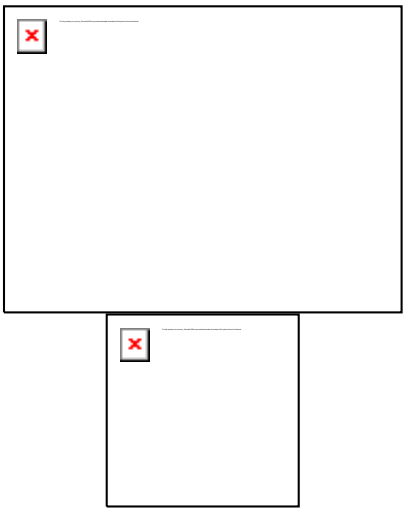
clerks@guamlegislature.org

From: Speaker's Office <speaker@guamlegislature.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2020 5:58 PM
To: Clerks Office
Cc: Rennae Meno
Subject: M&C Fwd: Guam Education Board Resolution 2020-03
Attachments: Transmittal and GEB Resolution 2020-03.pdf

04-09-20	2:18 PM	04-08-20	Guam Education Board Resolution 2020-03.*	Office of the Superintendent Jon Fernandez	35GL-20-1702



Sinseru yan Minagåhet,

Office of the Speaker • Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Committee on Public Accountability, Human Resources & the Guam Buildup

35th Guam Legislature
I Mina'trentai Singko na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Guam Congress Building | 163 Chalan Santo Papa | Hagatna, GU 96910
T: (671) 477-2520/1
speaker@guamlegislature.org

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Gumai pribilehu yan konfedensia este siha na mensåhi. Solo espesiåtmente para hågu ma entensioña pat ma aturisa para unrisibi. Sen prubidu kumu ti un ma aturisa para manribisa, na'setbe, pat mandespåtcha. Yanggen lachi rinisibu-mu nu este na mensåhi , put fabot ago' guatu gi I numa'huyong gi as speaker@guamlegislature.org yan despues destrosa todu siha I kopian mensåhi. Si Yu'os ma'åse'.

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Christie Lyn San Nicolas** <clsannicolas@gdoe.net>
Date: Thu, Apr 9, 2020 at 2:18 PM
Subject: Guam Education Board Resolution 2020-03
To: Governor's Office - Michael Weakley <michael.weakley@guam.gov>, Speaker Barnes <speaker@guamlegislature.org>, Telena Cruz Nelson <senatortcnelson@guamlegislature.org>, Melissa Savares <melissa.savares@gmail.com>, Sanjay Sharma <sharma@gftunion.com>

Cc: Jon Fernandez (Superintendent) <jonfernandez@gdoe.net>, Maria Roberto <mdroberto@gdoe.net>, Isa J.B. Baza <ijbbaza@gdoe.net>, Kelly R. Sukola <krsukola@gdoe.net>, Stacey Coletta <sacoletta@gdoe.net>, Zenaida T. Asuncion <ztasuncion@gdoe.net>, Joseph L.M. Sanchez <jsanchez@gdoe.net>

Hafa Adai,

Please see the attached transmittal of the Guam Education Board Resolution 2020-03 - Relative to Suspending Certain Guam Education Board Policies for School Year 2019-2020 Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Respectfully,

Office of the Superintendent
Guam Department of Education
501 Mariner Avenue Barrigada, Guam 96913
Tel: (671)300-1627 |Email: clsannicolas@gdoe.net

GDOE SY 2019-2020

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

www.gdoe.net
501 Mariner Avenue
Barrigada, Guam 96913
Telephone: (671) 300-1547/1536•Fax: (671)472-5003
Email: jonfernandez@gdoe.net

JON J. P. FERNANDEZ
Superintendent of Education

April 8, 2020

The Honorable Lou A. Leon Guerrero
Governor of Guam
513 West Marine Corps Drive
Ricardo J. Bordallo Complex
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Honorable Tina Muña Barnes
Speaker
Thirty-Fifth Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Honorable Telena C. Nelson
Vice-Speaker and Chair
Committee on Education, Air Transportation, and Statistics, Research and Planning
Thirty-Fifth Guam Legislature
173 Aspinall Avenue,
Suite 202A Ada Plaza Center
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Re: Transmittal of Guam Education Board (GEB) Resolution 2020-03

Håfa Adai! I am transmitting the attached Guam Education Board (GEB) Resolution 2020-03 as approved by the board in the GEB special meeting conducted on April 8, 2020.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at superintendent@gdoe.net

Senseramente,

JON J.P. FERNANDEZ

Attachments

cc: GEB Members
Mayor Melissa Savares, Chairwoman, MCOG
Sanjay Sharma, President, GFT
GDOE school administrators
Members, Islandwide PTO

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2020-03

Introduced by: **Guam Education Board Members**

RELATIVE TO SUSPENDING CERTAIN GUAM EDUCATION BOARD POLICIES FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2019-2020 DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, Governor of Guam Lourdes Leon Guerrero declared a public health emergency for the island of Guam due to the potential dangers posed by the 2019 novel coronavirus ("COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Governor Leon Guerrero issued Executive Order No. 2020-04 directing the closure of all non-essential government of Guam offices as well as the closure of all public and private schools through March 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 2020-04 also prohibited large gatherings of 50 people or more in a single space, recommended social distancing of at least six feet between individuals, and imposed certain travel restrictions and requirements on incoming and returning travelers to Guam; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Governor Lou Leon Guerrero directed the Guam Department of Education ("GDOE") to assist with the activation of school nurses and school resource/attendance officers as part of the COVID-19 response team; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the GDOE, upon approval of the United States Department of Agriculture of certain waiver requests, launched its Grab and Go school meals program at eleven school sites in order to provide a drive-thru opportunity for families to pick up school lunches for their children, aged zero to 18, resulting in 50,000 meals served in week one; and

WHEREAS, during the weeks of March 16 through March 27, 2020, GDOE convened over 250 administrators, teachers, representatives of the Guam Federation of Teachers, staff and students through videoconference to discuss and design a distance learning strategy for GDOE students, including recommendations for grading, service learning, and credit policy changes in the event of a long-term school closure; and

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2020, Governor Leon Guerrero issued Executive Order No. 2020-07 extending the government closure until April 13, 2020, necessitating the launch of GDOE's distance learning strategy on Monday, March 30, 2020, including the launch of an online resource website; and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020, GDOE expanded its Grab and Go school meals program to include a 12th location and to add school breakfasts to the meal distribution, bring in the total amount of meal distribution to 12,000 breakfast and 12,000 lunch meals per week; and

WHEREAS, beginning April 6, 2020, GDOE is providing weekly lessons for K-5th grades, while middle school and high school teachers are engaging their students online and through a system to distribute lessons and assignments through hard copies for those students without access to the Internet or to computers; and

WHEREAS, Governor Leon Guerrero has decided to further extend government closures and the requirements for social distancing until May 5, 2020, and could possibly extend government closures an additional two weeks or more thereafter; and

WHEREAS, due to the further extension of government closures, Superintendent Jon Fernandez has informed the Guam Education Board of his decision to suspend classes for the duration of School Year 2019-2020, recognizing that attempting to bring back 30,000 students and 4,000

school employees to normal operations would result in increased anxiety and concern regarding the further potential spread of COVID-19 as well as the school system's ability to provide sufficient protective measures to assure the safety of students and employees; and

WHEREAS, in contemplating the closure of schools for the remainder of the school year, administrators, teachers, staff and students have made several recommendations, which were shared with the Guam Education Board and the Islandwide Parent Teacher Organization representatives last week, and which include the following:

- That, for all grades, third quarter grades be adopted as the semester grade for all students;
- That elementary and middle school students be promoted to the next grade or level unless other previous arrangements have been made with the school, student and parents;
- That for high school students who received a 59% (failing) grade or below in the third quarter, with the exception of no shows or no evidence submitted, would be granted a grade of 60% (passing) for the semester;
- That students enrolled in AP or honors courses be granted the 10% bonus except if they were failing in third quarter, which would result in them receiving a 60% for the semester;
- That high school students be granted credits for the classes passed during the semester;
- That the Guam Education Board petition the Guam Legislature to pass legislation allowing the waiver of instructional hours and the service learning requirements for this year's graduating class;
- That ten hours of the service learning requirements be waived for 9th, 10th, and 11th graders from the graduating classes of 2021 thru 2023 thus requiring a total of 65 hours of service learning to graduate;
- That ongoing supports be provided to parents and students through a distance learning strategy offering ungraded weekly lessons in literacy, math and character education for K-5th and, for middle and high school students, ungraded enrichment activities for their courses provided by their teachers.

WHEREAS, these recommendations reflect the discussions and suggestions offered by administrators, teachers, staff, students, Guam Education Board members and parents in order to ensure that students are treated equitably while continuing to offer supports to parents and students through the duration of the school calendar; and

WHEREAS, to implement these recommendations, the Guam Education Board must temporarily suspend particular board policies including the following:

- Board Policy 321 regarding the official school calendar
- Board Policy 338 setting forth middle school requirements
- Board Policy 339 regarding promotion and retention
- Board Policy 346 regarding elementary education program
- Board Policy 346 regarding instructional subjects and time on task for elementary schools
- Board Policy 350 regarding grading system
- Board Policy 351.1 regarding final examinations
- Board Policy 351.4 regarding high school graduation requirements
- Board Policy 381 regarding service learning requirements

WHEREAS, the Guam Education Board also must request the Legislature's action to waive the service learning requirements and also to waive the requirement for instructional hours; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guam Education Board recognizes the unique and challenging circumstances brought about by the 2019 novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") pandemic situation and the prohibitions against large gatherings in a single setting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guam Education Board recognizes the hard work of its school nurses, school resource officers, student attendance officers, administrators, teachers, staff, and contractors to provide school meals to students during school closures, to design distance learning strategies to assist parents and students at home, and to engage with our stakeholders during this uncertain time; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guam Education Board hereby authorizes, in the event of extended closures, the suspension of the aforementioned board policies and adopts the recommendations set forth in the sections above by the department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guam Education Board shall also petition the Guam Legislature to pass legislation that would suspend the legal requirements regarding instructional hours and service learning hours required for graduation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guam Education Board will continue to work with the administration and the Legislature to assist the community in overcoming and defeating the threat of COVID-19 in our community; and finally,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Lourdes Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'haga' Guahan*; the Honorable Tina Muna-Barnes, Speaker of the 35th Guam Legislature; the Honorable Telena Nelson, Vice-Speaker of the 35th Guam Legislature and Chairwoman of the Committee on Education; the Honorable Melissa Savares, Mayor of Dededo and Chairwoman of the Mayors Council of Guam; Mr. Sanjay Sharma, President of the Guam Federation of Teachers; all GDOE school administrators; and members of the Islandwide Parent Teacher Organizations.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE GUAM EDUCATION BOARD ON THIS 8th DAY OF APRIL 2020.

MARIA A. GUTIERREZ
Chairwoman, Guam Education Board

JON J.P. FERNANDEZ
Executive Secretary, Guam Education Board