

**16<sup>TH</sup> CNMI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.  
Via google hangouts at [meet.google.com/inc-zmzm-tws](https://meet.google.com/inc-zmzm-tws)  
Board of Education Conference Room  
Building 1241, Capitol Hill, Saipan**

**FINAL MINUTES**

The new Student Representative Rainalyn Reyes was sworn in at 9:00 a.m. by Chairwoman Janice A. Tenorio before calling the meeting to order.

**PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

Chairwoman Janice A. Tenorio called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members present:**

Janice A. Tenorio, M.Ed.  
Herman M. Atalig, SGM (Ret)  
MaryLou S. Ada, J.D.  
Andrew L. Orsini  
Antonio L. Borja  
Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero, EdD  
Rainalyn Reyes

Seven (7) members present, a quorum was established.

**PSS/BOE Staff Present:**

Alfred B. Ada, Ed.D. – Commissioner of Education  
Eric Magofna – Interim Associate Commissioner for Administrative Services (ACAS)  
Tim Thornburgh – Federal Programs Officer (FPO)  
Arlene Lizama – Finance Director  
George Palican – Internal Auditor  
Michael Babauta – Interim Comptroller  
Lucretia Borja- Human Resources Office (HRO) Director  
Tiberius Mocanu, Esq. – Legal Counsel  
Valerie K. Malwelbug – Administrative Officer  
Edward Tenorio – PSS Financial Consultant  
Ferdinand Ngirmekur – IT

**Others Present (online):**

Anna Guerrero  
Arisa Sakai  
Ben Jr.  
Bobby Cruz  
Dale Roberts  
Dominic Pangelinan  
Elizabeth Aguon  
Evonne Cabrera  
Frances Ulloa  
Glenn Smith  
Jackie A. Quitugua  
Jacquelin Che  
Jessica Taylor  
Lori Lyn Lirio  
Alisa Pangelinan  
Daisy Quitugua  
Frank Lee Borja  
Isa Sablan  
Jasylene Parico  
Jesse Tenorio  
Josefa Mikel  
Justine Nauta  
Kevin Adachi  
Kimberly Camacho  
Kimo Rosario  
Kyle Podziewski  
Lathania Angui  
Leah Murphy  
Maisie B. Tenorio  
Martha Kintol  
Melisa Mendez  
Michael Jason Babauta  
Payton Thomas Pangelinan  
Preston Basa  
Robert L. Coldeen  
June De Leion  
Chelsea Yangirelfil  
Ericka Dela Rosa  
Hilda Rios  
Kevin Adachi  
Nikita Mendiola  
Juan Leon Guerrero  
Lynn Mendiola

**Others Present (online):**

Magdalena Mesngon  
Marian Tudela  
Micah Page  
Mryna babauta  
Naomi Nishimura  
Nick Gross  
Nora Fujhira  
Peter Arriola  
Sally Limes  
Shawn San Nicolas  
Shirley Norita  
Victoria Nicholas  
Yvonne Pangelinan

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Member Andrew L. Orsini moved to adopt the agenda as amended to include the HRO Regulations of Interim Appointments and Acting Appointment in Executive Session, Vice Chairman Herman M. Atalig seconded. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

Legal Counsel Tiberius D. Mocanu gave a summation of the December 9, 2020 Special Board meeting Executive Session.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

***ACTION NO. 01*** Member Orsini moved to adopt the Minutes of the November 18, 2020 Regular Board meeting, Vice Chairman Atalig seconded. All five (5) members voted yes; motion carried.

***ACTION NO. 02*** Member Orsini moved to adopt the Minutes of the November 18, 2020 Regular Board meeting; Vice Chairman Atalig seconded. All five (5) members voted yes; motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Member Orsini expressed his thanks to outgoing members MaryLou S. Ada, Herman M. Atalig, and Janice A. Tenorio as well as former members Phillip Mendiola-Long, Paul T. Miura, and Dionne Monique S. Torres.

Former Teacher Representative Paul T. Miura thanked Member Orsini and congratulated Student Representative Reyes on her appointment.

## **REPORTS**

The Chair's report was sent out via email to all the Board members. There were no Committee reports. Chair Tenorio called Commissioner Alfred B. Ada to proceed with his report.

Commissioner Ada stated that Federal Programs Officer (FPO) Tim Thornburgh will report on the Federal Funds Status, Director of Finance Arlene Lizama will report on the Local Funds Status.

Non-Public School Representative expressed recognition of Chair Tenorio and Secretary/Treasurer MaryLou S. Ada as they exit. He shared that he learned a lot from both of them; with Chair Tenorio – learned the value of diplomacy and with Secretary/Treasurer Ada, he learned the value of tenacity; he hopes to continue to work together.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

***ACTION NO. 03*** Member Orsini moved to approve the Special Education Program Annual Performance Report for FFY2019, Member Antonio L. Borja seconded. Four (4) members voted yes, one (1) member had stepped out of the room, motion carried.

***ACTION NO. 04*** Member Orsini moved to approve the Early Intervention Program Annual Performance Report for FFY2019, Member Borja seconded. All five (5) members voted yes; motion carried.

***ACTION NO. 05*** Member Orsini moved to approve the NMC College – NOW Memorandum of Understanding provided the Commissioner gets back to the Board with the responses to the questions raised, Member Borja seconded. All five (5) members voted yes; motion carried.

***ACTION NO. 06*** Vice Chairman Atalig moved that the probationary period of the Commissioner's Employment be lifted and that he receives the same salary as the previous Commissioners of Education at \$125,000.00 per year and a car stipend of \$800.00 a month. Member Orsini seconded. Four (4) members (Atalig, Borja, Orsini, and Tenorio) voted yes, one (1) member (Ada) abstained, motion carried.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Member Orsini moved to descend into executive session at 12:24 p.m. for the purpose of discussing legal updates, Personnel, and other matters. Member Borja seconded, all five (5) members voted yes, motion carried. Member Borja moved to rise out of executive session at 12:38 p.m., Member Orsini seconded, all five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

Legal Counsel Mocanu summarized the meeting in executive session. He stated that things discussed were legal updates and personnel and were proper to be discussed in executive session.

## **DISCUSSION ON NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The next Board meeting was set for January 8, 2021.

**ADJOURNMENT**- Member Borja moved to adjourn the meeting, Member Orsini seconded. All five (5) members voted yes; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:44 p.m.<sup>1</sup>

**CERTIFIED and CONCURRED BY:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Andrew L. Orsini**  
**BOE Chairperson**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

---

<sup>1</sup> This Minutes was adopted at the April 9, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.