

**16<sup>TH</sup> CNMI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.  
Board of Education Conference Room,  
Building 1241, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP**

**FINAL MINUTES**

**PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

Having to elect officers today, Legal Counsel Tiberius D. Mocanu was appointed as Chair Pro Tem. Chair Pro Tem Mocanu called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members present:**

Janice A. Tenorio, M.Ed.  
Herman M. Atalig, SGM (Ret)  
MaryLou S. Ada, J.D.  
Andrew L. Orsini  
Phillip Mendiola-Long, AIFA, RF  
Paul T. Miura  
Dionne Monique S. Torres

**Members absent:**

Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero, Ed.D.

Five (5) voting members present, a quorum was established.

Chair Pro Tem Mocanu opened the floor for the Election of Officers beginning with the nomination for Chairperson. Member Andrew L. Orsini nominated Janice A. Tenorio for Chairperson, Member Herman M. Atalig seconded. Member Phillip Mendiola-Long moved to close nomination for Chairperson, Member Orsini seconded. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

Congratulations in order, Chairperson Tenorio takes over the meeting and moves to the adoption of the agenda.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Member Phillip Mendiola-Long moved to adopt the agenda, Member Andrew L. Orsini seconded. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

**PSS/BOE Staff Present:**

Alfred B. Ada – Commissioner of Education  
Charley Kenty – Interim Associate Commissioner for Administrative Services (ACAS)  
Jackie Quitugua – Associate Commissioner for Curriculum and Instructional Services (OCI)  
Lynette Villagomez – Associate Commissioner for Accountability, Research, and Evaluation (ARE)  
Yvonne Pangelinan – Associate Commissioner for Student & Support Services (SSS)  
Kimo Rosario – Interim Director of Finance (IDoF)  
Tim Thornburgh – Federal Programs Office (FPO) Director  
Edward Tenorio – PSS Financial Consultant  
Lathania Angui – Early Head Start/Head Start Program Director (EHS/HS)  
Suzanne Lizama – Special Education Program (SpEd) Director  
Robin Palacios – Early Intervention Program (EIP) Director  
Lucretia Borja – Human Resources Office (HRO) Director  
Joserin Mendiola – Interim Comptroller  
Eric Magofna – OAS, FDM  
George Palican – Internal Auditor  
Emelinda Cabrera – Media/Graphics Designer  
Jacque Che – ARE  
Shawn San Nicolas – Office of Pupil Transportation (OPT) Director  
Tiberius Mocanu, Esq. – Legal Counsel  
Jessica Estrada – Certification & Licensure Officer  
Valerie K. Malwelbug – Administrative Officer

**Members of the Public:**

Sally Limes - KSPN  
Lori Lynn Lirio – Marianas Variety News  
Ulysses T. Sabuco – Taro Leaf

Chair Tenorio continues with the Election of officers by opening the floor for nomination for Vice Chairperson.

Member Orsini moved to nominate Member Atalig for Vice Chairperson. Member Long moved to close nomination, Member Orsini seconded. All five (5) members votes yes, motions carried. Member Atalig is congratulated as Vice Chairperson.

Member Orsini nominated Member Ada for Secretary/Treasurer, Member Long seconded. Member Long moved to closed nomination, Member Orsini seconded. All five (5) members votes yes, motions carried. Member Ada is congratulated as Secretary/Treasurer.

The Election of Officers has concluded. Chair Tenorio informed everyone that she will be sending the standing committee appointments on the next day.

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

***ACTION NO. 01*** Member Ada moved to adopt the Minutes of the November 11, 2019 Regular Board Meeting. Member Atalig seconded. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

***ACTION NO. 02*** Member Long moved to adopt the Minutes of the November 26, 2019 Special Board Meeting. Member Atalig seconded. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

***ACTION NO. 03*** Member Ada moved to adopt the Minutes of the December 5, 2019 Special Board Meeting. Member Atalig seconded. It was noted to include Member Long in the meeting attendance as present and not absent since he participated later via teleconference during executive session. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

***ACTION NO. 04*** Member Atalig moved to adopt the Minutes of December 11, 2019 Special Board Meeting. Member Orsini seconded. Member Paul Miura wanted clarification and/or correction where he was quoted to "...would like for everyone to receive." All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

***ACTION NO. 05*** Member Atalig moved to adopt the Minutes of the December 18, 2019 Special Board Meeting. Member Long seconded. The Interview of Applicants for the position of Commissioner of Education was conducted with only three (3) members to vote. The signatories for the Final Minutes was changed to Members Atalig, Long, and Orsini with Members Tenorio and Ada recused. All three (3) members voted yes, motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Member Orsini shared about the safety of the schools from the threat last week. If it was an adult being charged, felony should also be one of the charges.

## **REPORTS**

1. **Chair** – The Chair’s report was emailed to everyone.
2. **Board Committees**
  - a. **CIP** – Committee Chair Atalig reported on the January 8, 2020 meeting. Two (2) items are included in the agenda for approval – Hopwood Middle School and Da’ok Academy Relocation
  - b. **FPA** – Committee Chair Ada reported on the January 7-8, 2020 meeting. Updates given on the Local and Federal funds status; Early Head Start/Head Start Program; and Early Intervention and Special Education Programs Grants Applications.
  - c. **ISA** – Committee Chair Orsini shared that a meeting has been scheduled for January 17, 2020;
  - d. **LIA** – No report
  - e. **SICPP** – No report
  - f. **SARC** – The report was sent out via email.
3. **Commissioner of Education** – Commissioner Alfred Ada thanked the board for the opportunity. He stated that Interim Director of Finance Kimo Rosario will report on the

Local funds status, Federal Programs Office Director Tim Thornburgh will report on the Federal funds status, and Early Head Start/ Head Start (EHS/H) Program Director Lathania Angui will report on the EHS/HS Program.

A break was called at 10:41 a.m. and resumed at 11:12 a.m.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

***ACTION NO. 06*** Member Long moved to approve the Part B Special Education Program Annual Program Report (APR). Member Orsini seconded. Four (4) members voted yes, one member (Member Ada) stepped out, motion carried.

***ACTION NO. 07*** Member Atalig moved to approve the Part C Early Intervention Program APR, Member Long seconded, all five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

***ACTION NO. 08*** Member Orsini moved to approve the Early Head Start Program Disaster Recovery Grant Application for \$520,669.00. Member Atalig seconded. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

***ACTION NO. 09*** Member Orsini moved to approve the Head Start Program Disaster Recover Grant Application for \$2,729,629.00. Member Atalig seconded. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

***ACTION NO.10*** Member Atalig moved to approve the renovation of fifteen (15) classrooms at Hopwood Middle School (HMS), Member Orsini seconded. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

***ACTION NO.11*** Member Atalig moved to approve the relocation and new facility for HMS, Member Orsini seconded, all five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

***ACTION NO. 12*** Member Atalig moved to approve the Relocation of Da'ok Academy. Member Orsini seconded. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

***ACTION NO. 13*** Member Ada moved to approve the CLO Report No. 2020-001 with 4 Basic I, 1 Basic I Instructor, 1 Instructor I, 4 Basic II, 1 Specialized, and 1 Professional. Member Orsini seconded. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

***ACTION NO.14*** Member Ada moved to approve the Board Resolution No. 2020-16-001 Authorized Signatory for Tim Thornburgh to be included back to all PSS Bank Accounts, Member Orsini seconded. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**


Member Ada moved to descend into executive session at 12:19 p.m. for the purpose of receiving legal updates. Member Orsini seconded. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

Member Orsini moved to rise out of executive session at 1:02 p.m., Member Long seconded. All five (5) members voted yes; motion carried.

Legal Counsel Mocanu stated that matters discussed in executive session included personnel matters, Financial status, and potential litigation. Matters discussed were appropriate in executive session.


**ADJOURNMENT-** Member Ada moved to adjourn, Member Orsini seconded. All five (5) members voted yes; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 p.m.<sup>1</sup>

**CERTIFIED BY:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MaryLou S. Ada, J.D.  
BOE Secretary/Treasurer

05/29/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**CONCURRED BY:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janice A. Tenorio, M.Ed.  
BOE Chairperson

05/29/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

<sup>1</sup> This Minutes was adopted at the May 29, 2020 Special Board Meeting.