# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
## OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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**JON J. P. FERNANDEZ**
Superintendent of Education


April 26, 2018

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

GL# 34-16-1837
Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz

MAY 02 2018
Time: 9:10 [ ]AM [ ]PM File No. 34-1874
Received By:

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

**Dear Governor Calvo and Speaker Cruz:**

***Håfa Adai!*** Pursuant to Public Law 31-233, Section 38, *Reporting Requirements for Boards and Commissions,* attached are copies of the Guam Education Board's meeting agenda, approved minutes and other documents as discussed at the April 24, 2018 regular board meeting. The meeting was held at Superintendent's Conference Room, Building A., Tiyan.
Should you have any questions, please contact me at 300-1547.

*Senseramente,*

**JON J. P. FERNANDEZ**
Superintendent of Education

2018 MAY -2 AM 11:06

Attachments

cc: Chairman and Members, Guam Education Board
Deputy Supt., FAS
File

1837

# 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

**MARK B. MENDIOLA**
**Chairman**

**MARIA A. GUTIERREZ**
**Vice Chairwoman**

**8th Guam Education Board**
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**
**Tuesday, April 24, 2018**
**6 PM**
**Superintendent's Conference Room, Building A., Tiyan**
**AGENDA**

**I. Meeting Call to Order**

**II. Approval of Minutes**

ACTION 1. Minutes of March 27, 2018 Regular meeting

**III. Public Participation** (BP 125.6) Time Limit 3 minutes

**IV. Communications**

INFO 1. Correspondence
INFO 2. Superintendent's Report and Communication

**V. Ex-Officio Member Reports**

1. IBOGS
2. GFT
3. Mayor's Council of Guam

**VI. Unfinished Business/ Committee Reports**

1. **Executive Committee**

INFO a. Revision of Attendance Areas
INFO b. NASBE 2018 Nomination
INFO c. NASBE Legislative Conference Report

2. **Instructional & Academic Support Committee**

INFO a. Head Start Report
INFO b. Joint Calendar Committee

3. **Safe & Healthy Schools Committee**

INFO a. Mesh Bag Policy

4. **Organizational Efficiency and Development Committee**

5. **Fiscal Management**

INFO a. Update on FY18 Budget / FY19 Budget

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**VOTING MEMBERS:** Maria A. Gutierrez, Chairwoman, Mark B. Mendiola, Vice Chair, Peter Alecxis D. Ada, Lourdes M. Benavente, Robert A. Crisostomo, James C. Lujan, Ronald L. McNinch, PhD, Lourdes B. San Nicolas
**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:** Ernie Samelo (SHS), IBOGS Representative, Mark McCarthy (AHES), GFT Representative, Mayor, Rudy M. Matanane, MCOG Representative
**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:** Jon J. P. Fernandez, GDOE Superintendent

INFO b. Report on U.S. DOE Meetings

6. **Ad-Hoc committee on Furlough and School Year 2018-19**

**VII. New Business**

ACTION 1. Part B/Part C Grant Application

**VIII. Executive Session**

The Board of Education reserves the right to go into executive session during any part of the meeting. Based on the Open Govt. Law specific matters can only be discussed. (Personnel Matters, Collective Bargaining Agreement, Contracts, and Litigation).

**IX. Adjournment**

# Residents rush to file returns, not optimistic about refunds

By Tiru Lujan
tlujan@postguam.com




FILE PHOTO: Island residents stand in line waiting their turn to file their taxes April 13. Dana Ann Kerneklian/The Guam Daily Post

Last-minute taxpayers enjoyed shorter lines and an easier process when they went to file or pay their taxes Monday at the Department of Revenue and Taxation in Barrigada.

On the eve of today's tax-filing deadline, the line was short and moved quickly.

"It was very good. I was in and out," said Josephine Cruz, a resident of Mangilao. She waited for about 10 minutes, but did note a longer line on her way out.

Rev and Tax opened satellite locations in the center courts of the Micronesia Mall and Agana Shopping Center on Monday and today as a convenience for tax filers.

While Cruz isn't expecting a refund, she hopes the government of Guam prioritizes mailing out refunds in a quicker manner for those who do receive.

"The expectation is on the taxpayer to pay on time, so the expectation should be the same for the government," she said.

### Residents lower standards



Tim Torres

Tim Torres, 32, agrees that GovGuam should pay refunds faster. He's lowered his standards for government performance in recent years after routinely receiving his refund late.

"I'm used to it. It's kind of a way of life already, and it's the same thing over and over again," said Torres, a resident of Barrigada. He added, however, that he's observed refunds being mailed out more quickly in recent years.



Isabel Borja

Isabel Borja, 51, also lost expectations for receiving her refund on time. She's unsure whether she'll receive one after filing this year, but hopes to find out sooner, rather than later.

"We don't want to be too optimistic about it, and then it doesn't come through," said the Dededo resident. "I just wait until it comes out, but you get used to getting it late. It's always been this way for years already."



Sam Obina

Sam Obina, 39, is one resident who filed his taxes as soon as he got his hands on his W-2 income statement form. He visited Rev and Tax on Monday, pleased to not have to worry and wait in line.

"We just get it out of the way so we don't have to deal with that crazy line, but they're moving pretty quick," said Obina, also a resident of Dededo.

Despite the two additional satellite locations Rev and Tax opened, Obina believes the process could still be more convenient, and even comfortable, for the taxpayer.

"For me, I'm fine," he said, "But not all of us are able to run away from work to get this done. It takes time and money away from us."

### 'More lines and more help' needed



Ruth Parmar

Ruth Parmar, 54, is one taxpayer who said she had to jump through hoops to file her taxes this year. She hopes Rev and Tax will consolidate more of its services when it does open satellite locations.

"I know I shouldn't have waited until the last minute, but they need to have more lines and more help," the Dededo resident said. "There are five windows (open), but only two people are working. They don't have any system."

While the line for tax filing was short, the lines for tax payment took some time.

She stopped at the Agana Shopping Center satellite location early Monday morning to get her taxes done, but was disappointed to find out they don't accept payments.

Parmar then stopped by the Treasurer of Guam at the Department of Public Works One Stop Center to pay, after being advised by Rev and Tax staff in Hagåtña, but was sat back again due to their payment processing machine being down.

After the detour, she waited in line for more than an hour at Rev and Tax in Barrigada before she could finally pay what she owed. Frustrated, she filled out a recommendation slip before leaving for the day, around noon.

"Why can't we do it all at one desk?" she said. "It's never one stop."

### Where to file

Taxpayers have until 5 p.m. today to file their taxes at Rev and Tax in Barrigada. Residents can also visit satellite locations in the center courts of Micronesia Mall and Agana Shopping Center between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Extension forms are available.

Those who are making payments can visit any Treasurer of Guam location: Department of Revenue and Taxation in Barrigada; Department of Administration, Treasurer of Guam on the first floor of the ITC building in Tamuning; and Department of Public Works One Stop Center in Upper Tumon.

The department also will have a dropbox available at its front entrance for those who wish to file after 5 p.m. Any forms dropped after midnight will be considered filed after the due date.

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
[illegible]

8th Guam Education Board
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Tuesday, April 24, 2018
6 PM
Superintendent's Conference Room, Building A., Tiyan

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order
II. Approval of Minutes
III. Public Participation
IV. Communications
V. Ex-Officio Member Reports
VI. Unfinished Business/ Committee Reports
VII. New Business
VIII. Executive Session
IX. Adjournment

Individuals requiring special accommodations or information may contact Ariel Cruz, Administrative Office at 671 300-1617 or by e-mail: info@guamboe.net. Agenda to be available on GEB website at least 72 hours before the meeting. This advertisement is paid for by GEB local funds.

Kumision Inangokkon Tano' Chamoru
Chamorro Land Trust Commission

The Chamorro Land Trust Commission Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 1:00 p.m., Department of Land Management Conference Room, 3rd Floor of the ITC Building. 590 S. Marine Corps Drive, Tamuning.

In compliance with ADA requirements, individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids or services, may call 649-5263 Ext. 480.

This ad is paid for by Government funds.

PORT OF GUAM
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The Port Authority of Guam Board of Directors will hold its regular Board Meeting on Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 11:45 a.m., at the Board Conference Room, Port Authority of Guam, Cabras Island, Piti. Individuals with disabilities who may need special accommodations may contact Mr. Simeon Delos Santos, ADA Coordinator at 477-5931-4, ext. 430.

# GUAM EDUCATION BOARD

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**MARK B. MENDIOLA**
**Chairman**

**MARIA A. GUTIERREZ**
**Vice Chairwoman**


**VOTING MEMBERS**

Mark B. Mendiola, Chairman
Maria A. Gutierrez, Vice-Chair
Peter Alecxis D. Ada
Lourdes M. Benavente
Robert A. Crisostomo
James C. Lujan
Ron L. McNinch, PhD
Lourdes B. San Nicolas

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

Ernie Samelo (SHS)
IBOGS Representative

Audrey P. Mandapat (SSHS)
GFT Representative

Mayor, Rudy M. Matanane
MCOG Representative

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

Jon J.P. Fernandez
GDOE Superintendent

## 8th GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
## Tuesday, March 27, 2018
## 6 pm
## Superintendent's Conf. Rm., Bldg. A., Tiyan

### MINUTES

**I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Mark B. Mendiola, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Mr. Jon J. P. Fernandez, Superintendent and Executive Secretary, took the roll call. The following members were **present** for the meeting:

***Voting Members:***
Mendiola, Mark B. - Chair
Gutierrez, Maria A.- Vice-Chairwoman
Ada, Peter Alecxis
Crisostomo, Robert
Lujan, James C.
McNinch, Dr. Ron L.
Benavente, Lourdes M.

***Non-Voting Members:***
Samelo, Ernie (SHS)- IBOGS Representative

***Legal Counsel:***
Nasis, Jesse

***Absent:***
San Nicolas, Lourdes B. – Excused
Mandapat, Audrey P. (SSHS) - GFT Representative -Unexcused
Matanane, Rudy M. - Yigo Mayor and MCOG education liaison - Unexcused

The Superintendent announced that seven (7) members of the Board were present, constituting a quorum.

Mr. Mendiola stated that he wanted to move things around on the agenda to recognize some individuals.

Ms. Gutierrez presented a Certificate of Achievement to GDOE student, Adrian James Beltran, from FBLG Middle School. She stated that it had been a while since a GDOE student won the Regional Spelling Bee. Ms. Gutierrez congratulated Adrian and wished him well on his upcoming competition.

IBOGS representative Hannah Duenas read the certificate and Adrian was presented the certificate.

Ms. Gutierrez explained that they would be presenting a resolution to the School Counselors of GDOE. Ms. Gutierrez read the resolution.

**Ms. Gutierrez motioned, seconded by Mr. Lujan, to adopt Resolution 2018-06 Relative to Commending GDOE School Counselors for Their Hard Work, Dedication and Service in Recognition of National School Counseling Week 2018. The Board voted by voice with a vote of 7-0 for the motion, motion passed.**

Mr. Mendiola expressed his appreciation and congratulated the Chamorro Division for a successful Mes Chamoru. He then tasked the Vice Chair, Ms. Gutierrez, to coordinate a presentation day to recognize the students who won competitions during the Mes Chamoru celebrations and the winners of the Mock Trial competition.

## II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Mendiola informed the board that the minutes from the regular meeting on February 20, 2018, and the minutes from the special meeting that was held on March 13, 2018, needed to be approved.

**Mr. Lujan motioned, seconded by Ms. Gutierrez to approve the minutes of February 20, 2018. The Board voted by voice with a vote of 7-0 for the motion, motion passed.**

**Mr. Lujan motioned, seconded by Ms. Gutierrez to approve the minutes of March 13, 2018. The Board voted by voice with a vote of 7-0 for the motion, motion passed.**

## III. Public Participation – None

## IV. Communications

1) Guam Education Facilitates Foundation (GEFF) – Mr. Mendiola informed the Board that GEFF provided a copy of their testimony on Bill 204-34 to the GEB.

2) Mayor's Council of Guam (MCOG) – Mr. Mendiola informed the board that the MCOG sent a letter to the Superintendent informing him that the MCOG had requested for the Committee on Appropriations and Adjudication to return the funding allocation and responsibility of cutting the grass at GDOE schools back to the GDOE. Mr. Mendiola noted that he would pass the letter on to Mr. Lujan for him and his committee to review and decide if any action is necessary.

Mr. Crisostomo questioned if the letter demanded a response from the Department or the GEB. He commented that he did not think that the responsibility should be returned back to the Department.

Mr. Mendiola thanked Mr. Crisostomo for his question and clarified that the MCOG was just making the Superintendent aware of their position regarding grass cutting at the schools. He stated that we need to consider what our options are and possibly go before the MCOG again or discuss with the Education Oversight Chair.

Mr. Fernandez suggested that the committee hold a work session and receive input from school administrators to determine what the impact would be to take back the services. He also commented that the letter from the MCOG stated that the MCOG is assuming control of the adult day care services, which may be why they are trying to give the responsibility back to the Department.

Mr. Fernandez stated that there might be an opportunity to address this issue with the Mayor's Council once the committee has met. He noted that the Mayor's Council had requested a report from the Department on the school attendance areas. He stated that he informed Christie that the Department should be ready to present to the MCOG on the attendance areas at their April MCOG meeting and that we may be able to tie this issue into that presentation and present our feedback on the grass cutting issue.

Mr. Lujan stated that, at the last meeting with the MCOG, one of their main reasons for wanting to discontinue the grass cutting was because the allotment provided to the MCOG was not enough to maintain grass cutting at the schools. He mentioned that the MCOG requested for an updated amount for how much it would cost to cut grass at all 41 schools so that the allotment could be increased.

**3)** Speaker Cruz's invitation for testimony – The Superintendent wanted to inform the board of the invitation received by Ms. Gutierrez from Speaker Cruz's Office regarding testimony on Bill 261-34. He noted that he would address it during his presentation of the Superintendent's Report.

**4)** Superintendent's Report and Communication

**Teach of the Year (TOY) Gala** – The Superintendent reminded the Board of the TOY Gala on April 20, 2018 at the Hyatt. He informed them that they could work with Christie if they would like to attend the event.

**Facilities** – Mr. Fernandez informed the Board that the Attendance Area Committee would conclude its briefings to management this week. He stated that the committee is working on setting up a time to brief the Board. He mentioned that Christie is setting up a time for a meeting on Tuesday afternoon for the Committee to go over the attendance area findings. He also mentioned that they would like to brief the affected mayors. He noted that Ms. Gutierrez also recommended that, once the Board briefing is complete, we coordinate with the mayors to schedule stakeholder meetings in the community.

**Invitation from Speaker Cruz** – Mr. Fernandez clarified that the invitation received was to testify on Bill 261-34 on Monday, April 2, 2018, at 1 pm. Bill 261-34 increases the tax on real estate improvements. He continued that the percentage increase would go to a GDOE maintenance fund for the sole purpose of maintaining GDOE facilities. He stated that it was estimated that this legislation could raise approximately $10 million for our facility needs. He acknowledged that in the past we have been supportive of any bill that would set aside funding to support our department.

**Annual Technical Assistance Meeting in DC** – He informed that Board that from April 16th to the 20th, they would be out in DC for the Annual Technical Assistance meeting for the Consolidated Grant. The news from DC is that the budget that Congress passed did not reflect the reductions that the President had proposed in education. In fact, we may see an increase. Once the department staff scrubs the budget, they will be able to give us a proposed allocation of funds based on the bill that was passed. In April, we should get a better picture about the next federal fiscal year, and then we can bring that back and share it with the Board. In addition, what we will be requesting is the Chairman's presence, as we plan to discuss our high risk situation special conditions with appropriate officials in USDOE. By then, we are hopeful that they will have a draft letter in hand and be prepared to give us some guidance and response with regard to our requests to be removed from special conditions.

Mr. Fernandez brought to the Board's attention the schedule at the end of his report, noting that there are many events around mid-April. He mentioned that the WASC visiting teams would be meeting with the Board and the Management Team. Some of the meetings will overlap with each other so we may need to have some assignments. Mr. Mendiola agreed and noted that he has asked the board members which accreditation meetings they would be able to attend but he was still waiting for them to confirm. He noted that Christie would work out the schedule for the full accreditation reviews to ensure that there is Board participation at the meetings.

Ms. Gutierrez mentioned the Charter School Update on the Superintendent's Report and stated that she was not impressed at the round table meeting. She noted that the law needs to be reviewed because a lot of the laws are not be followed by the charter schools. She also noted that the charter schools should not be exempt from the 14-point requirement because they receive local funding.

**Mr. Lujan moved, seconded by Ms. Crisostomo, to accept the Superintendent's Report and Communication as presented. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 7-0. The motion passed.**

## V. Ex-officio Member Reports

**1)** IBOGS – Hannah-Jo Duenas thanked the Board for allowing the students and IBOGS to voice their opinions and concerns on Bill 248-34 at the public hearing. She noted that the Southern High School Close-Up members valued the experience they had that day.

Hannah acknowledged that Board Policy 401 had been on the IBOGS agenda since the start of the school year and was pleased to announce that they completed their proposal. She then read through their proposal.

Hannah then mentioned that it had come to the IBOGS attention that there have been complaints about graduation attire. The IBOGS met to discuss these issues and came to a consensus on the attire for the graduation ceremonies. They also decided that graduation caps could be decorated but noted that there were limitations.

Mr. Mendiola thanked the IBOGS for what they provided and noted that their recommendations would be forwarded to the committee to hold work sessions and decide if it would be adopted as a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) or a policy change.

The Superintendent noted that the IBOGS proposed an SOP, which typically only requires the Superintendent's signature. He stated that he didn't see much that needed to be changed and that he found their recommendations to be quite reasonable. He noted that the administrators did not have issues with the decorating of graduation caps but that they did want to make sure that the same rules applied at all schools. Mr. Fernandez stated that he would review it one more time and convert it into an SOP that he would share with the Board. He thanked the IBOGS again for their work. He also noted that the IBOGS would be finalizing the dates for their second Student Exchange for the school year and the Student Leadership Seminar.

Hannah clarified that the second Student Exchange was supposed to be held on April 27th but due to miscommunication they were still trying to finalize a date.

Mr. Lujan stated that as they formulate the work session regarding graduation attire requirements, he mentioned concerns that he has received from parents and although the IBOGS came up with legitimate reasons on the attire requirements, he believes that parents should be involved.

Dr. McNinch suggested that regalia be added to the list, which are medals that may be received for academic honors which can be worn around the neck.

Mr. Ada stated that he is very pleased and commends the IBOGS. He mentioned that he believed it to be the first time that the students have spoken up on something that affects them directly. He also noted that there was one area that concerned him regarding mesh bags but said that he would wait for the committee to meet on that issue.

**2)** GFT – No report.

**3)** Mayor's Council of Guam – No report.

## VI. Unfinished Business

Ms. Gutierrez requested that the board take a moment of silence for Chief Master Sergeant John Martinez who passed away. She stated Mr. Martinez was very instrumental on the work that was done for the JROTC credit.

**1) Instructional & Academic Support Committee**

a) JROTC and PE Credit in High School

Ms. Benavente informed the Board that, in their board packet, they would find the proposed resolution for consideration relative to allowing the inclusion of two (2) years of Air Force or Marines JROTC to be substituted for one (1) Physical Education Credit. Additionally, the resolution approves having the Air Force JROTC students having the option of substituting one (1) Science credit after the completion of four (4) years of Air Force JROTC if they did not already substitute the PE credit.

She noted that the GEB Curriculum Committee met on three separate occasions with students and teachers to get input from them. Ms. Benavente read the draft Resolution 2018-005 into the record.

**Ms. Benavente moved, seconded by Mr. Lujan, to approve Resolution 2018-05 Relative to approving the granting of one Physical Education Credit for Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) courses and further to allow granting Air Force JROTC students a science credit after completion of four years of JROTC where a PE credit has not been granted. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 7-0. The motion passed.**

b) NASBE Stipend Grant Application

Ms. Gutierrez informed the Board that she received an email in early March from NASBE. She noted that she sent the application to Mr. Joseph Sanchez and Ms. Eloise Sanchez so they could prepare the application to see if we would be considered for the grant. Ms. Gutierrez gave a brief history of the grants that the Guam Education Board has been awarded since 2013. She noted that this current grant is for $14,000 and the deadline to be submitted is March 30th to the NASBE office. She requested the the Board approve the application so that the Department could be awarded this grant for the Early Childhood Education Program.

**Ms. Gutierrez moved, seconded by Ms. Benavente, for the approval of the Early Childhood Education NASBE Stipend Grant Application. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 7-0. The motion passed.**

Ms. Gutierrez called attention to a form from NASBE that was passed out before the meeting. She informed the Board that the form was a Call for Nominees. She stated that this is done annually before the annual conference and whoever is selected is honored during the conference. She briefly went over the forms and deadlines. She then requested that the Chairman appoint Dr. McNinch to over-see the nomination process.

Mr. Mendiola appointed Dr. McNinch to oversee the responsibility of the NASBE Call for Nominees.

**2) Fiscal Management** – FY2018 Budget Reductions – Mr. Mendiola updated the Board stating that the Tax Bill was signed into law. He stated that we are waiting for what that dollar figure is going to look like in terms of revenue for the department. He continue that the Superintendent reported that there is a pro-rata share that we have to take a look at in terms of our cuts, but we continue to advocate with the Legislature and the front office with respect to receiving all the funding necessary to operate our schools for the remainder of the fiscal year. He mentioned that he would be calling for a work session in the upcoming weeks as information is released. He stated that he would like to go back out with the Superintendent with respect to some of the issues that the Ad Hoc Committee is addressing and combine both efforts. He stated that he would like to bring the information out to the community for them to understand the direction that we will be taking in the upcoming weeks and months.

3) **Ad-Hoc Committee on Furlough and School Year 2018-19** – Mr. Crisostomo explained that only two committee members showed up to the last meeting. He stated that the Superintendent, Deputy Taling and Comptroller Ms. Perez and Mr. Peter Ada were present at the meeting. He noted that the committee made some recommendations to those present. He mentioned that as we go through the furlough one of the biggest points they discussed was the notification process. They discussed the 32 hour work week and the furlough and expressed that his stand was that if the Superintendent is going to send a furlough notice, he needs to do it immediately or as soon as possible. He stated that they talked about school closures, and how there's a possibility that we're going to have to close schools or combine schools. He stated that he asked the Superintendent to make an effort to maximize the classroom resources for the coming school year. He stated that he knows the Superintendent talked about redistricting but requested that he hold off on the redistricting plan until we know exactly which direction we are going. He said nothing was decided for recommendation, and there were only two committee members present and that it is not fair for the others not to be heard.

Mr. Fernandez provided clarification stating that with regard to the furlough process, the Board had already authorized the initiation of the furlough, when the Bill 248 was passed we hoped to get clarity on our financial situation through the end of the fiscal year, obviously next fiscal year we have the same situation.

He also stated that Ms. Lou Benavente oversees the Joint - Calendar Committee for the normal purposes of the School Calendar, and she asked that the Committee reconvene with the Union and the Management Team. He mentioned that Deputy Erika Cruz will set the meeting up after Spring Break. The Committee could also identify some of the issues that would need to be worked out, to include the schedule for teacher pay and meeting the mandate of 180 days or the equivalent, which would obviously be impacted by the change of the school calendar. He stated that we are going to set up that meeting.

Mr. Fernandez stated the regards to school closures or consolidations, Mr. Crisostomo was right that he did mention that he was going to brief the Board on the attendance area discussions which he thinks would lend itself to how we're doing in terms of enrollment and in terms of where the kids are going to school. He stated that we will keep that on schedule but if there are any changes in direction we'll take the Board's input. He stated that it is important to share the data on the attendance area discussions, which is scheduled for next Tuesday.

He stated that Mr. Crisostomo talked about master schedules and cross-leveling and maximization, but we wanted to get through the heavy lift of the budget and the attendance area. He stated that he mentioned to Mr. Crisostomo that it might be worth convening a working group that is just dedicated to looking at cross-leveling and maximization.

Mr. Lujan commented that we are probably in an economic disparity based on national policy but we are not at war. He stated that what he is hearing is drastic measures and agreed that we can prepare. He shared his concerns stating that looking at the other government agencies, many agencies have not clearly stated their reduction plan, but yet the Department continues to move towards that direction. He stated that somewhere along the line we have to say that those agencies are not mandated but we are. He continued to express his frustration with the Department being one of the only agencies to make changes and sacrifices.

Mr. Mendiola responding stating the Board will continue to have work sessions to continue to discuss these topics. He mentioned that many bills are coming out to generate revenue now and we will be discussing these bills. He continued, stating that we have taken a stance that any bill or legislation that helps education, we will support it and continue to advocate for the Department and continue to work with the Administration that the funds come through. He stated to Mr. Lujan that he understands his concerns and that is one of the reasons why he created the AdHoc committee, to address the 32 hour work week and the possible delay in the opening of the schools. Mr. Mendiola stated that anything further than that, in terms of the budget reduction, we have the opportunity to go before the legislature in June to talk about the FY19 budget, but we need to stabilize the FY18 budget.

Mr. Ada then commented that he wanted to zero in on the 32 hour work week for the Department, he stated that frankly speaking, we don't want to do that, because it is very painful. He continued stating that we need to be prepared. He stated that if it does happen, we don't want to find out that we missed the requirement to notify employees, but if it doesn't happen, we will be grateful. He commented, addressing Mr. Lujan, stating that he comes from a small agency but they didn't have to go out and tell everyone what they are doing, but they did their part also.

Ms. Gutierrez commented that she agreed with Mr. Lujan at the last meeting when she announced that she had reservations about that motion. We gave the Superintendent authority and this recommendation by the AdHoc Committee is just a recommendation. She commented that she hopes the media puts out an accurate statement, that it is a recommendation from the Committee. It was the recommendation that was made by two members, not the Board as a whole. She stated that she respects the AdHoc Committee's recommendation but why do we have to put our employees, who are working for education through this. She apologized to the AdHoc Committee stating that she is sorry, but if they were to ask for support of their recommendation, she would not support it. She stated that she would not support anything and she hopes the Superintendent will reconsider and stand up for the employees.

Mr. Crisostomo stated that he just wanted to put things into perspective, this is just a plan. He stated that he is a worst case scenario type of person, the worst case scenario you have to plan for which is a $100 million dollar deficit next year. He continued stating that he believed that FY18 is covered but it's FY19 that bothers him. He commented that the Legislature needs to focus on revenue generating solutions before they make cuts.

Mr. Ada commented that what worries him the most right now are the special education kids, their one to ones and what's going to happen to those kids.

Mr. Mendiola commented that there are a lot of people who are passionate about their position. He stated that we have to continue this dialogue, with the consequences that come with the decisions we are making we have to be very clear with the public. We are still going to maintain that position that anything that comes from the Department should come from the Superintendent or the Chairman of the Board or the designee. He emphasized the importance of everyone to be a part of the process. In order for us to move policy forward, we need to continue to advocate for our children, especially the children who are marginalized. He commended the IBOGS for stepping up and being active in the education process.

Dr. McNinch stated that he wanted to echo what he said about the IBOGS, they did a great job. He stated that it would be great if our leaders simply take education off the table.

## VII. New Business

1) **Travel to U.S. DOE Meetings –** Mr. Fernandez stated that the Annual Consolidated Grant Technical Assistance Meetings will be having from April 16 through April 20. He explained that a major topic on the agenda is trying to remove the special conditions placed on the department. He stated that they informed Risk Management Services at USDOE that they would be sending a draft letter to them for feedback. He stated that this is the first opportunity to put something before them and get some feedback. He stated that the idea is to raise the conversation up in terms of the level of who is involved, such as with the Deputy Secretary or Secretary.

**Ms. Gutierrez moved, seconded by Mr. Lujan, for the approval of the Chairman or designee to travel to U.S. DOE Meetings regarding High Risk and Special Conditions. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 7-0. The motion passed.**

Mr. Mendiola clarified for the record that it is federal funds that will be used to pay for the travel.

2) **Bill 265-34 –** Mr. Fernandez clarified that the bill was legislation introduced by Vice Speaker Terlaje relative to the ban prohibiting the ownership, manufacture, sell, trade or gifting of bump stocks. He stated that he believed the Vice Speaker wanted to introduce the bill for the purpose of referring it to the appropriate committee for a public hearing.

Mr. Mendiola stated that we could prepare testimony, it would go through the safety committee and they could hold a work session.

Dr. McNinch stated that the taxation relative to our funding should always be our priority. He stated that until they take education off the table and stop threatening the funding right now, all the other legislation like the bump stock ban, should take a back seat.

Mr. Mendiola stated that he would like to render testimony on the property taxes.

3) **Bill 261-34 –** Mr. Fernandez clarified that this bill raises the tax on real property improvements and dedicates the increase in funds to the Department of Education Maintenance Fund for the purpose of supporting out facilities and maintenance.

Mr. Mendiola stated that the hearing is on Monday, April 2nd. Mr. Mendiola read the bill into the record.

**Dr. McNinch moved, seconded by Mr. Lujan for the approval relative to the vote in the affirmative in support of the concept in the Board's position on Bill 261-34. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 7-0. The motion passed.**

Mr. Lujan asked if we were going to entertain the bump stock bill.

Mr. Mendiola responded that he put it in the Safety Committee and they can determine how they want to approach it. He stated that if there's no position, that's fine, like Dr. McNinch stated, the federal law might just eliminate the whole issue.

Dr. McNinch requested that IBOGS be allowed to symbolically vote.

Mr. Mendiola agreed.

**The Board re-voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 7-0. The motion passed.**

## VIII. Announcements and Adjournment

Ms. Gutierrez announced that the Office of Senator Joe San Agustin will be recognizing employees of the DOE who have worked for 15 years or more, tomorrow, from 10 to 11 am.

Mr. Mendiola announced that the Board is still in federal court regarding the Superintendent and the DOE. He stated that he believed legal counsel has to respond to a request from Judge Tydingco Gatewood. He continued to state that the Department, the settlement is where it needs to be.

Mr. Ada asked if he had received the signed document.

Mr. Mendiola responded that he had not because the judge asked for clarification, which will be provided on Friday. As soon as that is done, then the Department can proceed.

Next Board meeting is scheduled for April 24 here at DOE conference room.

IBOGS member, Hannah Jo Duenas, announced that Southern High School would like to invite board members to their Gupot Chamorro on April 7th.

Ms. Gutierrez announced that the IBOGS will be hosting their annual seminar on May 5th. She also mentioned that they are soliciting raffle prizes and would appreciate any donations.

**Ms. Gutierrez moved, seconded by Mr. Lujan to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed.**

**Mendiola moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m.**

**MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:**

Christie San Nicolas

**CHRISTIE SAN NICOLAS**
**Acting Administrative Officer**

**Date:** 24 APRIL 2018

**MINUTES OF MARCH 27, 2018 REGULAR BOARD MEETING:**
**(X) Approved as submitted**
**( ) Approved subject to corrections**
**( ) Other:** _____

**MARK B. MENDIOLA**
**GEB Chairman**

**Date:** 4/27/18

**JON J. P. FERNANDEZ**
**Executive Secretary/GDOE Superintendent**

**Date:** 4/25/18