clerks@guamlegislature.org

From: Speaker's Office <speaker@guamlegislature.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 2:06 PM
To: Clerks Office
Cc: Rennae Meno
Subject: M&C Fwd: GEB June 30, 2020 Regular Meeting - Reporting Requirements
Attachments: June 30 2020 Reg Mtg Reporting Requirements.pdf; Email-GEB Regular Meeting held on June 30, 2020.pdf

07-07-20	4:35 PM	07-06-20	Agenda, Minutes, and other documents for Guam Education Board Regular Meeting held on June 30, 2020.*	Department of Education-Office of the Superintendent	35GL-20-1979

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: Tue, Jul 7, 2020 at 4:35 PM
Subject: GEB June 30, 2020 Regular Meeting - Reporting Requirements
To: Governor's Office - Michael Weakley <michael.weakley@guam.gov>, Speaker Barnes

<speaker@guamlegislature.org>
Cc: Jon Fernandez (Superintendent) <jonfernandez@gdoe.net>, Maria Roberto <mdroberto@gdoe.net>

Hafa Adai,

Please see the attached documents for the Guam Education Board's Regular Meeting held on June 30, 2020.

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Respectfully,

Christie Lyn San Nicolas

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

Speaker's Office <speaker@guamlegislature.org>

GEB June 30, 2020 Regular Meeting - Reporting Requirements

1 message

Christie Lyn San Nicolas <clsannicolas@gdoe.net> Tue, Jul 7, 2020 at 4:35 PM
To: Governor's Office - Michael Weakley <michael.weakley@guam.gov>, Speaker Barnes <speaker@guamlegislature.org>
Cc: "Jon Fernandez (Superintendent)" <jonfernandez@gdoe.net>, Maria Roberto <mdroberto@gdoe.net>

Hafa Adai,

Please see the attached documents for the Guam Education Board's Regular Meeting held on June 30, 2020.

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Respectfully,

Christie Lyn San Nicolas

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

35GL-20-1979
Speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes

JUL 07 2020
Time 4:35 ( )AM (X)PM
Received By:

June 30 2020 Reg Mtg Reporting Requirements.pdf
3287K

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

July 6, 2020

The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
Governor of Guam
Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex
Adelup, Guam 96910

Honorable Tina Rose Muña Barnes
Speaker
Thirty-fifth Guam Legislature
Hagåtña, Guam 96932

Dear Governor Leon Guerrero and Speaker Barnes:

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 June 30, 2020 regular board meeting. The meeting was held via Zoom Conferencing.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 300-1627.

Senseramente,

JON J. P. FERNANDEZ
Superintendent of Education

Attachments

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD

501 Mariner Avenue
Barrigada, Guam 96913-1608
Telephone Number: (671) 300-1627
Facsimile Number: (671) 472-5003
Website Address: www.gdoe.net/geb

MARIA A. GUTIERREZ
Chairwoman

MARK B. MENDIOLA
Vice-Chair

9th Guam Education Board
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Tuesday, June 30, 2020
6 PM
Zoom Conferencing
AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes

ACTION 1. Minutes of May 26, 2020 Regular Meeting
ACTION 2. Minutes of June 12, 2020 Special 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

INFO 1. GFT
INFO 2. Mayor's Council of Guam

VI. Unfinished Business/ Committee Reports

1. **Executive Committee**
   - INFO/ACTION a. Superintendent's Evaluation Status (Ron McNinch)
   - INFO/ACTION b. NASBE
     - i. Committee Updates
     - ii. Nominations
2. **Instructional & Academic Support Committee**
   - INFO a. Head Start Report
3. **Safe & Healthy Schools Committee**
   - ACTION a. Board Resolution to Affirm and Adopt the SY 2020-21 School Re-opening and Recovery Plan
   - ACTION b. BP401 – Uniform Policy
4. **Organizational Efficiency and Development Committee**
5. **Fiscal Management**
   - INFO a. Update on FY20 Budget
   - INFO b. USDOE Specific Conditions/High Risk

VII. New Business

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

VOTING MEMBERS:, Maria A. Gutierrez, Chairwoman, Mark B. Mendiola, Vice-Chair, Felicitas B. Angel, Lourdes M. Benavente, Karlyn RCG Borja, John T. Burch, James C. Lujan, Ronald L. McNinch, PhD
EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: VACANT - IBOGS Representative, Doris Terlaje - GFT Representative, Mayor, Melissa B. Savares, MCOG Representative
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Jon J. P. Fernandez, GDOE Superintendent

Map of world's uncharted ocean beds takes shape despite crisis

LONDON (Reuters) – Plans to map the entire ocean floor by 2030 are going ahead despite the challenges of the coronavirus crisis, officials leading the project said, with almost a fifth covered so far.

Scientists say the topography of the ocean floor is less well-known than the surfaces of Mars, Mercury or Venus, and that charting the depth and shape of the seabed will help understand the impact oceans have on the earth's climate.

As the world's ocean economy grows in coming years, data will also be vital to boost knowledge of marine ecosystems and marine life, as well as future food supply patterns.

Seabed 2030, which is working to bring together all available bathymetric data to produce a comprehensive map said on Sunday that the area mapped had risen from 15% to 19% in the last year, from only 6% when the initiative began in 2017.

"Over the next year, we anticipate similar levels of data contributions through donations of archive material and, as COVID restrictions abate, new data from surveys, ships transits and crowd sourcing," project director Jamie McMichael-Phillips told Reuters in comments to coincide with World Hydrography Day.

Virus hotspots emerge in rural villages across India

(Bloomberg News) – After overwhelming India's megacities, the coronavirus is now moving through the country's vast hinterland.

Home to nearly 70% of India's 1.3 billion population, the nation's villages have little access to health care and are struggling to support themselves through the country's prolonged economic slowdown.

Initially isolated from the epidemic that has swamped the capital New Delhi and financial center Mumbai, rural areas were exposed when millions of migrant workers who lost their jobs in the cities when the government implemented a strict nationwide lockdown on March 25 went home.

The states of Bihar, Assam, Jharkhand, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh received the most number of returning laborers – now they are also witnessing the sharpest rise in new cases in the two weeks to June 8, according to internal government estimates seen by Bloomberg. In the rural districts of Rajasthan and Karnataka, the virus is also spreading rapidly, it showed.

Infections have now spread to 98 of the country's 112 poorest rural districts, up from 34 on April 15, according to the report from NITI Aayog, the government's planning body. Nearly 2,250 new cases were added in those districts.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's administration runs the risk of a burgeoning death toll if the pandemic's spread is not checked in rural India, where under-funded health care infrastructure and poor living conditions provide fertile ground for the virus. India is already the world's fourth most-affected country, and an exponential rise in cases in the villages could catapult it higher. With the crisis pushing the economy toward its first full-year contraction in more than four decades, the likelihood of increasing social unrest continues to grow.

The Prime Minister's Office didn't respond to an email seeking comment for this story.



DELHI: *A motorcyclist passes in front of a mural in Delhi, India as the country relaxed its lockdown restrictions on June 8. Yawar Nazir/Getty Images/Tribune News Service*

'Living in fear'

In the agricultural Ganjam district in Odisha, the Choudhari Tikarapada village of 5,000 people was coronavirus-free until the end of May.

That all changed when about 200 laborers returned home to the area after they lost their jobs in the states of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu during the lockdown. They were quarantined for seven days before entering the village. Soon after 13 were found COVID-19 positive, prompting the administration to declare it a containment zone, stopping any movement of people.

"If tests are conducted in my village then more infected persons will be found," said villager Sadananda Sahu, adding it is impossible to maintain social distancing and hygiene in his area. "We are living in fear."

Districts like Ganjam are among India's poorest and have a skeletal health infrastructure, with most villagers accessing hospitals in nearby cities. India spent just 3.7% of gross domestic product on health care in 2016, putting it in the bottom 25 countries globally, according to the most recent World Bank data, leaving hospitals at risk of becoming quickly overwhelmed with virus cases.

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
501 Mariner Avenue
Barrigada, Guam 96913-1608
Telephone Number: (671) 300-1627
Facsimile Number: (671) 472-5003
Website Address: www.gdoe.net/geb

MARIA A. GUTIERREZ
Chairwoman

MARK B. MENDIOLA
Vice-Chair

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Tuesday, June 30, 2020
6 PM
Teleconference – via Zoom Conferencing
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

The public is welcome to view the meeting via live stream at https://www.facebook.com/DOEGuam.

If you plan to provide public testimony please download the Zoom application on any of your devices and attend the meeting using this link: https://gdoe.zoom.us/j/91130027328. Individuals requiring special accommodations or information or wish to submit public testimony via email may contact Christie San Nicolas, Administrative Officer by email: clsannicolas@gdoe.net.

Agenda to be available on GEB website at least 72 hours before the meeting.
This advertisement was paid by GDOE local funds.

Doc. No. 35GE-20-1979.*

PUBLICATION NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of Guam Code Annotated, Title XI, Chapter III, Section 3315, notice is hereby given that:

Anna Jun Corporation
DBA: New Easy Market

has applied for a Class: Five (5) General OFF Sale Alcoholic Beverage License said premises being marked as Lot: 6 Blk 2 T 137 2150 Rt. 16 Villa St. Dededo.

PORT OF GUAM
PORT OF GUAM
ATURIDAT I PUETTON GUAHAN
Jose D. Leon Guerrero Commercial Port
1026 Cabras Highway, Suite 201, Piti, Guam 96925
Telephone: 671-477-5931/35 Facsimile: 671-477-2689/4445
Website: www.portguam.com

Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
Governor of Guam
Joshua F. Tenorio
Lieutenant Governor

The Port Authority of Guam Board of Directors will hold its Regular meeting on **Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.**, Board of Directors' Conference Room, Port Authority of Guam, Cabras Island, Piti. Individuals with disabilities who may need special accommodations may contact Mr. Vince Acfalle, ADA Coordinator at 477-5931/4, ext. 422. For Live Stream, visit: http://www.portguam.com/live.

PUBLICATION NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of Guam Code Annotated, Title XI, Chapter III, Section 3315, notice is hereby given that:

IN THE KITCHEN, INC.
DBA: KITCHEN LINGO

has applied for a Class: Five (5) General Off-Sale Alcoholic Beverage License said premises being marked as Lot: 7 Blk 2 #153 Martyr St. Unit 101 A Cruz Bldg. Hagatna.

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD

501 Mariner Avenue
Barrigada, Guam 96913-1608
Telephone Number: (671) 300-1627
Facsimile Number: (671) 472-5001
Website Address: www.gdoc.net/gcbwww.gdoc.net/gcb

MARIA A. GUTIERREZ
Chairwoman

MARK B. MENDIOLA
Vice-Chair

9th GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, May 26, 2020
6 pm
Zoom Conferencing

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS

Maria A. Gutierrez, Chairwoman
Mark B. Mendiola, Vice-Chair
Felicitas B. Angel
Lourdes M. Benavente
Karlyn RCG Borja
John T. Burch
James C. Lujan
Ron L. McNinch, PhD

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Mika Labadnoy
IBOGS Representative

Doris A. Terlaje
GFT Representative

Mayor, Melissa B. Savares
MCOG Representative

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Jon J.P. Fernandez
GDOE Superintendent

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Maria A. Gutierrez, Chairwoman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

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

Voting Members:
Gutierrez, Maria A. – Chairwoman
Mendiola, Mark B. – Vice-Chair
Angel, Felicitas B.
Benavente, Lourdes M.
Borja, Karlyn RCG
Burch, John T.
Lujan, James C.
McNinch, Dr. Ron L.

Non-Voting Members:
Labadnoy, Mika (OHS) – IBOGS Representatives
Fedenko, Timothy – GFT Representative
Savares, Melissa B. – MCOG Representative

Legal Counsel:
Nasis, Jesse

The Superintendent announced that eight (8) members of the Board were present, constituting a quorum.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. McNinch motioned, seconded by Mr. Burch to approve the April 21, 2020, regular monthly meeting minutes, subject to corrections. The Board voted by voice with a vote of 8-0 for the motion, motion passed.

Mr. Burch requested for a correction to be made to the minutes. He specified on page 8, VIIII, third paragraph down, he didn't want it to be read out of context. He asked that the statement he made "he thinks he has a very good handle" be changed to "he thinks the Superintendent has a very good handle". He clarified that he was referring to the Superintendent and not himself and just wanted it to be clarified.

Ms. Gutierrez stated that his correction is noted.

III. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None.

IV. **COMMUNICATIONS**

CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Gutierrez stated that she included Ms. Fely Angel's appointment letter in the board packet. She noted that Ms. Angel was reappointed by the Governor and her appointment is subject to the confirmation hearing and the approval of the Legislature.

Mr. Fernandez stated that he wanted to inform the Board that based on the correspondence from the Governor's Office, Ms. Angel will be considered a voting member. He noted that there is some discussion that Legal wanted to ensure that we have with the general counsel of the Governor's Office but it is their understanding, based on the correspondence that was received and the assurance from the Vice Speaker that they will move the appointment quickly, that everything should be in order. If not, we can keep the Board apprised in the case that the legislative appointment does not move on the ninety (90) day timeframe.

Ms. Gutierrez noted that Ms. Angel submitted all her documents today and will be going forward to the Vice Speaker's Office.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT. The superintendent provided highlights from his report.

GDOE Graduation Dates Announced. The superintendent informed the board of the upcoming high school Grad and Go ceremonies and provided some details into the process. He noted that the ceremonies will be live streamed on the DOE Facebook page and the DOE YouTube page. He clarified that because of the current restrictions, the only officials that will be present at the ceremonies would be the school principals, assistant principals and class advisors and all the usual officials, the superintendent the board and elected officials will participate virtually.

Employees Mobilized for COVID-19 Response. School nurses, school resource officers, student attendance officers, and social workers have been mobilized by the Governor as part of the COVID-19 efforts. They have been working at ports of entry and quarantine sites. In addition, over 250 school staff and administrators are manning the 12 school meals distribution sites. In addition to personnel, GDOE is providing up to three special education buses to support the operations of the Guam Regional Transit Authority. Also, teachers are using 3D printers to print protective gear for front-line responders.

GDOE Grab and Go school meals program will be extended through July 31. Currently, GDOE is providing 12,000 breakfasts and 12,000 lunches per day at 12 school sites. USDA has since approved an extension of the Grab and Go meals program until July 31, mirroring the summer school session. The summer school meals program will cost GDOE an additional $1 million, which Governor Leon Guerrero has committed to pay.

Distribution of TEFAP emergency commodities. GDOE continues to distribute emergency commodities, working with our nonprofit organizations as well as GHURA get food to needy families. Last week, GDOE reopened the Piti warehouse to begin the distribution of commodities through a "Food to Trunk" operation. Also, Pacific Unlimited partnered with GDOE to distribute additional boxes of fresh fruit. Due to heavy traffic that extended into the Asan and Nimitz Hill areas, GDOE is working in partnership with DPW to open additional sites in Dededo and Tiyan.

All full-time and part-time employees were paid for the past pay period. I anticipate that all GDOE employees, both classified and unclassified (limited- term), will continue to be paid until the end of the school year (at which point limited-term employees will no longer be paid, as usual). Executive Order 2020-08 sets forth differential pay requirements, effective April 5, 2020, which GDOE is working to pay employees, subject to later reimbursement by the administration. As of this date, all 15% and 25% differential categories are up to date. The third tier, the 10% category, will be up to date by the next pay period.

Double pay issue. The issue of double pay for employees who report to work during a declared emergency is still under review by the Legislature, and several bills have been introduced to try to address. GDOE will continue to review and monitor the situation in order to ensure that employees are legally and appropriately compensated for their work.

Distance learning continues. Over the summer, distance learning will continue for all grade levels. From kindergarten to 8th grade, distance learning will continue to be for enrichment purposes through the website, hard copies and the partnership with PBS-Guam to televise lessons. For high school, distance learning will be coupled with limited face-to-face meetings to ensure that work can be given and graded as part of students' efforts to earn credit.

CARES Act (Education Stabilization Fund). GDOE has held numerous stakeholder sessions with private non-profit schools, student representatives, parent-teacher organization representatives, administrators, division heads, and teacher leaders to determine the priorities for the $41.5 million in ESF funding from the federal government. The application has been submitted with an emphasis on distance learning, health and safety supplies and equipment, and mental health supports for students and employees. Upon receipt of the application, should the necessary information be complete, USDOE anticipates a 72 hour turnaround to issue approval.

GDOE Recovery Task Force. Superintendent appointed a Recovery Task Force co-chaired by Deputy Superintendents Joe Sanchez and Stacey Coletta. The Task Force is comprised of six committees addressing major areas to include distance learning, operations and safety, personnel management, mental health supports, budget, and communications. The committees are actively meeting to set forth a recommendation for the opening of schools under PCOR3. A virtual informational session on GDOE's COVID-19 response took place this past Thursday with the Legislature's Education Committee at which point the Superintendent touched on the Recovery Task Force's focus and mission. The GEB held a work session on Friday morning to review the scope of the RTF's work. GEB members will be able to participate in the relevant RTF meetings going forward.

FY 2021 Appropriations. The Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent for Finance and Administrative Services were present at the FY 2021 Budget continuation hearing before the Committee on Appropriations this past Friday. The Superintendent provided written responses to previous questions and answered additional questions from the floor. Action on the budget is expected in August.

USDOE Virtual Monitoring is Delayed until June. Due to government closure and travel restrictions, I requested a 60-day extension in order to better coordinate GDOE and USDOE's efforts to ensure the monitoring can happen under normal operations. Scheduling the exact date is underway and not yet confirmed.

Simon Sanchez Design Services RFP. GDOE will proceed to complete the procurement of a vendor to provide the architectural and engineering services for a new Simon Sanchez High School. Finalization of a contract is hoped for this June.

Mr. Mendiola motioned, seconded by Mr. Lujan to accept the Superintendent's Report as presented. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Ms. Gutierrez asked that Dr. Zeny Asuncion brief the board on the FY20 allotment.

Mr. Mendiola requested that he be able to brief that item on his portion of the agenda.

Ms. Gutierrez agreed and noted that she was requesting a brief because it was mentioned in the superintendent's report.

V. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

GFT Report – No report.

MCOG Report – Mayor Savares commented that she sees the school graduation schedules and the mayors are anxious to assist with traffic control. She noted that the mayors continue to assist with traffic control for the school lunch program as well. She thanked GDOE for continuing to feed the children throughout the island.

Ms. Gutierrez asked the superintendent and Dr. Sukola to make sure the principals know to reach out to their village mayors who are willing to provide support. She also asked Mayor Savares to extend their appreciation to the mayor of Mong Mong-Toto-Maite and his staff for assisting and providing the fence for the food commodity distribution in Tiyan.

IBOGS Report – Mika Labadnoy briefly presented the results from the COVID-19 survey that the IBOGS conducted.

Mr. Fernandez thanked the IBOGS on behalf of the management team for their quick response and informed the board that there wasn't a lot of time and it was hard for the IBOGS team to reach their classmates. He noted that they willingly assisted us with a short survey to make sure we reached as many students as they could. He thanked the IBOGS for stepping up and doing that for us and for also presenting their results during two previous meetings.

Dr. McNinch also thanked the IBOGS and asked how many students were able to participate in the survey.

Mika responded that 233 students responded to the survey.

Ms. Gutierrez noted that this would be the last meeting that the IBOGS would be participating in since their one year term would be ending. She expressed her appreciation on behalf of the Guam Education Board for their constant involvement in many projects throughout the school year. She noted that all of the IBOGS members would be graduating and wished them all the best of luck!

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) Executive Committee

NASBE UPDATES – Dr. McNinch briefed that he attended an online meeting about a week ago and the main discussion was about finding meeting alternatives for the Summer meeting that was canceled. He also noted that the national meeting is scheduled for October and they've been discussing what type of meeting it will be. Most of the discussions at NASBE at the organizational level has been what will happen with the status of the meetings. He stated that there is a lot of information for schools on the NASBE website in dealing with the pandemic response. Many of the schools are approaching the same kinds of issues that we have here on Guam. Issues like how do we accommodate opening or not opening, how do we adjust to these very dynamic circumstances. He noted that many people have had to become almost experts on a lot of these issues that they are very unfamiliar with. He commented that he is objective when he says this but we are very blessed to have Jon Fernandez as the superintendent given some of the things he has heard from other school systems.

Ms. Gutierrez stated that she has attended the after-hours conference with the Western Region chairs every Thursday and the discussion has been the same as what Dr. McNinch stated. She commented that she knows

that the New Member Institute conference may not happen and the Annual Conference is up in the air as well. She concurred that there is a lot of information on the NASBE website and noted that the NASBE website has been restructured. She stated that Dr. Hull was supposed to retire but canceled and will be with NASBE for another year.

Ms. Benavente also briefed on the last committee meeting she attended. She noted that they discussed the CARES Act and the Educational Stimulus Fund.

Mr. Fernandez noted that the Recovery Task Force has also been reviewing and pulling information from NASBE, CCSSO, CDC and the other agencies as well. The Task Force is also following the conversations by NASBE and CCSSO for any guidance and suggestions of best practices.

Board Subcommittees – Ms. Gutierrez asked the board members to review the existing committees, the ad-hoc committees and the special committees and discuss whether the committees are still needed. She noted that she spoke with the superintendent about coming up with a separate committee for Head Start and Special Education because there are many issues for those two sections. She asked the members to review the committees and think of whether certain committees are no longer needed or whether they should be consolidated. She stated that if they need to be revised they can have a work session. She also noted that since they are so busy dealing with COVID-19 they will also postpone their board retreat.

2) **Instructional & Academic Support Committee**

Head Start Report – Ms. Schroeder presented the Head Start Report. She reported that they are finalizing the registration packets and will be distributing the fliers and application packets at the grab and go sites. She stated that there are two grants that are pending approval, the COLA Grant for $69,359.00 and the Quality Improvement Grant for $142,044.00. She noted that the grants were forwarded to the board for their review earlier this month or last month and they are looking for final approval from the board. She noted that the Policy Council has approved both applications. She stated that there were two CARES Stimulus Grants that Head Start received, one for a summer program and the other for preparation to reopen the school for the Head Start Program. She explained that on Friday she received two memorandums from the Office of Head Start explaining that they have changed the guidance for the two grants. She stated that it is now a one grant application and they are formula grants. She stated that they will be revising their proposals and will be expecting $495,018.00 in the CARES Stimulus Grant. She informed that she would be working with the Recovery Team to discuss how Head Start can provide support. She stated that the only actionable item that she has for the board's approval is for the COLA Grant and the Quality Improvement Grant.

Mr. Burch asked Ms. Schroeder she needed one or two motions for the grant approvals.

She noted that because of the new guidelines, either way would be okay.

Ms. Benavente motioned, seconded by Mr. Lujan to approve the Head Start 2020 COLA Grant and Quality Improvement Grant. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Ms. Gutierrez asked about the Supplemental Grant that was on the agenda.

Ms. Benavente clarified that it was for the Summer Grant but they are working on it and it is off the table for right now.

Mr. Burch motioned, seconded by Mr. Lujan to accept the Head Start Report. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

3) **Safe & Healthy Schools Committee**

Mr. Burch reported that at the last Safe & Healthy Schools Committee Work Session on May 22nd, GDOE presented a draft school based planning matrix. In the draft, six subcommittees were listed. He briefly named the subcommittees and stated their roles. He presented updates that were discussed during the work session.

4) **Organizational Efficiency and Development Committee**

Ms. Gutierrez stated that she would wait for the task force. She emphasized the importance of personnel and employees who may be considered high risk that may not want to come back into work and would prefer to telework. She stated that she asked if a survey could be conducted so that they would be able to know how many people would be coming back into work. Many are not comfortable and are concerned for their health. She noted that she would work with the task force. She stated that she wants to ensure that the survey that is conducted is legal and won't be challenged. She also stated that she wants to GFT to be involved in the development of the survey.

5) **Fiscal Management**

Update on FY20 Budget – Mr. Mendiola briefed that we have been receiving the allotments. He noted that there was a lag but we were able to get some funds from the Territorial Education Facilities Fund in the amount of $3.6. He noted that there are still some unpaid allotments versus our requests but it was a big help. He stated that if there are not enough collections coming in, it will catch up to us towards the end of the fiscal year. However, the superintendent and his team have been working on the federal side which would help assist the department in dealing with some of the innovative ideas that it has to come up with to address the COVID-19 response.

Mr. Mendiola stated that on the payables of 2019 he requested that we get a review of what it is we're paying versus what has been in the previous years. Our team has been working diligently to continue to pay off the small debt and the larger debt as we get the funding to pay off those debts.

Mr. Mendiola stated that the other issue he wanted to raise was regarding the timesheets for COVID-19 payroll. He stated that he would like to come back to that conversation. He then stated that another item is the audit report. Mr. Cooper-Nurse and Deputy Zeny continue to review documents and respond to audit findings. We have clean audit findings and that has been a hallmark in response to the high-risk status that USEd has put on us. Mr. Mendiola went back to the topic of the COVID-19 timesheets. He commented that the big question is regarding the double pay issue. He stated that there was a legal opinion that was provided to us by the Attorney General (AG) regarding double pay leaving it up to the department/agency heads to make that determination. He noted that the Governor has her position as to what needs to be done. He stated that he knows that there are legal challenges right now that is before the courts with respect to double pay. He stated that he made a public statement that he is in support of ensuring that the employees are getting their just compensation. He stated that his only concern regarding this issue is that we have so many legal opinions coming from outside but there is no legal opinion coming to the board in terms of what the role and responsibility of the board is in terms of dealing with this double pay issue. He stated that he knows that our government is strapped for cash but at the same time we have people that we put in the frontlines and we have to make these folks whole. He stated that our nurses and the people who are distributing the meals should be justly compensated and we need to figure this out sooner than later. He commented that he wants to hang our hat on some sort of legal guidance so that we don't go into that type of realm where it will cost us more money later on. He stated that he is proposing that the board hire legal counsel for the board to provide guidance specific to the double pay issue. He noted that it is his understanding that there is currently two legal battles, one in the federal court and one in the local court. He commented that we have the largest agency in the Government of Guam and we need to do this right. If we are depending on the AG, at the end of the day, the board will be asked to take action and he wants to ensure that if they do take action, that the board does what is prudent and right based on someone who can defend our position. He stated that he just wanted to put that out there for discussion, he is not discussing legal strategy he is just trying to prepare

ourselves for uncertainty of what can befall them should the board be asked the question of double pay for our employees that are out there in the frontlines.

Dr. McNinch briefly stated that for all we know within a month from now, the legislature will resolve this but it is good to keep in mind that this is an active discussion and that it certainly may be something that we're asked for input on. In general, it looks like the legislature is addressing these things and they might be able to answer a lot of these questions.

Mr. Mendiola responded that he agrees with Dr. McNinch, the legislature can cure a lot of these issues once and for all, however, because of the procurement issues if we are to get some sort of legal opinion that we're going to need specifically for the board... He commented that he knows the department has two attorneys on board but they specifically work off of the AG as deputies for the AG when they are giving us legal guidance. He stated that he just wants to make sure that if and when they need some sort of legal opinion they should be prepared for that. To procure services like that could take up to two to three months and he doesn't want to be caught in limbo. He stated that he would like to get the ball rolling just to answer that specific issue unless Dr. McNinch is willing to let them hang their hat on his advice he would be willing to take that. At the end of the day he thinks the board should be prudent on their part to have something to hang their hats on when it comes to this whole issue because he is willing to pay the frontline folks. He asked what's at stake should they go down the wrong path, they may be asking people to pay back money that they rightfully deserve and he doesn't want to do that. He stated that he wants to make sure that the board has some kind of position and they have clear guidance.

Mr. Burch commented that he agrees with Mr. Mendiola, that they should prepare for anything in the future. He stated that he is aware that there is a legal case that is going to go before the courts and he is aware that the legislature has a couple of senators that are trying to address this same issue but being that GDOE is the largest agency within the Government of Guam they do affect a lot of people. Any decision that GDOE makes or the Guam Education Board makes will have an effect, will be an effect on all other government agencies. He commented that before they make a decision on this, this is a very sensitive issue, pay differential. He stated that for the protection for the Guam Education Board, because the will be making a decision that involves this, they should have some legal consult. He stated that if we do have the funds available than he is all for following through with Mr. Mendiola's recommendation. He questioned whether they have the funds available to the board. Should they hire one just to address this specific issue, not necessarily for twelve months, just until this issue is resolved? If it is resolved by the legislature than the contract will end, if it is resolved by court action than this would end.

Mr. Mendiola stated that he agrees and that is the only question that he would like to ask regarding this issue of double pay and the potential roadblocks. He just wants to be prepared for it, sooner than later. He continued to state that we are in the summer and a lot of our employees are out there. He commented that the Board used to have the budget for legal counsel but they no longer have that available. He stated that he just wants an opinion that their legal counsel can give them a position on instead of them going down a road that could potentially cause further harm or damage by making the wrong decision. He knows that they don't have the funding for it but what is at stake should they lose something? He commented that it could potentially cause them millions of dollars later on or even worse, employees having to pay back money. He stated that he wants something to hang their hats on so that when they pay the employees it's based on what they have before them.

Mr. Burch responded that he supports Mr. Mendiola's way of thinking, he is the chair of the standing committee on Fiscal Management. He stated that if there is a way to identify funding for this he would be okay with it but if we don't have the funding available then we have not choice then to depend on the legal counsel for GDOE. He stated that he would prefer to have one that is hired directly for the Board if it is possible

to get the funding, but if they cannot get the funding would there be a problem with them leaning on the expertise of the GDOE attorneys.

Dr. McNinch commented that if this is a contingency idea then they should get the procurement process rolling right away and maybe just vote on this just to ask the superintendent or the staff to put out an RFP and test the ground and see what we come up with. He commented, if we have the funding to do it. Procurement does take such a long time we should get the ball rolling.

Ms. Gutierrez stated that she would like to hear from the superintendent.

The Superintendent stated that in his review of the situation, the Board's real involvement in this matter has to do with its rule making and policy-making authority. By issuing the Personnel Rules and Regulations, which they are really at issue with, even though the Department has not yet been included until action, the Board's role really is to set the policies and it has done so in its personnel rules. The real question is really before the Director as to how to interpret those rules. He stated that the Board itself cannot pay employees, it doesn't have the authority to issue pay checks but it does have the authority to set up the rules, which it has done. He continued to state that he is not sure if the Board is considering additional policy changes or other policy changes but he feels that the responsibility is upon the Department in administering and interpreting those rules, which is really where he comes into play in order to ensure that the proper interpretation of those rules is made. He stated that that is why he is monitoring and we are in receipt of the AG's opinion, we have been monitoring the Legislature's actions, and we do have our internal review of this manner ongoing. As far as the Board's role, he's not really clear as to what the Board's role is beyond setting the rules. He stated that whether the Board would like to hire legal counsel obviously is up to the Board. He continued stating that he is just saying that from the standpoint of analyzing the situation, whatever the Board's position, it would not under any circumstance, have the authority to pay employees other than to set the policy for that pay, which it has done in its personnel rules. Whether the Board would like to higher legal counsel is clearly up to the Board.

Mr. Lujan asked the Superintendent what it says in the rules and regulations.

Mr. Fernandez responded that he doesn't have the policy in front of him but it does set forth provisions for employees under emergency circumstances but in addition to that there are executive orders out there that have been issued. He commented that that is where the issue arises, how to interpret that. He stated that he prefers not to discuss the other potential interpretations other than to assure the board that I am in review of our rules and the executive orders. There are various options that can take place in terms of the Legislature taking action and so forth and we are taking that into consideration as we figure out how to pay the differential pay and then to resolve, if there is any resolution needed with the double pay.

Mr. Lujan asked the Superintendent what his interpretation is as the superintendent of DOE. He asked if we are supposed to pay out the double pay or not, based on the rules and regulations.

Mr. Fernandez responded that when he is ready to conclude his interpretation he will definitely let the Board know. He commented that he thinks at this point it was a little confusing because of the various interplay of our rules and the executive order. We were waiting some clarity from the AG. When the AG issued his opinion, it left two options, for the agencies to determine their status individually or for the Legislature to resolve this matter. He stated that in the AG's opinion it wasn't clear to him what the result was so as of last week we were under the impression that the Legislature might go into session to provide clarity and it looks like it will take a little bit longer. He stated that what he is asking for is an opportunity to buy more time to conclude our findings. What we don't want to do is go in different directions and have the Legislature come in and impose something completely different which will put our employees in limbo with regard to whether they owe money back.

Mr. Lujan responded that he understands that but what is our opinion? We were challenged before by the AG and DOE was in the right. He stated that he would like for us to have an understanding that DOE's interpretation is this. What is that?

Mr. Fernandez responded okay and that he is still reviewing the issue.

Mr. Mendiola commented to the superintendent stating that he mentioned guidance, so when we paid out the 25 % and the 15% what guidance were we following? From the executive order, correct?

Mr. Fernandez responded that Mr. Mendiola was correct.

Mr. Mendiola responded, "Alright, so now that this thing about this double pay issue is coming up... that's what I'm saying though, we have legal's interpretation, we went in and paid the 25% and the 15% right, so we're basing it on the executive order that was given by the Governor. But now this issue of double pay... that's what I'm asking the Board to consider is, I know in terms of policy but the budget at the end of the day we need to figure out where that funding is going to come from, from the Department of Education." He stated that that is where he thinks the AG's opinion is putting that on you (referring to the Superintendent), to provide that response, and he thinks that's what Mr. Lujan is asking. He commented to the Superintendent that we have to get this sooner than later, he knows that the Superintendent understands it and that he hears the cries of the employees out there, he knows that they have gone to all these meetings, and were having discussions about even things beyond this. Like what the school year is going to look like next year. But when are we going to take care of our employees? He stated that he knows and he appreciates the superintendent doing that 25 and 15% call because that was sorely needed however, now we have this other issue that could potentially really help our folks out there. He asked, how much more time do we need to get these employees paid what they rightfully deserve. Whether it's 15, that percentage scale or if it's a double pay, we just need some clear answers. He stated that he wants some independent answers so that we can hang our hat on it and should our decisions be challenged then we got it. Like Dr. McNinch said, the procurement issue takes a long time to get us to where we need to be. He stated that he just wants to be able to be prepared. Of course the funding, what's at stake, he doesn't know what the legal fees would be to address this issue but we have teachers out there, we have employees that are coming into work willingly and he wants to make sure that they're taken care of. He stated that he wants the Board to be able to stand behind the superintendent and support him saying this is the position we can take based on independent legal advice to them. He stated that he appreciates the legal advice at the DOE but at the end of the day, whatever the Board is going to be asked to do or asked to support, he wants to make sure that they are not going to be asked later on for employees to give back money because it was not the right way.

Mr. Fernandez responded, in conclusion it is up to the Board whether it wants to hire outside legal counsel. He stated that he just wants to clarify so that it's not muddied up or anything out there, is that we definitely want to pay our employees what they are owed. It is a little tricky when the AG for the government comes out and issues an opinion that may or may not be in liking with our department or our board or individually. It makes it very tricky because in most cases the AG would be intervening for a government agency and I think that at the very least the Board should seek audience with the AG or get clarity as it applies to the Board or to the Department as it considers seeking legal counsel. He stated we do need to understand who will come to the defense of the Department and the Board should there be some dispute.

Mr. Mendiola responded stating that we can do that concurrently, he's okay with that, they can reach out, the Chair can reach out to the AG. He commented that he just wants to get the ball rolling and should the Legislature cure this in a month or so then it's off the table. He stated that the attorney that they're looking for is just in the event that this issue drags on, how long can our employees wait for an answer.

Ms. Gutierrez stated that everyone on the board wants to take care of our employees. She stated that she doesn't think that any of the eight members would say that they don't want the employees to receive the payment that they are entitled to. Her concern is with the financial situation of DOE. She continued to state that we don't have that funding and then they're going to ask the superintendent to transfer funds. She questioned how they are going to answer to our stakeholders or our administrators when they need the funding at their schools and the Board's going to hire legal counsel. She stated that she feels, her position is that they should let the superintendent work this out. She commented that they have to trust his legal counsel on giving them the guidance. She commented that the Governor is being criticized over hiring of deputy directors. She asked what they think would be said about the Board hiring legal counsel and transferring funds out from the superintendent. She emphasized that she knows that every one of them, including the ex-officio members will support what is owed to our employees but let's not be in a rush, let's give the Superintendent the opportunity to work with his legal counsel.

Mr. Lujan questioned why the pandemic money isn't be used to pay employees.

The Superintendent clarified that in his estimation, the funding is not an issue for him. From his standpoint we have been monitoring the costs relative to the beginning of the pandemic and it's not an issue of whether funding can be made available or found. The issue is having the legal authority to pay and are we clear on that. One of the things that we're going to need to consider as we do our own internal review, there is a hearing later this week on the various bills that are before the Legislature. He stated that his question is if the Board is going to be in position this week to state a position on this bill. He doesn't know if this discussion is leading to that but he knows that is one of the issues that will come up with regard to the Board or the Department's position to take any stance on those bills.

Dr. McNinch commented that of course this is an election year and he is sure this will be resolved by November.

Mr. Burch commented that his is a very sensitive issue and the Board should probably take a position on it. The guidance that the AG sent out created more confusion than what we had previously. He stated that the AG basically said that if an agency shut down but you required people to come back and perform they were therefore identified as essential and must be paid what the law stated. He commented that it added more to the confusion because what actually is "shut down". He stated that what he sees that with GDOE if we stop doing what are mandated to do, basics of what we're supposed to do, educate our children, that was stopped. We attempted to do teaching online but up until this point we haven't done real online teaching. We actually closed the schools down but we required teachers an others to continue working in one way or another to provide for our students. He commented that the superintendent is correct, we have to be very careful with how we make our decision. He continued to share is concerns.

Mr. Mendiola agreed with Mr. Burch's statement and stated that that is why he feels they should be proactive on their part. If the Board agrees he would like to offer a couple of things, if they, along with the Chairwoman want him to approach the AG to see what they can work out on that side, he can. He also noted that he wanted to offer up a motion to get the ball rolling on the procurement for legal counsel for the board. He stated that he would work with the superintendent to figure out how to fund it if necessary. He reminded them that it is just a contingency plan, not to undermine the superintendent's legal review but he just wants eyes on it.

Mr. Mendiola moved, seconded by Mr. Lujan to start the procurement for external legal counsel to provide the Board advice on the pay issue regarding COVID-19, subject to the availability of funds. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 6-2. The motion passed.

Ms. Gutierrez asked Mr. Fernandez for clarification. She asked whether the funding for legal counsel was removed from the Guam Education Board's budget.

Mr. Fernandez responded that in the Board's approval of the spending plan after receiving our appropriation the funding for a legal counsel was not included in the spending plan.

Ms. Gutierrez stated that therefore there is no funding.

Mr. Mendiola responded to Ms. Gutierrez stating that for next year's appropriation because we are coming towards the end of the fiscal year, the board at its discretion can budget for it. He stated that he understands about the funding, that is the reason why he said he's willing to work with the superintendent, subject to the availability of funds. He stated that if they get this wrong this can costs them more money at the end. It is very sensitive like Mr. Burch said. Case in point we have the BRIP where folks weren't justly compensated for that because there was no funding available. He stated his concern is that they say they're going to do something and then it comes back that it was not the right decision. All he's asking for is clear guidance.

Ms. Gutierrez asked the superintendent to take roll call for the vote on the motion.

Mr. Fernandez responded okay, on the question of whether to hire external legal counsel for the purpose of addressing the double pay issue: He then took roll call. Ms. Fely Angel, Ms. Lou Benavente, Mr. John Burch, Mr. James Lujan, Dr. Ron McNinch and Mr. Mark Mendiola voted YES. Ms. Karla Borja and Ms. Maria Gutierrez voted NO. Mr. Fernandez announced that six (6) members voted in favor of the motion.

Ms. Gutierrez instructed the superintendent that if he's going to find the funding he better explain to the stakeholders the reason why he is transferring funding and not why it is not going to the schools.

VII. **NEW BUSINESS** – Ms. Gutierrez asked Ms. Borja as the parent rep to brief the board on what happened when she met with the PTO leadership.

Ms. Borja briefed that the zoom meeting was held to updated the PTO leaders with the work that was being done with regards to the distance learning. She stated that they discussed what some of the issues were and what some of the concerns were looking ahead into summer school. She noted that another meeting would be scheduled in two weeks to discuss school openings and concerns. She also noted that some parents were also present during the presentation of the Education Stabilization Funds (ESF) meeting. The parents were given guidelines as to what the money could and could not be spent on to give parents an idea and to find out if they had any other ideas. The general consensus from the parents was that the Department is on the right track on how to utilize the ESF.

VIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.**

IX. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT** – Ms. Gutierrez asked the superintendent to give them a schedule for the special meeting when the Recovery Tasks Force is ready to present to the Board.

Mr. Fernandez responded that the Task Force is identifying all the matters relative to the board's authority. Most of them will have to do with the policies that are in place that may need to be reviewed and amended in order to allow the recommendations to work. He stated that our plan is to bring the Recovery Task Force plan to the Board's attention for their input and then to highlight those matters that require board action. They would like to ensure that they have time in June to ensure that the board is able to review those policy matters and make an informed decision prior to the end of June.

Ms. Gutierrez stated that she knows that one of the items that will be discussed will be the school calendars. She asked that they reach out to the GFT because they are part of the Calendar Committee and she commented they really need the input from parents and the Head Start Policy Council members.

Mr. Fernandez commented that GFT Vice President Sharma has been a regular attendee in meetings but GFT's participation is always welcome as part of the task force as we plan for the coming year.

Mr. Burch moved, seconded by Ms. Angel to adjourn the meeting. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Ms. Gutierrez adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:

CHRISTIE L. SAN NICOLAS
Administrative Officer

Date: June 22, 2020

MINUTES OF MAY 26, 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING:
(X) Approved as submitted
( ) Approved subject to corrections
( ) Other: _____

MARIA A. GUTIERREZ
GEB Chairwoman

Date: June 30, 2020

JON J.P. FERNANDEZ
Executive Secretary/GDOE Superintendent

Date: June 30, 2020

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD

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MARIA A. GUTIERREZ
Chairwoman

MARK B. MENDIOLA
Vice-Chair

9th GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
Friday, June 12, 2020
11 am
Zoom Conferencing

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS

Maria A. Gutierrez, Chairwoman
Mark B. Mendiola, Vice-Chair
Felicitas B. Angel
Lourdes M. Benavente
Karlyn RCG Borja
John T. Burch
James C. Lujan
Ron L. McNinch, PhD

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Mika Labadnoy
IBOGS Representative

Doris A. Terlaje
GFT Representative

Mayor, Melissa B. Savares
MCOG Representative

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Jon J.P. Fernandez
GDOE Superintendent

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Maria A. Gutierrez, Chairwoman, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

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

Voting Members:
Gutierrez, Maria A. – Chairwoman
Mendiola, Mark B. – Vice-Chair
Angel, Felicitas B.
Benavente, Lourdes M.
Borja, Karlyn RCG
Burch, John T.
Lujan, James C.
McNinch, Dr. Ron L.

Non-Voting Members:
Fedenko, Timothy – GFT Representative

Legal Counsel:
Nasis, Jesse

Absent:
Savares, Melissa B. – MCOG Representative

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1) School Recovery Plan

Ms. Gutierrez stated that this meeting is for the superintendent and his Recovery Task Force to present their updates with regards to the School Recovery Plan.

Mr. Fernandez stated that we have had several meetings in the past either in work sessions or through one of our internal meetings or our stakeholder's meeting to discuss the reopening plan for our school system. He noted that in addition, in their google drive they should have a collection of documents relative to the opening and the work that the task force has put together to provide the board with many of the details

involved in what is going to take place should the board support and affirm the plan going forward. He stated that for this meeting we intended this to be an opportunity for the board, in a formal session, to go ahead and be able to hear the presentation, to share it with the public on our Facebook live stream as well as discuss any areas where they see they would support or want to offer suggestions to strengthen or areas that we need to discuss further before final decisions. He stated that he knows that it is the board's prerogative to take action at the right time although he believes it was our anticipation that today's session would be mostly to flush out the major issues that need to be addressed and then we would come back later in June to have the board make its final decisions and affirmations of the road ahead. If we are able to complete this tasks by the end of June it will give the Department an opportunity over the month of July and into August to spend a lot of time communicating the plan to our stakeholders, working the details out in order to be ready to go. It is really important for us that the board be up to speed today, really highlight areas that you believe need further attention so that when we get to June we can solidify the plan and begin implementation because we understand that this year is going to be a very abnormal year and we have to be ready to make the adjustments needed to open successfully. We are still using August 11th as a target date, but it is really to incentivize us to complete the planning necessary for us to be ready to go when the time comes. Obliviously the calendar, the schedules and a lot of other details are still be discussed and will require in many parts, the board's affirmation to move forward. He recognized that all the deputies were online as well as many of the task force members. He stated that he wanted Deputy Joe Sanchez to begin the task force presentation and the committee leads would present their particular components. He welcomed the board to ask questions or make comments as they go along so they can begin to flag and focus on the areas that the board would like to discuss.

Ms. Gutierrez urged the other board members to read the report that was given to the board. She commended the task force committee members and Deputy Sanchez for taking the lead. She commented that that she thinks that the Department of Education will be the department that will have all its procedures in place, and everything will be covered.

Mr. Sanchez thanked Ms. Gutierrez for her recognition. He also recognized the chairpersons and the committee members of the task force. He noted that there are several teachers who are on the task force and on summer break who are still attending the committee meetings. He summarized what the presentation would consist of and explained the documents that would be used during the presentation.

Mr. Ignacio Santos presented on the grant award notification from USEd and our current efforts to establish our accounts. Mr. Santos stated that he was very pleased to report that we transmitted our Educational Stabilization Fund Grant-State Educational Agency Fund Grant (ESF-SEA) to the US Department of Education (USDOE) on May 25th. On Friday, May 31st we received our grant notification from the USDOE that our grant was approved for the amount of $41,521,997. He explained that of the 41 plus million we had to provide equitable services across the board for all educational institutions to include our public schools, our private non-public and our charter schools. Of the 41 plus million, almost 31.5 million has been allocated based on student participation which is student enrollment as of last school year. The rest, which is about a total of 9 million would go to the private non-public and charter schools. He explained the three focus areas for the funding were Distance Learning or E-learning, PPEs (supplies, materials and equipment) and Emotional and Social Support. He noted that right now they are working with all the public schools, the private non-public schools and the charter schools to ensure that the request that is aligned to those three priorities are in fact aligned and submitted based on their per pupil allocation. He stated that the public schools transmitted there requests but there are concerns that are being raised so they sent that back to get clarity. He noted that because there is a limited amount of PPEs the superintendent directed him to allocate two million for PPEs so that we can prepare to open up schools and five million for the private non-public schools. He stated that they are doing that right now, setting up the accounts but as they set up the accounts they have to ensure that the internal controls are in place. He noted that they are working with the Internal Auditor's Office (IAO) to ensure that everything is addressed. He noted that because of the limited PPEs they are looking at looking at Defense Logistics to procure supplies.

Mr. Lujan asked whether it would be possible to produce or purchase PPEs locally.

Ms. Erika Cruz responded that any cleaning supplies that are utilized in the department have to be certified by FDA. She noted that she thinks that we will be able to get PPEs and cleaning supplies on time and her subcommittee has begun ensure and procure the necessary items before the beginning of the school year.

Mr. Burch asked whether the department has enough time to purchase all the supplies or would the timeline need to be pushed back.

Mr. Sanchez responded that if they follow the steps that they've put in place in regard to procurement it should be enough time to get them on island and supplied to the schools. He stated that the challenge is if they run into snags with setting up the accounts or placing the orders. He commented that they are really working with the vendors right now and internally with the business office to make sure that it is set up.

Mr. Burch asked if there is a need for the board to change any of its policies that are necessary should we not be able to meet the current timeline. He stated that he knows we have an agreed calendar that was negotiated with the Guam Federation of Teachers (GFT). He asked if they needed any assistance to move that date just in case. He commented that this is just to try to allow the flexibility of management to make immediate decisions. He asked if they needed the board's approval if there are any issues.

Mr. Fernandez responded that yes, Mr. Burch is right, if the calendar needs to be adjusted, we would need the board's affirmation and vote to make that change. He stated that at this particular point we are not ready to recommend that but as we go through the steps and before the board makes its decision we will have more information to help them with that decision. He stated that we are not recommending a delay but we are working through the process to ensure the timely arrival of PPEs which are going to be a requirement before we allow the schools to open for students.

Mr. Burch stated that perhaps they might need flexibility just in case an emergency comes up. He stated that he needs to know if he needs the flexibility to be granted to the administration to take immediate action when necessary. If that's needed, maybe it's something the board can look at during the next regular meeting on the 23rd or sometime next week.

Mr. Fernandez stated that he would recommend that the task force take into consideration how the board might do that, either in adjusting the date on the school calendar or in addressing the scenario that the administration is given the flexibility to adjust that date in the event of a last minute issue that comes up. He thanked Mr. Burch for the suggestion and stated that he will have the committee take a look at how that might work. He commented that of course the GFT is here, not only during the meeting but in the conversations so if it requires the Joint Calendar Committee to address it we will make sure that happens as well.

Mr. Sanchez noted that both the first and second subcommittees, operations and distance learning, have a number of board policies that are going to have to discuss with the board about either adjusting or waiving to address some of the challenges in the upcoming school year. He stated that it's part of the planning and they would be included in our recommendations.

Ms. Isa Baza presented information for the Communications and Public Relations Sub-Committee. Ms. Baza noted that they have been providing regular press releases, online updates, media interviews throughout the week and have responding to any media inquiries regarding the plans for the new school year, summer plans and the actions of the district task force. She also noted that they have been providing weekly updates to all employees. Meetings such as board meetings and PTO leadership meetings have been live streamed for transparency. The task force continues to collaborate with the Joint Information Center (JIC) and other government agencies to high light and provide information about the department and our COVID-19 programs such as the Disaster Household Distribution Program and the Grab-N-Go school meals.

Mr. Lujan asked if there was an open line specifically to the teachers and whether notes are be disseminated to them.

Ms. Gutierrez responded that Mr. SanJay Sharma and Mr. Tim Fedenko along with other teachers who are department chairs have been reaching out to the other teachers. She commented that if there are teachers who aren't aware should reach out to the principals.

Mr. Fernandez informed Mr. Lujan that Ms. Baza sends information out to all employees which includes the active emails to include teachers. He commented that if there is any way to improve communication or if the GFT would like to assist in ensuring that their members also get the information, they are part of the group and we're happy to explore that with them. He also noted that Deputy Sanchez has made great efforts to include as many teachers.

Ms. Cruz responded to Mr. Lujan's comment stating that Isa sends out weekly updates from every division to all employees every Friday. She stated that if there is an area that he feels they can improve on it would be appreciated.

Mr. Mendiola going back to the finance portion of the presentation, asked what the details are in how we are setting up the funds to purchase all these items needed in response to the COVID-19.

Dr. Zeny Asuncion responded that they had their first meeting between the IAO, herself and some of the Business Office staff. She stated that they did the logistics on how they are going to process any expenses against that funding. She noted that they are working closely with the Third Party Fiduciary Agent (TPFA) because they are going to be the ones controlling the disbursements of the 41 million dollars. She stated that are trying to comprehend how this whole thing is going to solidify to make a smooth process because it involves GDOE, TPFA and a bank. She noted that there have been some questions raised with internal audit like who's going to do the purchasing, where the requisition and PO processes will rest under, how will we know when expenses need to be funded or paid. She stated that they just had a one hour brainstorming meeting and will need to follow through so that they have a better understanding of what the process will be in spending this money.

Mr. Mendiola commented that that was good and that he just wanted to make sure that we're tracking some how the funding and that we don't run into any issues later on especially being that we're on high risk. He stated that he trusts that everybody is working well and that the IAO along with Dr. Zeny that these federal funds will be used and we follow the procurement rules and regulations.

Mr. Fernandez added that like Dr. Zeny mentioned we definitely have the involvement of the TPFA because it comes through USDOE and we were instructed to make sure that the TPFA was up to speed in its role. They are handling the accounts and the disbursements as normal. Also, Frank Cooper-Nurse and the IAO will be tasked with providing the public visibility into the updated accounting for the funds.

Mr. Mendiola thanked the superintendent for his response and noted that it is his concerns because 41 million is a lot of money and it's a monumental task to track everything especially because we will be dealing with private non-public schools as well as charter schools.

Mr. Ike Santos added that before any expenditures occur, every institution is to provide his us with a budget and project narrative that meets the three requirements that was approved by the USDOE. Within their project narratives everything must be aligned as to what those emergency requirements as it relates to COVID-19. We are required within 60 days from the receipt of the Grant Award Notification (GAN) not only to submit our budget but the internal control processes as well as the review and monitoring of the expenditure of the funds. He commented that there are checks and balances.

Ms. Nadine Cepeda presented information for the Social and Emotional Wellness Sub-Committee. Ms. Cepeda informed the board that she and her sub-committee have done the research and confirmation and dissemination of information and practices to support personnel students' mental health. They are gathering information that will target three different populations or area focus on the audience which will be our students, parents and staff and faculty. She gave details into the importance of training and their plans to provide training to support students' mental health.

Mr. Lujan what the steps were in the classroom in simple terms. He asked how the teachers or staff would be able to recognize that a student's mental health is affected.

Ms. Cepeda responded that that is why it is very important with training because it's all in the climate we set. She stated that we definitely want to make sure that we reassure the kids that it is safe here and if they have anything that may be bothering them or if they have some kind of concerns that they come and talk to us. When the teacher sees that the student is not verbal and it's coming out because they're acting out or they're withdrawn then the teacher would refer the student to the school counselor. The counselor would then screen the child and based on the score it would determine where the student would go after that for more supports.

Mr. Lujan asked if there would be an instruction sheet that teachers would be able to refer to.

Ms. Cepeda assured Mr. Lujan that training, fact sheets and resources will be provided.

Ms. Borja asked, considering that some of our students will be distance learners, remote only and not necessarily returning to a physical campus, what kind of mental health supports or assessments are we going to have for them.

Ms. Cepeda responded that for the practitioners that are licensed it's tele-health. One of things that they are looking at is if they're 100% because it will be very difficult to look at if they are not coming in. If the have any issues either the parents or the students recognize it, a big promotion would be to call the crisis hotline if they needed to talk.

Ms. Borja asked if the school counselors would be trained in tele-health because maybe the parent is not necessarily going to reach out to a private provider but may try to reach out to the school.

Ms. Cepeda responded that counselors are under certification and not licensure requirements so they would fall under tele-counseling. She stated that yes, that is something that they are putting into the plan so that we can have that available. She noted that they are counting on the school counselors because they know their students. They plan to have the counselors identify the students that they've helped or may be at high-risk that they may need to reach out to and make that connection via telephone. She noted that that is their plan, to have the school counselors trained in tele-counseling.

Ms. Borja asked if we will be able to provide some kind of information sheet that will help parents or guardians recognize the signs to look out for. She asked if there is support in terms of the parent side, because most parents are not trained and may not know how to recognize the signs.

Ms. Cepeda clarified that part of the fact sheet will provide information on what the signs are to look out for with a check list and resources for who they would contact.

Ms. Doris Bukikosa added that there is going to be a media campaign that will include FAQs but will also promote the kind of services that the school will be offering not just to those students who are face to face but also to those who are strictly online.

Ms. Margaret Cruz presented information for the District/School Personnel Management Sub-Committee. Ms. Margaret Cruz reported that the sub-committee drafted a survey for reasonable accommodations as well as guidance for addressing those that are high-risk or have medical conditions that need reasonable accommodations. She clarified that they are not asking for the employees' medical condition but instead are asking what type of accommodations will be needed for these employees. They've also drafted Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on how to provide reasonable accommodations and an Alternative Work Guide for the reasonable accommodations. The sub-committee has also proposed and put together the approval structure for the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA). Also drafted was an SOP for Telework and an agreement for those who qualify under telework. She noted that their drafts have been forwarded to legal counsel and upper management for their review and approval before the move forward.

Mr. Lujan asked if the drafts have been publicized.

Ms. Cruz responded that they have not and are still going through the approval process.

Mr. Burch asked if they are prepared to provide accommodations to faculty and staff who have compromised immune systems.

Ms. Cruz responded yes, that is what the draft documents she mentioned were for.

Mr. Fernandez stated that the approach that we are taking for everybody in our school system is safety first. We are talking about all the possible safety issues and concerns and as we get to the first two committees we can talk about those details. He noted that all the cleaning supplies and the PPEs that we are considering, even though it is not a settled matter as to whether there is an obligation of an employer to provide every single supply to the employee, our approach is that it is responsibility that we're in a position to meet and ensure that our employees feel comfortable coming back to the schools and that our parents and students feel comfortable doing that. He noted that there is a lot of debate out there about whose responsibility it is. We are taking that lead as the employer to provide all the supplies necessary to ensure the safety at the school facilities. In addition to that, understanding the anxieties and concerns and the immerging health guidance that we are receiving from our experts. As we continue to get that guidance, we are being very sensitive to the needs of our employees as well. What we're trying to do here, even though we know we're very sensitive to all the issues related to confidentiality of information, we are taking an opportunity to seek the input of our employees with regards to whether or not they have concerns about their own safety and whether or not they are requesting accommodations to be able to fulfill their responsibilities as teachers or staff. He noted that that is really the effort, we don't know what employees are going to request but we are thinking about the possibility of alternate work schedules and other types of adjustments that need to be made with a goal to ensure the continuity of teaching and learning. The only reason that we're going through legal review is just to make sure that we're FERPA and HIPPA compliant with all the documents that we're pushing forward. Once we do that, we will definitely push it out to our stakeholders and employees to get that information and once we get that input we'll have a better understanding of what we're dealing with in terms of the scope of accommodations being requested.

Mr. Sanchez presented information for the Curriculum and Distance Learning Sub-Committee. Mr. Sanchez noted that since the second week of the shut down of schools they engaged with a team of administrator and teacher leaders which was called Curriculum Planning Sessions regarding Distance Learning. He stated that they have been meeting every week to discuss the Distance Learning Plan for the end of the school year, summer, and the opening of the school year. He noted that what he has to report to the board has been the input of several folks inclusive of parents, students, teachers and administrators. He noted that they've really looked through a lot of the research and best practices that are out there and every week they compile the input and concerns and make sure that they try to address them the following week. He stated that there is a mechanism, not just to inform them but also obtain feedback from them. He informed that they are preparing a draft survey that will be finalized and distributed to the students to find out which attendance grouping they would like to participate in. He noted that there are two different types of

groupings that both end up in three different categories. One option is for students who are able to do 100% online distance learning. He stated that they are prepared to offer a program where students will be able to attend classes and work through their courses 100% online. He noted that they would require equipment, a computer and internet access and right now at this point this would be for those who already have this available to them. A printer and scanner would be helpful for these students as well. For those students who do have the access, they have the option to go 100% online so that they do not have to physically come to the campus. The second group would be a home learning model where students would like to do 100% home learning, but do not have the equipment to support 100% online work. This would be a home learning model supported by a paper-based or hardcopy-based curriculum that would be sent home with the student and returned to the school for grading. The last group is called the face-to-face (FtF) hybrid and staggered scheduled for students who will be participating in a blended model of face-to-face and distance (home) learning. This is the group that would be scheduled using the A-B-C model. These are the students who will be coming on to campus and using a FtF model. He noted that we call it "hybrid" because although they are physically on campus, during the days that they are not on campus the intent is not for them to be off, but to have some type of routine set up where they would have to do the work at home. The intent is for it to be a mixture of FtF and distance learning. He noted that the good thing about it is that they already have those systems in place where the teachers already regularly collaborate. Part of our work with Standards Based Grade and Professional Learning Communities, the teachers already work in teacher teams that bring their grade levels and content areas together. That system is already in place that when we get them together on a regular basis it's really just a refinement of the specific content that is going to be taught throughout the year in each of these different models. Mr. Sanchez provided more details into the plans for the technology and hard copy support for distance learning. We are purchasing a substantial amount of technology and resources and are close to having a one-on-one ratio where there is enough equipment for every student. He explained that although we have the equipment we are not ready to start distributing the equipment. Details are still being discussed but our initial goal is that in every school there are enough computers where a student can access the internet on a daily basis without having to wait. He noted that even though they are attending FtF, we want them engaged online as much as possible. He explained that it limits the number of paper exchange which is part of our safety protocols. He noted that they want for students to be able to do online collaboration in the classroom and when they are at home on their off days. Mr. Sanchez then went into explaining the plans for the community learning centers. He explained that they want to open schools in the afternoon and evening to the community so that students can go into the campus and access the internet or utilize the equipment at the schools. He noted that this is easier said than done because traditionally our schools are closed in the evening. The idea is that we want schools to turn into a community resource where students from that area can walk to a school and access the internet through their own device and if they don't have a device they can utilize the internet through a DOE computer.

Mr. Lujan asked of the teachers will have an option as to what they would like to do.

Mr. Sanchez responded that right now they are trying to get the survey out to our students and families as soon as possible. Once we get a better idea of the distribution of students in each one of those categories then we can get a better idea of what our personnel distribution is going to be. He noted that there are a number of teachers who have requested accommodations. If they're able to go through the training and develop the skill where they're able to teach a course online we can take the accommodations component and use them as an online teacher so that way their accommodation becomes an alternative assignment. There's a number of ways that the teachers can be identified. He emphasized that we are planning for a substantial amount of training not just where they attend a workshop but we want to make sure that we put in the supports so that both teachers, students and even their parents are able to make that transition into these different models.

Mr. Lujan asked how they will be accounting for teachers.

Mr. Sanchez responded that for him from the curriculum standpoint he doesn't look at it from a punitive standpoint for the student and the teacher. He stated that once we start identifying which category of supports the teachers will be placed into they will work that out. He explained that for the FtF model is straight forward and the online model would be a little different. One of the strengths of the online model is you could be both synchronous or asynchronous. He explained that that type of model would be different and probably more flexible with regards to attendance. He stated that on the part of the teacher's attendance we would be just as flexible as when it comes to the attendance of the student because both of the models do not follow the same traditional 8-5 approach.

Ms. Fely Angel asked since some of the schools may be converted to community learning centers late in the afternoon until the evening, is there some kind of security for both the students and the staff. She asked if they plan to employ some security guards for the schools.

Mr. Sanchez responded that their plan isn't necessarily for security guards but they are looking at making sure that there's personnel available at the school site.

Ms. Erika Cruz presented information for the District/School Operations, Safety and Social (Physical) Distancing Sub-Committee. Ms. Cruz recognized all their sub-committee members and their school administrators that provided input for the COVID-19 Operations Handbook. She noted that the information she is presenting is not new and has been discussed during the weekly work sessions. She stated that the administrators have voted on the proposed schedule of their cohort A, B and C grouping. She stated that this is basically breaking the school population into one-thirds (1/3). Obviously, there may be some smaller schools than can accommodate half (1/2) however we want to be consistent throughout the district so we are looking at an A, B, C grouping. She noted that there is a principal's meeting scheduled for this coming Monday to discuss how this grouping is going to look. Ms. Cruz then went on to talk about the School and District COVID-19 Operations Handbook. She noted that they have added more than 33 pages than the last time the board saw it because they were able to get the other information from the other five sub-committees. The only thing that is missing in this handbook is the HR component because that information is currently being reviewed by our legal counsel. She informed the board that they have begun inputting requisitions to purchase the PPEs and cleaning supplies and they are just waiting to find out where the money will be coming from. They have addressed the PPE requirements and cleaning supplies.

Mr. Lujan commented that he is curious about the A, B, C grouping.

Ms. Cruz responded that we have determined that safety is paramount when the students come back and this is going to be a new normal, we are not able to do our physical distancing of six feet in a classroom with all 100% of our students in our schools.

Mr. Lujan asked how does this address the law or policy on the 900 hour classroom requirement.

Ms. Cruz responded that that is a board policy that we will need to address and her committee has listed the board policies that need to be addressed to live in this new normal regarding schooling.

Mr. Lujan asked if there has been big input from our GFT partners.

Ms. Cruz responded that our school administrators have shared this information with their teacher leaders. She stated that she believes Mr. SanJay Sharma who is at John F. Kennedy High School, Dr. Adamos has him under her leadership team and he is well aware of this proposal. She noted that they did meet with Mr. Sharma at one of their meetings to give him an idea of what they are planning. When they had their meeting with their school administrators last week and the consensus was made with the Cohort A, B and C, the GFT will be involved more when it comes down to our scheduling.

Mr. Sanchez added that when they meet weekly with the teachers every Thursday Mr. Sharma has almost a 90%-95% attendance rate.

Mr. Timothy Fedenko asked regarding the hard traffic areas whether she is concerned with the libraries as a high traffic area as well.

Ms. Cruz responded yes, they are considering the library as a high traffic area and will be providing the necessary PPEs and face shields to our librarians.

Mr. Sanchez commented that one of the discussions about the high traffic areas was making sure that the conditions of those places, we didn't want to discourage people going into those areas. He explained that the discussions were about the libraries, counseling offices and nurses offices, if they didn't treat those areas as high traffic areas that could discourage people to go in there. We wanted to make sure that we would be able to support it in a way that people felt comfortable going into those places.

Dr. McNinch commended the Superintendent and his staff for all the work they've done on these plans. He noted that they are very important and a lot of this technical detail work is often not appreciated but he wanted to let them know it is greatly appreciated.

Mr. Burch commented that he thinks they've all done a great job and have answered all his questions. He commented that he just wants to see how it's all going to turn out and he knows that we're going to have to fix the kinks as we get into the business of opening the schools. Just like every school year there's always a little rough spot in the beginning so he expects that to occur. He stated that he just wants to make sure that the board allows enough flexibility for that to be addressed without having an emergency session of the board to come back and help correct it. He stated that he wants to give the administration the flexibility because he knows they have what it takes to get the job done. He commented that he is looking forward to seeing the board policies that the board will need to address and they've got his support in it.

Ms. Gutierrez asked if there were any other questions and asked that they please ask their questions now because the next step will be when the task force presents the final plans to the board and we don't want for that time to be when they're asking questions again. She stated please read the report ask their questions.

Mr. Mendiola stated that he appreciates the work that is going into all of this and he understands that there is going to be a time when things are going to change overtime. He commented that there are going to be certain situations are going to come up. He stated that whatever proposals come through in terms of the policies that need to be reviewed he would like for them to be attached. As we roll this plan out we need to not be too rigid but also have a little flexibility for the superintendent to make decisions as things may come up later on. He commented that this is very thorough, he read through a lot of the plans and proposals. He stated that he thinks that they should not, as a board, back themselves up into a corner with a policy that may not give the superintendent the flexibility to do what he needs to do as time progresses forward.

Ms. Gutierrez stated that she was listening to Mr. Sanchez when he talked about the survey and she would like to ask Ms. Karla Borja ask the parent representative to reach out to the parent leaders to get their input. She stated to the other members that she knows they scheduled the regular meeting for the 23rd of June but to give time in all fairness to the committee so that they can try to include all the input that was mentioned today she would like to move the regular meeting from the June 23rd to June 30th. She stated that that would give the superintendent and the task force time to scrub everything. When it comes on the 30th she hopes there will be no more concerns or questions and she would really like for Ms. Borja to reach out to her parent group because they also need to know what is in this plan.

Mr. Fernandez stated that from the management perspective, they will be fine with having the meeting on June 30th and it'll allow them sufficient time to continue this discussion. He noted that they do still plan to

have the Friday work sessions as the updates so that'll give them two opportunities to give them interim updates. We did ask that the board come to some final, at least on the major decisions by the end of June because the plan would be that after we get to the board's decisions it will give us sufficient time to work in communicating the new changes to the school year. In four to six weeks, if we are still targeting August 11th, to inform the community and answer questions, get down to the school level as need to make sure that everything's in place for the coming school year.

Mr. Lujan motioned, seconded by Mr. Mendiola to move the June 23rd regular meeting to June 30th. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Ms. Borja asked Mr. Sanchez what the timeline is for the survey.

Mr. Sanchez responded to Ms. Borja and clarified that when they say survey it's not just to collect information, it's a survey for them to register and give us an idea of what category they will in to. He noted that it would just follow the regular registration schedule. He stated that he knows that some schools are already conducting registration so there are a bunch of students and families that we missed so we are asking the schools, once we get that survey to you, today's was actually the target day so we might not get it out today but as early as the beginning part of next week we're going to ask the schools to reach out to the students and families that have already registered to get their information. He stated that the idea is that it would follow the regular registration schedule. The default plan is that if we don't know the category that they fall in the default plan is face-to-face. If they come in to make the change than we would make the change as needed.

Ms. Gutierrez thanked the principals for their hard work during all the zoom meetings. She also thanked all the committee members. Ms. Gutierrez acknowledged that she knows the media will be calling them and if there are any questions regarding the recovery plan she would like the superintendent and the committee members to be the one to respond. She thanked Mr. Sanchez for the nice interview he did this morning with K57. She stated that she would like the superintendent or the committee to respond to the meeting and Mr. Burch because he is the committee chair for the Safe and Healthy Schools Committee.

Mr. Timothy Fedenko stated that in preparation for the return of the teachers, GFT provides PPD testing for their members, because of the flexibility of the starting of the school year and the shortage of nurses, he asked if they could consider having a little flex time for teachers getting their PPD clearances.

Mr. Fernandez responded that they would have the task force incorporate that into their thinking in preparation. He noted that we definitely need to take a look at some of the beginning of the year requirements and the committee is looking at training as well. He stated that we will have the task force work that into the plan and will advise them as we go along.

Ms. Gutierrez asked the board members to please read the report and if they have any comments to share it so that Mr. Sanchez can include it in the report. She thanked the superintendent, Mr. Sanchez, the task force and the principals for their hard work. She stated that they do appreciate everything that they are doing and they know that this is not an easy task. She thanked the principals for the nice ceremonies at their schools and to the high schools for their graduation ceremonies.

Mr. Burch moved, seconded by Mr. Lujan to adjourn the meeting. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Ms. Gutierrez adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:

CHRISTIE L. SAN NICOLAS
Administrative Officer

Date: June 28, 2020

MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING:
(X) Approved as submitted
( ) Approved subject to corrections
( ) Other: _____

MARIA A. GUTIERREZ
GEB Chairwoman

Date: June 30, 2020

JON J. P. FERNANDEZ
Executive Secretary/GDOE Superintendent

Date: June 30, 2020

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2020-06

Introduced by: **Guam Education Board Members**

RELATIVE TO SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DISTRICT SCHOOL READINESS TASK FORCE

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

WHEREAS, beginning April 6, 2020, GDOE began providing weekly lessons for kindergarten through 5th grade students, and middle and high school teachers prepared to engage students and distribute lessons both online and through hard copies to address those students without access to the internet or computers; and

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump issued federal guidance to extend requirements for social distancing until April 30, 2020, and the Government of Guam was also anticipated to extend the public health emergency declaration; and

WHEREAS, in anticipation of the further extension of government closures, Superintendent Jon Fernandez recommended that the Guam Education Board authorize the closing of schools for the duration of School Year (SY) 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 Resolution 2020-03, the Guam Education Board approved the temporary suspension of certain policies for SY2019-2020 and further requested that the Guam Legislature temporarily suspend laws regarding the instructional hour and service learning requirements for GDOE students; and

WHEREAS, the 35th Guam Legislature voted to approve Public Law 35-84, which exempted Guam's public schools from the requirement of one hundred eighty (180) instructional days and Public Law 35-83, which exempted high school students enrolled in SY2019-2020 from the service learning graduation requirement, and these measures were subsequently signed into law by the Governor of Guam; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent established the District School Readiness Task Force (DSRTF) in May 2020 to develop options and recommendations for the reopening of School Year (SY) 2020-2021. The Task Force consists of six committees in the following areas: Operations, Safety,

and Social (Physical) Distancing; Curriculum and Distance Learning; Personnel Management; Social and Emotional Wellness; Community and Public Information; and Budget and Finance; and

WHEREAS, the DSRTF has been planning for the safe reopening of schools in SY 2020-2021 through the involvement of key stakeholders and the development of action plans. Stakeholders consulted as part of the planning process include school administrators, teachers, non-instructional staff, student leaders, Parent Teacher Organizations (PTOs), the Guam Federation of Teachers, Physicians Advisory Group (PAG), public health experts, and government leaders. Additionally, to engage the community further, parent and student surveys were developed and distributed during the month of June to allow families to provide adequate input regarding the proposed implementation plan; and

WHEREAS, the chairpersons of each committee have been meeting regularly with Task Force members to develop reopening plans consistent with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and public health experts; and

WHEREAS, the DSRTF has also met weekly with the Guam Education Board Health and Safety Committee, and on June 9, 2020 submitted the final draft of the DSRTF Comprehensive Action Plan to the Superintendent of Education. The plan identified actions needed by each committee to facilitate a smooth reopening of schools this fall. Resources and documents provided to the GEB include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) COVID-19 School Opening Interim Temperature & Symptom Screening Guidelines; (2) COVID-19 Response Employee Handbook; (3) Distance Learning Planning and Implementation Phases; (4) Personnel Standard Operating Procedures; (5) Social and Emotional Wellness fact sheets; (6) School Year 2020-2021 Parent/Guardian Survey; (7) School Year 2020-2021 Student Survey; (8) Communication planning documents; (9) Education Stabilization Fund – State Educational Agency (ESF-SEA) application; and (10) ESF-SEA Grant Award Notification; and

WHEREAS, the DSRTF recommended three instructional models for SY 2020-2021 given the CDC health and safety COVID-19 guidelines, executive orders from the Office of the Governor, and input from teachers, administrators, and students, parents, to include: (1) Home Learning: Online Instruction; (2) Home Learning: Hard Copy Curriculum; and (3) Traditional Face-to-Face (using an alternating A-B-C cohort schedule); and

WHEREAS, the DSRTF is committed to implementing professional development for school administrators, teachers, non-instructional staff, parents and students and to include training in the areas of curriculum, social and emotional wellness, and safety measures to facilitate a smooth start to the school year; and

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

- Board Policy 346 regarding instructional subjects and time on task for elementary schools
- Board Policy 381 regarding service learning requirements
- Board Policy 401 regarding uniform policy
- Board Policy 411 regarding student attendance
- Board Policy 602 regarding the adoption of textbooks and instructional materials

WHEREAS, the DSRTF has addressed all relevant Guam Education Board policies and will continue to make recommendations regarding Board action needed to facilitate a successful school year; and

WHEREAS, the DSRTF is committed in the weeks ahead to ensure that the public is aware of the changes necessary to reopen schools safely, to continue the mission of teaching and learning, and to provide a positive social and emotional learning environment for the school community; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Guam Education Board does hereby recognize the continued contributions of the work of the District School Readiness Task Force and the leadership that has been provided. There has been significant progress in the planning and development of action plans in the areas of curriculum and distance learning, safety, health and the social and emotional wellness of students, educators and families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guam Education Board recognizes the hard work of its school administrators, teachers, staff, Guam Federation of Teachers representatives, parent organizations and students who have engaged in discussions throughout this uncertain time, and

thanks community representatives, such as the Mayors' Council of Guam, for engaging with GDOE leadership regarding distance learning opportunities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guam Education Board recognizes that the COVID-19 health pandemic is a continually evolving situation, and hereby authorizes the Superintendent to implement changes to the DSRTF plan so long as he notifies the Guam Education Board prior to the next scheduled board meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guam Education Board requests that the 35th Guam Legislature introduce legislation to further suspend the laws relative to the instructional hours and service learning requirements during SY2020-2021, as referenced in 1GCA, Chapter 7, Section 715: Words and Terms Defined: Significance of Words and 17GCA, Chapter 4, Section 4124: Service-Learning Guidelines; and

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. Timothy Fedenko, President of the Guam Federation of Teachers; all GDOE school administrators; and members of the Islandwide Parent Teacher Organization; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guam Education Board now approves and is in full support of the DSRTF plans to reopen schools in SY 2020-2021 using the three aforementioned instructional models, and approves the suspension of the aforementioned board policies, in order to address safety concerns associated with the COVID-19 health pandemic.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE GUAM EDUCATION BOARD ON THIS 30th DAY OF JUNE 2020.

MARIA A. GUTIERREZ
Chairwoman, Guam Education Board

JON LP. FERNANDEZ
Executive Secretary, Guam Education Board