or Occupation License; Member Blanco-Maratita seconded; all five members voted yes, motion carried.
5. **ACTION:** Vice Chair King moved to approve the Ratification of BOE-PSS Letter to Governor Fitial on Senate Bill No. 17-68, "Education Tax Credit"; Member Guerrero seconded; all five members voted yes, motion carried.
6. **ACTION:** Member Guerrero moved to approve the Reprogram of Project ARRA Consolidated Grant; Vice Chair King seconded; all five members voted yes, motion carried.
7. **ACTION:** Vice Chair King moved to approve the Reprogram of SFSF Funds; Member Guerrero seconded; all five members voted yes, motion carried.
8. **ACTION:** Vice Chair King moved to approve the Striving Readers Grant Application; Member Guerrero moved seconded, all five members voted yes, motion carried.
9. **ACTION:** Member Guerrero moved to accept the CNMI AmeriCorps Audit Report and Responses; Vice Chair King seconded, all five members voted yes, motion carried. Commissioner Sablan will update the board by report; Member Guerrero tasked Internal Auditor Jerry Deleon Guerrero to do a matrix on responses.
10. **ACTION:** Member Guerrero moved to approve the Proposed PSS School Calendar for SY 2011-2012; Member Blanco-Maratita seconded; all five members voted yes, motion carried. Member Deleon Guerrero noticed that "Christmas" was written and should be changed to "Holiday"; Vice Chair King asked if maybe by next year, the School Opening will go back to August, Commissioner Sablan replied that we cannot predict the situation for PSS in the future; Member Guerrero asked Commissioner Sablan to please keep in mind that

perhaps in the future when executing contracts to not extend too long so we could go back to starting school in August.

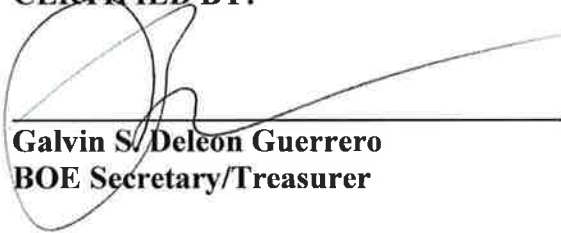
11. ACTION: Vice Chair King moved to approve the Proposed Anti-Bullying Policy; Member Deleon Guerrero seconded, all five members voted yes, motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Member Deleon Guerrero shared about the Guam Chapter of the Junior Achievement adopting the CNMI starting with Rota and Tinian beginning Fall. Member Blanco-Maratita thanked the Tinian Jr. Sr. High School staff and management for setting and preparing for the meeting. Member Guerrero thanked the Board for finally having a meeting on Tinian with him being on the Board for over nine years.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 3:21 p.m.¹

CERTIFIED BY:



Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero
BOE Secretary/Treasurer

7/18/11
Date

CONCURRED BY:



MaryLou S. Ada
BOE Chairperson

Jul 30, 2011
Date

¹ This Minutes was adopted during the June 30, 2011 Special Board Meeting.