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COMMONWEALTH of the NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

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Alfred B. Ada, Ed.D COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION pss.coe@cnmipss.org

MEMORANDUM

DATE November 26, 2021

TO **PSS** Families and Staff

FROM Acting Commissioner of Education

SUBJECT Face-to-face instruction set to resume on November 29, 2021

Dear PSS Families and Staff,

We understand the rise in positive cases is a concern, however, after consultation with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation and the COVID-19 Taskforce, we have been assured that schools are safe to reopen. Therefore, the CNMI Public School System is set to resume face-to-face instruction on Monday, November 29, 2021.

The Public School System (PSS) has completed deep cleaning, sanitation, and disinfection in all of our facilities. We have protocols in place such as temperature checks, social distancing, mask-wearing, and hand sanitizing. We are also committed to the continuation of regular school-based antigen testing to keep students and staff safe, as well as prevent outbreaks in schools. More importantly, critical vaccination efforts remain our priority.

PSS is ready to welcome back our students with a high standard of precautionary measures and care in all our schools. Rest assured, safety and protection are paramount in the resumption of face-to-face instruction.

We ask for your commitment to continue with the 3 W's: Wash your hands, Watch your distance, and Wear a face covering. The 3 W's is an integral part of our mitigation efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19. You may feel worried or anxious about the near future and your family's health. If you feel the need to reach out for help, please contact mentalhealth@cnmipss.org.

Thank you, as always, for your support and understanding.

Sincerely,

Eric M. Magofna, M.Ed.

Acting Commissioner of Education

STUDENTS FIRST