DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

www.gdoe.net
500 Mariner Avenue Barrigada, Guam 96913
Telephone: (671)475-0457 or 300-1547/1536•Fax: (671)472-5001
Email: jsanchez@gdoe.net

JOSEPH L.M. SANCHEZ
Acting, Superintendent of Education

2017 FEB 10 PM 1:41

February 2, 2017

The Honorable Eddie Baza Calvo
Governor of Guam
Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex
Adelup, Guam 96910

Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz

FEB 10 2017
Time: 1224 [ ] AM [ ] PM File No.
Received By:

Honorable Benjamin J. F. Cruz
Speaker
Thirty-fourth Guam Legislature
Hagåtña, Guam 96932

GL#34-17-195

Dear Governor Calvo and Speaker Cruz:

Håfa Adai! Pursuant to Public Law 31-233, Section 38, *Reporting Requirements for Boards and Commissions,* attached are electronic copies of the Guam Education Board's meeting agenda, approved minutes and other documents as discussed at the January 3, 2017 special meeting. The meeting was held at Superintendent's Conference Room.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 300-1547.

Senseramente,

JOSEPH L.M. SANCHEZ
Acting, Superintendent of Education

Attachment
- E-Copies of GEB Meeting Packet

cc: GEB Members
Deputy Supt., FAS
File

0195

LOURDES B. SAN NICOLAS
Chairwoman

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD

500 Mariner Avenue
Barrigada, Guam 96913-1608
Telephone Number: (671) 300-1627
Facsimile Number: (671) 472-5001
Website Address: www.gdoe.net/geb

ROSIE R. TAINATONGO
Vice-Chairperson

VOTING MEMBERS

Lourdes San Nicolas, Chair
Rosie R. Tainatongo, Vice-Chair
Peter Alecxis D. Ada
Lourdes M. Benavente
Kenneth P. Chargualaf
Jose Q. Cruz, Ed. D.
Maria A. Gutierrez
Ronald L. McNinch, PhD
Mark B. Mendiola

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Martin Borja (SHS)
IBOGS Representative

Franklin Perez (AIJMS)
GFT Representative

Mayor, Rudy M. Matanane
MCOG Representative

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Joseph L. M. Sanchez
GDOE Superintendent, Acting

Guam Education Board
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, January 3, 2017
6 pm
Jose Rios Middle School, Cafeteria

AGENDA

I. **Meeting Call to Order**

II. **Roll Call of Members**

III. **New Business**

1) Swearing in of the Elected 8th Guam Education Board Members

2) Election of Officers

IV. **Announcements**

V. **Adjournment**

Florida climate scientists worry as Trump picks his Cabinet and sea levels rise

By James Rosen
McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON – The world's leading global warming scientists, many of them living and working on the front lines in Florida, are hoping against hope that President-elect Donald Trump and his top advisers will not take the country backward in the fight against rising sea levels, increasing temperatures and looming environmental dangers.

For the experts in Florida, pushing forward in the face of defiant political leadership is nothing new. They've spent almost six years forging ahead despite public skepticism from Gov. Rick Scott, a prominent climate change denier who mobilizes for hurricanes and flooding, but who rejects the science that explains why his state may face fiercer storms and more flooding as a result of global warming.

So strong is Scott's aversion to climate change, some state employees say, he prohibited them from uttering the term, an allegation he's denied.

Trump's men disregard overwhelming scientific evidence and consensus

Environmentalists have pilloried Trump for tweeting in November 2012 that the Chinese created "the concept of global warming" to make American manufacturers less competitive.

While the New York billionaire told Fox News on Dec. 11 that he was "open-minded" about climate change, he added "nobody really knows" and said "it's not something that's so hard and fast."

Some of Trump's Cabinet picks have voiced less ambivalence:

▪ Former Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt is Trump's choice to head the Environmental Protection Agency, the lead federal department enforcing laws and regulations to limit carbon emissions. Pruitt has initiated or joined 13 lawsuits against the EPA. In May, he and Alabama Attorney General Luther Strange published an opinion column in which they said scientists "continue to disagree" about climate change, even though 97 percent of those surveyed agree it's occurring and is being caused by human activity.

▪ Texas Gov. Rick Perry, Trump's choice to head the Energy Department, has also sued the EPA to block its efforts to reduce greenhouse gases. During his unsuccessful 2012 presidential campaign, Perry accused the agency's scientists of manipulating data while attacking the "hysteria" over global warming and its "contrived phoniness."

▪ Trump has tapped Republican Rep. Ryan Zinke of Montana to lead the Interior Department, which oversees drilling and mining on public land. Zinke has an ambiguous stance on climate change: In 2008, he called global warming a national security threat and later signed a letter asking President Barack Obama and Congress to pass legislation combating it. But since joining Congress in January 2015, he's earned a 3 percent rating from the League of Conservation Voters. When the Interior Department released a regulation in June placing new limits on coal, oil and natural gas exploration on federal and tribal lands, Zinke and Sen. Steve Daines, a fellow Montana Republican, accused the Obama administration of pursuing a "job-killing, anti-energy agenda."



FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE: An area off Lake Trail by the Flagler Museum in Palm Beach, Fla., is flooded after high tide on Oct. 27. Lynne Waters/Palm Beach Post/Zuma Press

Environmental disparity between states makes it hard to act cohesively

These choices dismay Dan Weiss, a clean-energy consultant in Washington who has led climate change programs for several major environmental organizations.

"Nominating climate science deniers to head EPA, Energy and Interior is the same as appointing an arsonist to head the fire department," he told McClatchy. "South Florida should get used to higher floods than it has today."

In Florida, experts who've studied global warming for years are trying to adopt a less alarmist approach.

Frederick Bloetscher, a civil engineering professor at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, is a leader of the Florida Climate Institute.

Formed in 2010, the institute has dozens of scientists and other scholars from nine member universities, along with some 400 local politicians, business executives and other community leaders.

"Trump's all over the place," Bloetscher said. "Nobody really knows his position on anything. He's got to play to this rabid anti-science base that he mobilized, but I don't know what his end game is. Some of his choices are really provoking a lot of objections and protests that may work as a counterbalance."

Gary Mitchum, a marine sciences professor at the University of South Florida who also belongs to the Florida Climate Institute, said the different impacts of global warming across the United States make it harder to combat.

"When you're talking about climate changes, the sea level rise that we face in Florida is only part of the problem," he said. "There are other problems with rainfall changes and temperature changes. The southwestern part of our country is projected to have super-droughts. Everybody is going to be affected if the change that is projected comes to pass, but different places will be affected in different ways."

Most Americans, even Floridians already being flooded, seem not too concerned

Those differences might explain in part why most Americans don't appear to be especially concerned about global warming despite the scientists' dire warnings.

In a Gallup poll earlier this year, people were provided a list of 19 issues and asked which ones were important or very important to them.

Sixteen issues were ranked ahead of climate change. Only 47 percent of those surveyed identified it as a top concern.

Even some Floridians who could suffer future effects of global warming seem indifferent.

Mark Bush, a Florida Institute of Technology biological sciences professor and climate institute member, said Trump overwhelmingly defeated former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in Brevard County even though it hugs the Atlantic.

In a county where 43.5 percent of voters are registered Republicans, Trump got 57.2 percent of the vote.

"We went for Trump even though we would be more affected by sea level rise than interior counties," Bush said. "Even here, climate change is not the most pressing issue in most people's lives. So long as it's seen as a prospect where they can kick the can down the road, they don't have to take it seriously."

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
500 Mariner Avenue
Barrigada, Guam 96913-1608
Telephone: (671)300-1627 • Fax: (671) 472-5001
Website: www.gdoe.net/geb

LOURDES B. SAN NICOLAS, Chairwoman
ROSE B. TAINATONGO, Vice Chairperson

PUBLIC NOTICE

Guam Education Board
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, January 3, 2017
6 pm
Jose Rios Middle School, Cafeteria

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order
II. Roll Call of Members
III. New Business
1). Swearing in of the Elected 8th Guam Education Board Members
2). Election of Officers
IV. Announcements
V. Adjournment

Individuals requiring special accommodations or information may contact Leilani Cruz, Administrative Officer at 300-1627 or by email: lmbcruz@gdoe.net

This advertisement was paid by GDOE local funds.

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD

500 Mariner Avenue
Barrigada, Guam 96913-1608
Telephone Number: (671) 300-1627
Facsimile Number: (671) 472-5001
Website Address: www.gdoe.net/geb

LOURDES B. SAN NICOLAS
Chairwoman

ROSIE R. TAINATONGO
Vice-Chairperson

VOTING MEMBERS

Lourdes San Nicolas, Chair
Rosie R. Tainatongo, Vice-Chair
Peter Alecxis D. Ada
Lourdes M. Benavente
Kenneth P. Chargualaf
Jose Q. Cruz, Ed. D.
Maria A. Gutierrez

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Martin Borja (SHS)
IBOGS Representative

Franklin Perez (AIJMS)
GFT Representative

Mayor, Rudy M. Matanane
MCOG Representative

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Joseph L. M. Sanchez
GDOE Superintendent, Acting

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, January 3, 2017
6 pm
Jose Rios Middle School, Cafeteria

MINUTES

Acting Superintendent Sanchez thanked everyone for attending this Special meeting and welcomed the Honorable Chief Justice Torres, the Honorable Senator Mary Torres, and the Honorable Senator Joe S. San Agustin. The Board's family members escorted the Board Members to their seats.

Acting Chair Ada reported Ms. Lourdes Benavente is off-island because of a family emergency; Ms. Benavente will participate via tele-conference. Ms. Lourdes San Nicolas, Chairwoman of the 7th Guam Education Board is off-island on bereavement; her sister passed away. Mrs. San Nicolas will be sworn in by Chief Justice Torres when she returns from the mainland on January 17, 2017.

Acting Chair Ada announced Board Member Kenneth P. Chargualaf submitted a resignation letter on December 30, 2016. In the letter dated December 12, 2016, Mr. Chargualaf resigned from both from his appointed and elected Board Member positions. Acting Chair Ada noted the Governor of Guam would need to make two appointments to fill the vacancies.

Acting Superintendent Sanchez asked the GEB Board members to please rise. The Honorable Robert J. Torres Jr., Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, was asked to administer the Certificate of Election and the Oath of Office to the Elected Board Members. The newly elected members are: Mr. Peter Alecxis D. Ada, Ms. Lourdes M. Benavente (Tele-conference), Mrs. Maria A. Gutierrez, and Mr. James C. Lujan. *Pictures to commemorate the ceremony were taken.*

Chief Justice Torres examined the Certificates of Election for each Board Member found the Certificates to be in order and appropriately signed. The Chief Justice read the Certificate of Election and then administer the Oath of Office.

Acting Chair Ada acknowledged Senator Joe San Agustin, Chairperson for committee on Education, Finance and Taxation and his wife, Joanne San Agustin. Mrs. Rosie Tainatongo who served as the Vice Chair of the 7th Guam Education Board and former Superintendent of the Department of Education was also recognized.

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Peter Alecxis Ada, Acting Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Mr. Joseph L.M. Sanchez, Acting Superintendent and Executive Secretary, took the roll call. The following members were **present** for the meeting:

Voting Members:
Ada, Peter Alecxis D. –Acting Chairman
Gutierrez, Maria A.-
Benavente, Lourdes M.- Tele-conference
Lujan, James C.
McNinch, Dr. Ron L.
Mendiola, Mark B.

Non-Voting Members:
Perez, Franklin R. (AIJMS) - GFT Representative

Absent:
San Nicolas, Lourdes B. - Excused (Off-island death in the family)
Matanane, Rudy M. - Yigo Mayor and MCOG education liaison

The GEB Legal Counsel, Frank Gumataotao was present for the meeting.

The Acting Superintendent announced that there was a quorum. *(By law, five voting members constitute a quorum. Six (6) voting members were present for this meeting.)*

III. New Business

1) Swearing in of the Elected 8th Guam Education Board Members

Board members were sworn in before the meeting was called to order.

2) Election of Officers

Acting Chair Ada asked Chief Justice Torres to preside over the initial election of officers for the Board of Education.

Nominations for Chairman

Mr. Mendiola nominated Mr. Ada as Chair. Mr. Ada accepted the nomination. Mrs. Gutierrez seconded the nomination.

Mr. Mendiola moved to close the nominations. No were no objections.

The Board voted by show of hands and passed the motion to approve Mr. Ada to be Chairman. The vote was 6 – 0 in favor.

Mr. Ada then took over the meeting from the Chief Justice.

Nominations for Vice Chair

Ms. Benavente (via tele-conference) nominated Mrs. Gutierrez as Vice Chair. Mrs. Gutierrez accepted the nomination. Mr. Mendiola seconded the nomination. Dr. McNinch moved to close the nominations. No objections.

The Board voted 6-0 and approved the nomination for Mrs. Gutierrez to be Vice Chair (Yeas: P. Ada, L. Benavente, M. Gutierrez, J. Lujan, Dr. McNinch, and M. Mendiola.) The motion passed.

Vice Chair Gutierrez thanked, all that voted for her to be vice chair. She stated that this leadership will be transparent and will work with everyone because their purpose as Board members is the students.

Acting Chair Ada thanked Mrs. Rosie Tainatongo for the services she has rendered to the Department of Education and presented a certificate. *Pictures were taken.*

IV. Announcements

Acting Chair Ada announced that the Board will move the Board Union contract forward. He mentioned that Acting Superintendent said, that he would be able to report on the progress by January 31, 2017.

Acting Chair Ada that there has been pressing matters before this department. He will be meeting this Thursday with all the Board members for a departmental briefing. He mentioned that the new Board members will be provided a complete copy of all cases that involve the Guam Education Board.

Acting Chair Ada mentioned that he would be working with the Board members on committee memberships to see which committee each member will feel most comfortable in.

Vice Chair Gutierrez thanked the Jose Rios Middle School faculty and staff for hosting the Board meeting.

V. Adjournment

Mrs. Gutierrez moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:

_____ **Date:** 2/6/17

LEILANI M. B. CRUZ
Administrative Officer

MINUTES OF January 3, 2017 SPECIAL MEETING:
( ) Approved as submitted
(✓) Approved subject to corrections (Ref: GEB Reg. mtg. January 31, 2017, Wettengel Elementary School)
( ) Other: _____

_____

PETER ALECXIS D. ADA
GEB Chairwoman
Date: 2/10/17

_____

JOSEPH L. M. SANCHEZ
Acting Executive Secretary/GDOE Superintendent
Date: 2/8/17