clerks@guamlegislature.org

From: Speaker's Office <speaker@guamlegislature.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 1, 2020 11:04 AM
To: Clerks Office
Cc: Rennae Meno
Subject: M&C Fwd: GEB September 24, 2020 Meeting - Reporting Requirements
Attachments: GEB Reporting Requirements Sept 24 regular mtg.pdf

10/01/20	9:21 AM	10/01/20	Reporting Requirements for Boards and Commissions, Agenda, Minutes, and other documents for Regular Meeting held in September 24, 2020.*	Department of Education-Office of the Superintendent	35GL-20-2254

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Christie Lyn San Nicolas** <clsannicolas@gdoe.net>
Date: Thu, Oct 1, 2020 at 09:21
Subject: GEB September 24, 2020 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>, Tia Lynn S. Salas <tlssalas@gdoe.net>

Hafa Adai,

Please see the attached documents for the Guam Education Board's Meeting held on September 24, 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

Guam Department of Education

--

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

This e-mail message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above and may contain confidential and privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the information contained in this transmission is strictly PROHIBITED. If you have received this transmission in error, please immediately notify us by replying to speaker@guamlegislature.org and delete the message immediately. Thank you very much.

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'.

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

October 1, 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 September 24, 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
Thursday, September 24, 2020
6 PM
Zoom Conferencing
AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes

ACTION 1. Minutes of August 25, 2020 Regular Meeting

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

IV. Communications

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

V. Ex-Officio Member Reports

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

VI. Unfinished Business/ Committee Reports

1. **Executive Committee**
   - INFO/ACTION a. NASBE ECE Grant
   - INFO/ACTION b. NASBE Virtual 2020 Annual Conference
2. **Instructional & Academic Support Committee**
   - INFO a. Head Start Report
3. **Safe & Healthy Schools Committee**
4. **Organizational Efficiency and Development Committee**
5. **Fiscal Management**
   - INFO/ACTION a. Approval for FY2021 Spending Plan
   - 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, Lawrence J. Alcairo, 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

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES
On Sep. 16, $1 was worth:

Keep posted and get more data and details online. Log on to see real time market data with our stock market tool at postguam.com/stock_market.

48.378 PHP₱	105.36 JPY¥	1,176.82 KRW₩	29.160 TWD NT$	6.7732 CNY¥	1.3680 AUD A$	0.8443 EUR €

Apple's new watch event draws attention to its health care play

By Reed Albergotti
The Washington Post

On Tuesday, Apple gave a starring role at its fall product launch event to the Apple Watch - letting it take the spotlight that is usually reserved for a new iPhone.

The event is the second one streamed online from its Silicon Valley campus, known as Apple Park, since the global pandemic forced it to switch to virtual product launches. Apple themed the event "Time Flies," an apparent marketing tease for its watches.

While the absence of the iPhone's shadow at Tuesday's event may just be a quirk of pandemic-related supply-chain disruptions that Apple says have delayed production of its next smartphone, it also offered Apple an opportunity to showcase its six-year effort to break into the health care industry. The Apple Watch is the physical manifestation of the company's health care play, and perhaps the most important but least understood prong of the company's new business model anchored around services rather than gadget sales. The announcement also comes during the peak of a global pandemic in which the conversation about health and technology has accelerated.

Apple has said its participation in the health care industry has been aimed at helping people, not necessarily to benefit its bottom line. And at the virtual event Tuesday, it highlighted vignettes, showing how the Apple Watch keeps people healthy, even saving their lives by alerting them to heart problems.

The Apple Watch 6, the company announced, will include a new sensor that can detect blood oxygen levels, often called a pulse oximeter, which the company said will deliver helpful information about health. Apple executive Sumbul Desai said the tool can help detect early infection of COVID-19 and announced a new research study with the Seattle Flu Study and University of Washington that will examine the relationship between blood oxygen, heart rate and the coronavirus.

As sales of iPhones have, until recently, been declining, the company has been looking for new ways to make up for lost revenue. Mainly, it has done so by finding ways to sell subscriptions for music, TV and cloud storage. Analysts long expected Apple to bundle those products into one offering, like Microsoft did with its Office suite in the 1990s. On Tuesday, Apple finally did that, announcing Apple One, a new subscription bundle ranging from $15 a month to $30, that includes many of its digital products. It also announced a new service for Apple Watch users, called Fitness +, which will cost $10 per month or $80 a year.

But health care is different, and Apple's route to profitability is murky. Unlike other services, Apple doesn't charge consumers or companies for any of its health offerings, other than for the watches, which cost from $400 to $1,500 for the most recent version. Analysts say Apple will shy away from profiting directly from the data collected by researchers and drug companies that use Apple Watches in clinical trials.

On Tuesday, Apple announced an inexpensive version, called the Apple Watch SE, which will start at $279, compared to $399 for the Apple Watch 6.

While six years is a long time for the technology industry, it's a blip in the medical field, where change is slow and arduous. Apple's investment is only beginning to bear noticeable fruit, and experts in the pharmaceutical industry say it could take years more for the company to become a major player in the field. As Apple builds a track record for producing reliable research based on watch data, it will probably add more sensors, expanding the breadth of research possible with the device. One day, Apple Watches could be a common component of drug and device studies, experts say, even if that is a far off and ambitious goal.

Apple isn't alone in its drive into health care. Google's Verily is making a concerted push into the clinical trial industry. Amazon, which acquired prescription service PillPack and online symptom-checker Health Navigator, has partnered with Berkshire Hathaway and JPMorgan Chase to lower health costs. Microsoft's Healthcare NExT initiative is focused on artificial intelligence in health care. (Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos owns The Washington Post.)

Navy awards $8M logistics contract

The Department of Defense announced Sept. 4 that it has awarded Invicta Defense LLC, of Fort Worth, Texas, an $8.1 million indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity contract to provide transportation management and logistic support services at Naval Support Activities Andersen Air Force Base.

The work to be performed provides for all labor, supervision, management, tools, material, equipment, facilities, transportation and other items necessary to accomplish all work to perform transportation management and logistics support services at Andersen.

The maximum dollar value including the base period and one option period is $22.3 million. Work is expected to be completed by June 2022. This contract was competitively procured via the beta.sam.gov and five proposals were received. Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas is the contracting unit.

(Daily Post Staff)

RAINAN I LANGET FOUNDATION, INC.

Statement of Activities
For The Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2019

REVENUES		
Donations from Individual/Small Business Contributions/ NCW Communities -		177,242
Foundation / Trust grants		25,000
Donations from Off Island Community		11,680
Miscellenous Revenue		240
	Total-	214,162
EXPENSES		
Travel Expense		11,562
Conferences, Conventions, Meetings		9,037
Supplies Expense		3,048
Security Expense		1,215
Other Expense		2,400
Bank fees & charges		622
	Total-	27,883
Change in Net Assets		186,279
Net Assets Beginning of Year		40,147
Net Assets End of Year		226,426

Balance Sheet
December 31, 2019

Asset		
Cash-non interest bearing		24,324
Leasehold Improvements		194,042
Furniture, fixtures & equipments		8,060
	Total Asset	226,426
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		0
	Total Liability	0
Net Asset		
Unrestricted		226,426
Restricted		0
	Total Net Asset	226,426

Doc. No. 35GL-20-2254.*

GUAM EDUCATION BOARD

MARIA A. GUTIERREZ
Chairwoman

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

MARK B. MENDIOLA
Vice-Chair

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Thursday, September 24, 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/99867156102. 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.

MARIA A. GUTIERREZ
Chairwoman

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

MARK B. MENDIOLA
Vice-Chair

9th GUAM EDUCATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, August 25, 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

Vacant
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:
Terlaje, Doris A.– GFT Representatives
Savares, Melissa B. – MCOG Representative*

Legal Counsel:
Stake, James

*arrived after roll call

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Mendiola motioned, seconded by Mr. Lujan to approve the minutes from the July 28, 2020 regular monthly meeting, subject to corrections. The Board voted by voice with a vote of 8-0 for the motion, motion passed.

Mr. Mendiola motioned, seconded by Mr. Lujan to approve the minutes from the August 11, 2020 special meeting, subject to corrections. The Board voted by voice with a vote of 8-0 for the motion, motion passed.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

CORRESPONDENCE –

Virtual Roundtable and Confirmation Hearing Notice - Ms. Gutierrez informed the board that the continuation of the roundtable hearing will be on August 27, 2020 from 8:30 to 10:00 am. She noted that the meeting would be a continuation of the discussion on the Special Education Task Force, the position on public-private partnership, the Independent Educational Evaluation Assessment for SY2020-2021, and the review of the Curriculum Implementation for SY2020-2021.

Mr. Mendiola commented that they have always provided the requested information to the Vice Speaker on time through the superintendent. He noted that it is a trying time for us right now starting the school year and working through the budget among other things. He stated that he thinks that maybe they should ask the Vice Speaker to postpone the roundtable to a later date. He also commented that he did not feel that anything on her agenda was time-sensitive and he just wanted to put that out there. They are all overwhelmed with a lot of things especially the budget and he did not want to rush through anything especially when it deals with special education. He commented that he knows that the superintendent has put his team together and if the superintendent is ready to go he would be more than happy to try to attend the roundtable but he knows that it is very tough for a lot of people.

Ms. Gutierrez commented that she would not be surprised if they canceled the roundtable because the Legislature is still on page 17 of the budget. Addressing the superintendent, she stated that if he feels that he has more important things to handle, especially because we are still in PCOR1 and we do not know what is going to happen on Friday, our priority is getting the students settled with the online learning. She said that he could send a letter to the Vice-Speaker to postpone the roundtable till a later date if he felt it was necessary.

Mr. Fernandez responded that we are prepared to address her on Thursday. He noted that there is an emergency session at 11:00 but the roundtable follow-up starts at 8:30 am. The Vice-Chair did push it back, it was originally scheduled for the opening week but at the same time they are right, there is a lot of work to do that we will continue to work on. He stated that on Thursday, he will let the Vice-Chair know that the Special Education Advisory Task Force will provide her with an update of what the plan is. He explained that the Task Force is addressing the issues and will be conducting the research and presenting some recommendations to the Board and the Legislature. It will mostly be just an update on that front but if they are looking for immediate solutions they will not be available. He stated that they will give an update and the timeframe for responding to the Board and let the Vice-Chair know so that she can get an update at the same time. He noted that he knows that the Hunter Speaks Organization will also be present and is also working to partner with the Department which will also take time, beyond the next week or so. He stated that it is the third meeting that they will be having and will just be a follow-up and an update. He commented that he would report back to the Board with an update.

Ms. Gutierrez commented that everything on the agenda is operational so the Superintendent should proceed however he thinks is best.

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

Opening of the School Year. School Year 2020-2021 began on August 17, 2020, as approved by the Guam Education Board. However, due to the return of the island to PCOR1, face-to-face instruction was prohibited from the beginning, and schools were only allowed to engage in online and hard copy instruction. On August 21, 2020, due to continued increases in positive COVID-19 cases, the governor put further restrictions on employees reporting physically to the worksite, which required GDOE to suspend further hard copy distribution, leaving only the online option available for the coming weeks. GDOE is working on moving more students online. The superintendent noted that they are working with the administration and Public Health

to receive approval to resume the hard copy distribution. We are being informed to submit a plan for the distribution of hard copies so that they can review it and if it is approved we can resume the distribution. He noted that he doesn't expect that the Public Health conditions will be lessened, he thinks it will most likely be extended beyond the 29th. With that in mind, we are focusing on a plan to move as many students as we can to the online model. Presently we are getting the inventory of all the working laptops that we have at the schools and preparing them for distribution. We are focusing on our high school and middle school students but the plan is subject to modification as the teams continue to evaluate and propose the distribution details. He stated that they are working hard to make this happen but it is clear that if we are going to go into a prolonged state of emergency where we can't even do the hard copy distribution, we are going to be forced to do our best to expand the online learning model. We are looking at a two-week timeframe and as new equipment comes in it will allow us to further expand the number of students online. That is the plan of action due to the likelihood that this emergency situation will be extended.

Parent Support and Engagement. In the first week, schools were instructed to maintain communications with parents and guardians as students adjusted to the new models of learning. Central office opened a phone (300-1536) and email (info@gdoe.net) hotline to support school responses to parents during the opening weeks. During the first week, we received several requests regarding student emails, passwords, PowerSchool, hard copy distribution schedules, and online class schedules. GDOE will be hosting several parent Zoom sessions to get feedback regarding the opening weeks. The sessions will be held beginning the week of August 31 and organized by region and broken down by elementary and secondary levels; there will also be an additional session for parents of students receiving special education services.

Mobilization of GDOE Employees for COVID-19 Response. The governor has extended the public health emergency until August 29, 2020, and has also extended her authority to direct the support of personnel from GDOE to assist the Department of Public Health and Human Services. There are ten social workers who will be supporting contact tracing, and school health counselors will be participating in support of other public health efforts. Support will be coordinated directly between the superintendent and the DPHSS director.

GDOE food support will be mobilized to assist students and families. Due to the changes in the models of learning in the first week of school, GDOE has had to retool and redesign its food distribution programs. The school breakfast and lunch program will support face-to-face students when they return to school. For those students who are unable to come to school, Sodexo will be working to provide the equivalent of five school breakfast and lunch meals in nonperishable food items for students. This will be done once a week on Fridays, beginning August 28, 2020, and starting with available breakfast items as we wait for additional food supplies to arrive. The TEFAP program will also begin again on August 31, 2020, working with mayors to distribute food commodities at the village level. Schedules for TEFAP distribution will be provided when finalized.

CARES Act (Education Stabilization Fund). GDOE has purchased and distributed the first batch of personal protective equipment (PPEs) to public, charter and private schools. These include face masks, hand sanitizers, cleaning supplies, thermoscan equipment and other supplies. Procurement for more PPE supply is underway to ensure adequate supplies for the school year. Additionally, ESF funds are going to purchase instructional supplies for all students as well as toward the purchase of laptops and tablets for students.

FY 2021 Budget Process. Superintendent testified before the Legislature last week to discuss the proposed $12.5 million cut proposed in the Substitute Budget Bill introduced by Senator Joe San Agustin. The superintendent alerted the Legislature in an August 7, 2020, letter regarding the federal requirement for the government to maintain state support for elementary, secondary and postsecondary education. This "maintenance of effort" is required as part of the island receiving $54 million from USDOE to support distance learning. Failure to meet the maintenance of effort may result in a requirement to return the federal funds provided to Guam. The island may request a waiver from the Secretary from this requirement, and steps have been taken by GDOE to initiate this process.

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. The finalization of the contract is still pending several administrative steps before the AG and Governor can review for approval.

Special Education Advisory Group. A special education advisory group has been appointed by the Superintendent to assist with stakeholder meetings and recommendations regarding priority areas for the special education division and its families and students. Among the areas to be reviewed are autism services and one-to-one school aides. The group met earlier this month to organize its efforts to collect basic data and develop recommendations over the next 90 days.

Ms. Gutierrez recognized Mayor Savares who joined the meeting.

Mr. Mendiola asked for an update on technology and when equipment will be distributed to the students.

Mr. Fernandez explained that plan A is to use existing computers in schools but we have outstanding procurement for the laptops that we want to bring in. Responses were due on Friday which is the same time we were shut down. We have a plan that was submitted to public health, to allow us to receive curbside bid submissions from our vendors so that we can continue to move that along. He commented that the shutdown is concerning because even if we get the curbside operation approved, the closure of banks, the restricted hours for certain agencies is making it potentially difficult for vendors to get the necessary paperwork together for bid submissions. We will be working with the Governor's Office to see if we can allow for activities to move forward, such as procurement, so that we can keep things moving forward. Also, as we get to the end of September we are looking at the challenge of expiring funds at the same time that we are trying to get things purchased. Ike Santos from Federal Programs is communicating with US Ed. to seek an extension of the opportunity to obligate those funds due to the COVID-19 situation and shutdown. We are hoping that we do get a favorable response and if so we can keep those procurements moving forward.

Mr. Mendiola asked if there will be a monitoring system in place to make sure that the students get the resources that they need along with parents receiving training. He commented that he thinks that is really good.

Mr. Fernandez explained that the plan of action was looking at the next few months to put all the pieces in place to begin to expand the online distribution to students. Now that we are in a shutdown it means that we are accelerating all those plans. Joe Sanchez is organizing the teams to make sure that we go through the details in terms of how we are going to distribute, account for the equipment, and implement the process for borrowing and returning the equipment as well. All of that is being rapidly discussed and those details will be finalized so that by the time we get to distribution we will have those forms in place.

Mr. Mendiola stated that now that we are in PCOR1 there are obviously some HR issues that we have to deal with in terms of the categories for differential pay. He commented that he just wanted to make sure that it is on the superintendent's radar and just wants to make sure that the employees at the front lines are compensated. He understands that the superintendent had conversations with the nurses and social workers, as well as the staff who are coming into schools. He stated that he thinks the question needs to be asked, we are also asking our teachers to work from home. How is all of that going to play out in terms of their compensation? He knows that teachers are using their resources like their internet at home to do certain things. He commented that it is just something to consider because times are tough and he just wants to make sure that we as a department will continue to advocate for our employees, especially when we are putting them in harm's way.

Mr. Fernandez responded that where we are today is different from where we were a week or so ago. It is all being done in order to promote the safety of our schools. When we stopped face-to-face that at least helped delay the return of students from coming into the schools. In addition to that, over the past week we heard a lot of requests from teachers for consideration to work from home. Under the current executive order we were able to put everyone on telework so they could be at home and continue to try to support our kids. What we are doing right now is trying to figure out the hard copy face-to-face transition and trying to expand online. He commented that we do take into consideration all these details and try to make sure that we get clarification as needed from the Governor's Office or executive order or our internal divisions.

Mr. Burch thanked the superintendent and everyone for the diligent work. He shared his concerns about the growing numbers of positive COVID-19 cases and commented that the only thing that is proven for the slowing down of the COVID-19 spread is staying home. He asked the superintendent if he would consider eliminating the face-to-face model of learning for the rest of the semester and continue with the two models of distance learning.

Mr. Fernandez responded and stated that we are evaluating that option as part of our efforts right now. Right now, based on the count of our equipment and our planning over the next couple of weeks, we are definitely going to be moving more students from either face-to-face or hard copy to online. The success of that effort is going to be helpful for us. Of course, we understand the reality of maybe having to narrow down the options if that becomes necessary. The reason for that is because we understand that there has to be some continuity and stability in what we do this semester. We cannot keep going from one model to another, to another, the students will have a hard time keeping up. He stated yes, we are considering that as part of our efforts to adjust to the current PCOR1 situation and we will keep the Board abreast of that discussion. He thanked the Board for giving us the flexibility to make that call based on the circumstances because it has served us well over the past week and has helped us move in tandem with the Governor and Public Health.

Ms. Gutierrez shared her concerns regarding a report she received informing her that a private school was very unprofessional towards our employees when they were picking up their PPEs. She noted that as a board member she will not tolerate this because our employees are working so hard. She continued to express her concerns regarding this incident and noted that she would be writing a letter of concern to the higher-ups from this school.

Mr. Mendiola stated that if Ms. Gutierrez is willing to prepare a letter and share it with the other board members he would be more than happy to support it. He stated that he agrees with her, none of our employees deserve to be treated in an unprofessional matter. If they raise the issue hopefully it gets the level of attention it needs.

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.

V. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

GFT Report – Ms. Terlaje thanked the Superintendent and everybody that has been working hard. We are certainly faced with a time that is new to all of us and it is scary as far as how this virus is spreading throughout our community. She stated that with speaking to teachers from all the different sites, there seems to be a disparity in the signing in requirements and the accountability for how to track what teachers are doing. There is also another disparity in the teleworking requirements. She commented that she knows that there are forms for teleworking but there should be a standard that everybody should follow because we do have a lot of schools with different individuals and different interpretations. She stated that the GFT could help if needed, and requested that we have a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) with more specific guidelines on how to address this. She commented one school is more laxed and the other school is not as laxed. She stated that with the pressure and the stress that is already on our teachers and our staff, she thinks that we should

have something in place so that our teachers and staff are not going to cite what is happening at other schools. She stated that this is an urgent concern since it will be affecting our employees' paychecks.

Mr. Fernandez stated that they would be happy to work and get input from the GFT on this matter. He commented that we are reaching out to our administrators as well. We do have a standard operating procedure and the Teleworking Agreement that has been provided to guide telework. At this stage, it gives a lot of discretion to administrators at the division and the school level to determine those agreements and to approve them. We wanted to enable our administrators to determine how we were going to get the work accomplished under the various constraints that we have this school year. He commented that he knows that Deputy Erika and Deputy Joe met with the administrators to discuss how telework was working with the interest in providing more specific and district-wide guidance as needed. He stated that we are aware of the concern about how telework might be applied from one school to another and we will be happy to receive their input in improving that. He commented that this is something new to us in this COVID-19 environment and we want to ensure that we meet the requirements of telework which is related to work outcomes. At the same time, we are challenged with how to determine how to address employees who are unable to meet those telework requirements if we were to go very specifically and strictly in terms of further defining it. There are a lot of things that we need to consider. We would be happy to engage the GFT in providing that input.

MCOG Report – Mayor Savares reported that the Mayor's Council continues to support the schools in our communities. They were looking forward to students coming back to school but due to COVID-19 and PCOR1 there are a lot of restrictions. She commented that she knows that the teachers are working extremely hard, parents were saying that they were leery about doing online classes and the drive-through pick up for student work but the families are working together. She spoke to several teachers and families and teachers are working from home and continuing to call the families and making contact to see what ways they can help the students. She stated that they have been working with the food services section, she met with Dina to sign the necessary documents so that they can assist with the food distribution but with PCOR1 in place all that has been pushed back. They were going to assist with some of the school distribution but it has been postponed. She stated that she wanted them to know that the mayors are here and we will work together with the schools in our communities to see how they can help. She noted that they have also been contacted by schools to assist with locating families that have not gotten back to them and they were successful in those cases.

Mr. Fernandez stated that food distribution is a priority but we are going to need to round up the numbers and the names of our families that we are trying to locate. He thanked the Mayor for helping our schools already and noted that we do plan to engage further with the students that we are still having trouble reaching.

Mayor Savares stated that yes, we can do this together.

Mr. Fernandez thanked the Mayor and commented that the work they are doing with Mayor Savares they would like to do with the other mayors as well. He stated that we will gather those names and continue to engage at the village level.

Mayor Savares stated that she spoke with her colleagues and they also said that if there is a need the schools can contact their staff in the offices. She stated that the mayor's office staff are all working and they continue to be in the office and are taking care of our communities.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) Executive Committee

Superintendent's Contract – Ms. Gutierrez noted that she forwarded the Superintendent's letter to the board members in which the Superintendent expressed his interest in renewing his employment contract with the Guam Education Board dated August 21, 2020.

Ms. Mendiola motioned, seconded by Ms. Benavente to approve the receipt of the letter of intent submitted by the Superintendent to renew his employment contract pursuant to his current contract. The Superintendent took roll call for voting purposes, the Board voted by voice with a vote of 8-0 for the motion, motion passed.

Mr. Burch informed the Board that he supports the extension of Mr. Fernandez's contract with the Board to continue as the Superintendent of Education. Mr. Burch commented that since he has been on the Board the Superintendent has been nothing but exemplary and it showed in their evaluation of the Superintendent. Mr. Burch stated that although he (Mr. Burch) may have taken an adverse position on things he has never had any issues with the Superintendent and has agreed with every position that the Superintendent has taken. He commented that he feels that the rest of the board members should follow suit and he is willing to sign or agree for the Board to sign it right now if they are to vote tonight.

Ms. Gutierrez asked Vice-Chair Mendiola to read the Superintendent's letter into the record.

Mr. Mendiola stated that he is having a difficult time trying to open the attachment but he wanted to clarify that his motion was just to accept the letter from the Superintendent and asked if they could vote on that motion first.

Ms. Gutierrez stated that she wanted to read the letter from the Superintendent first. She read the letter into the record.

Dr. McNinch stated that he appreciates the help and support of all the employees at GDOE and the Superintendent as well as Chairwoman Gutierrez and Vice-Chair Mendiola for assisting with this process.

Dr. McNinch motioned, seconded by Mr. Lujan to approve the extension of the Superintendent's contract beyond the June 30, 2021 expiration date and to approve the proposed contract which will extend his term for four (4) additional years ending June 30, 2025. The Superintendent took roll call for voting purposes, the Board voted by voice with a vote of 8-0 for the motion, motion passed.

Dr. McNinch stated that he made his motion due to the evaluation of the Superintendent's performance during his current term in which he received a 4.6 out of 5.0 in 2018, and this summer he received a 4.9 out of 5.0 in 2020 which is outstanding. Based on his current contract, Mr. Fernandez was to notify us by October of this year (2020) of his intent to extend his contract and the GEB was to make a decision no later than December. Mr. Fernandez submitted his letter of intent on August 21, 2020 ahead of schedule. In light of his outstanding performance and also in light of what we know will be a very challenging year which requires full focus on the issues facing our children and families at hand, I urge that the GEB also make its determination at today's meeting regarding the Department's leadership. An affirmative vote today would approve a new contract for the Superintendent which will go through June 30, 2025. The contract will contain essentially the same terms including his current salary for the next four years. He noted that there were a few minor changes which were as follows: Updates to the "Whereas" clauses, removal of the requirement for a quarterly board retreat in Section 3.0 which would allow the Board to call a retreat whenever they so decided, removal of the remediation and indemnification clauses which they understand the Attorney General is no longer accepting in any contract.

Mr. Mendiola stated that one of the things that sticks out for him the most is that our Superintendent has been one of the longest serving Superintendents in the nation and this also goes to the work that we have been undertaking with respect to our federal receivership. One of the things they noticed prior years is

that there was such a high turnover rate with respect to the leadership at the Department. Since the Board and the Superintendent have been working to address a lot of these issues we provided stability in the leadership at the helm of the Department of Education and it shows that although at times we disagree, we agree to disagree and we move the Department forward. He stated that this comes at the heels of the evaluation, we had the opportunity to evaluate him and he gave us a letter of intent to renew his contract. He stated that he wants to thank the Superintendent for doing that because the Superintendent could have gone the other way. He commented that he thinks the Department of Education is better off because of the leadership and stability that he will continue to provide. He stated that Dr. McNinch stated the points of the contract and the one thing he wanted to point out was that the Superintendent has been doing stellar work and yet he has not asked them for an increment. He stated that the Superintendent continues to receive the current pay despite his excellent performance leading the Department of Education. He commented that he appreciates that the Superintendent realizes the situation that we are in but he (the Superintendent) is deserving of just compensation. If we cross that bridge they would like to have that discussion with the Superintendent later on. He thanked the Superintendent for submitting his letter of intent. He expressed his hope to have the Superintendent on for another four years.

Ms. Gutierrez stated that she was very happy when he submitted his letter stating that he wanted to extend his contract. She assured the employees of the Department that when they call for the vote and the Board approves, this will be their Christmas and thank you gift to all employees that Mr. Fernandez will continue to be their boss for the next four years.

They all congratulated the Superintendent.

Mr. Fernandez joked that when he heard Ms. Gutierrez tell the employees there is no stress he had to correct that. He stated that it is going to be very stressful. He thanked the Board for their confidence in the leadership and he thinks that it goes without saying that that confidence reflects not just his performance but the performance of his leadership team, the deputies and our staff who support the Board, as well as all of our administrators and staff. Given that this year is going to be extremely challenging, the extension of the contract really does mean accepting a lot of the responsibility. Responsibility to make sure that we do what we can this year and beyond to adjust to this pandemic and to help continue our mission of teaching and learning. He stated that he appreciates their confidence and their partnership in this effort and he thanked them again for their approval. Their approvals allows us to focus in on the real work that we need to do this year.

2) Instructional & Academic Support Committee

NASBE Stipend Grant – Ms. Gutierrez explained that it has been two to three years that NASBE offered a stipend. She noted that NASBE sent out a request for applications for this NASBE stipend that they will be awarding to two states.

Ms. Benavente motioned, seconded by Mr. Burch to approve the application for the NASBE Early Childhood Education Stipend Grant. The Board voted by voice and approved the motion with a vote of 8-0. The motion passed.

Ms. Benavente explained that the grant is for the support of the social and emotional learning project that is aimed to develop guidance through the development of a policy which will support our young children and their families. It will not only provide support for the adjustment to the models of learning but will also reinforce the importance of child development theories and policies. She noted that if we get the grant it will be for four thousand ($4,000) dollars.

Ms. Eloise Sanchez she stated that there really is a need with the idea of social and emotional learning being really critical especially now with COVID-19 and the way that we are implementing the different

models of learning. We are looking really at managing emotions. How to have our children learn to manage their emotions, showing empathy, establishing healthy relationships, setting positive goals and making responsible decisions. We would like to see a policy developed for this, for the Early Childhood Program, and really looking at a working group that will be comprised of both counselors and teachers to develop the policy for implementation during the first phase and then moving it into the intermediate, middle and high school level. She commented that this is something that we feel very strongly about because over the last three to four years there has been, with the support of Mr. Sanchez under the division of Curriculum and Instruction, an early learning planning committee that has worked with PREL to support the training in this area. It would be nice to get all elementary schools at this level to implement social and emotional learning and use the same universal practices for these two different areas.

Head Start Report – Ms. Schroeder presented the Head Start Report. She reported that it has been an exciting week for Head Start, they started classes yesterday with tele-classes. She noted that they did have the Summer Program, and about half of her staff had the experience of doing their first Zoom lessons and hard copies to their parents. She stated that the reports they received from parents were positive. They were focusing on transitioning to kindergarten and teaching the children about some of the COVID-19 restrictions and requirements when they go to school. She reported on her concerns regarding PPEs and for incomplete submissions for enrollment due to the difficulties they are having with scheduling appointments for TB tests. Ms. Schroeder further reported that they have brought their concerns regarding clearances up to the Office of Head Start to decide if the parent and families could be accepted into the program since there is no face-to-face contact occurring. She provided an update on distance learning in the Head Start Program. She shared her concerns regarding the food service program.

Ms. Gutierrez asked Ms. Schroeder if he she has coordinated and brought her concerns to the Superintendent and Deputy Erika. She commented that it should be easier to communicate with Region IX since Arlene Cura is here on island and she should be able to request to waive the requirements because we are unable to meet them due to COVID-19.

Ms. Schroeder shared that Region IX is aware, she has been talking to them about it. She stated that she has not received the waiver yet but they are aware and are working on it.

Ms. Benavente asked for clarification regarding Ms. Schroeder's concerns about PPEs.

Ms. Schroeder clarified that her concerns were regarding their supplies of masks and how long they would last. She noted that the schools have been sharing their supplies as well. She also noted that it was not a big concern being that the students are not physically in the classrooms yet.

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

3) **Safe & Healthy Schools Committee –** No report.

4) **Organizational Efficiency & Development Committee –** No report.

5) **Fiscal Management**

Update on FY20 Budget and USDOE Specific Conditions/High Risk – Mr. Mendiola reported that they are in the midst of watching the legislative sessions regarding our budget. He noted that we have been very transparent in how we are managing our scarce resources. He gave credit to the Superintendent and Dr. Zeny Asuncion. He noted that one of the senators questioned why we owe this amount of money. He stated that a lot of things have been carried over and we are wrapping up our 2019 vendor payables down and that is to be applauded. We are in a better position paying our vendors down. Dr. Zeny has been

working with the agencies to pay these down. He explained that there are special funds that the DOE gets and sometimes the fund is not fully guaranteed through appropriations. He noted that the proposal based on the discussion that's going on at the legislature, they are talking about a 5% cut across the board. He noted that if we are shorted toward the end of this physical year it will put us further in the hole and it will not allow us to continue the payment structure that we have set up. He continued to express his concerns regarding the budget. He stated that the DOE can no longer absorb any major hits and that 5% for the next fiscal year and not getting the complete amount for this fiscal year is going to be a large hit. It will force us to have serious discussions about things that our people in the community may not like, for example, the closures of schools and furloughing. He stated that those things will be put on the table because the environment is changing and if the resources are not there the DOE will have to adjust itself so that it can meet its mission. He stated that he is not trying to scare anybody but we have to state it for the record. He implored everyone to reach out to our elected leaders. He pointed out that we really need access to the federal funds because they are really going to help us in terms of support for distance learning and online classes. If we do not get the funding at that level, we can potentially lose access to those federal dollars should the federal government not allow that waiver.

Mr. Fernandez echoed Mr. Mendiola's comments and wanted to be clear that we are going to be absorbing a $30 million reduction since the beginning of FY2018. In and of itself a 5% reduction might not seem like a lot but when you look at the entire reductions that we have seen over the last few years it is having an impact. We get the budget lump sum which means it is left to the Board and the Superintendent to make the tough decisions when it comes down to it. He stated that we do recognize the broader situation with the island and the economy but at the same time we do not want it to be a surprise to anyone when the agency gets down to looking at reductions in spending. Every year we get criticized for the amount of outstanding payables. He noted that in the report they would see that the most recent report shows us at about 3.2 million dollars outstanding as of August 22nd. This is a good number and it is due in part to the fact that our general fund and our TEFF have been coming in for the most part to this point in the fiscal year and it has helped us but it is when we get shorted that those payables start to go up again. He thanked Dr. Zeny for working on this but we have to continue to get the cash to support it. He explained that his biggest concern, notwithstanding the local budget pressure, is the $41.5 million in ESF funds that will need a waiver if the government cannot meet the maintenance of effort. He explained that he was put in the position to determine whether to stop the flow of funding and to stop the purchases of computers and PPEs as a matter of trying to save the department from any risks, but in reconsideration of that, he decided the opposite. He decided to proceed forward with those purchases because they are critical for our students and our families and the thinks they should be the priority. He stated that if we do not get the waiver he hopes that they will join him to go to the Governor and the Legislature to let them know of the consequence and the need for their support in addressing any penalties or return of funds that are needed. He cannot in good conscience hold back the funding when we know that we are being impacted by COVID-19 and our students are going to need the support if we are going to be able to provide them any sort of education this school year.

Mr. Burch commented that he is in support of the Superintendent's move to get support from them to contact the Legislature or the Governor to ask for their support for GDOE because the loss of $30 million over the last couple of years is astronomical. He noted that he is aware that there is across the board cuts from the general fund. The agency that he heads has been removed entirely from the general fund and although they do have revenue that they have raised they have been moved to their special fund sources. He stated that he is aware that because we do not have tourist coming to our island the economy is going to take a great hit and so will the Government of Guam. He expressed his concerns for GDOE and everyone that we serve. He stated that he will do his part to try to contact those in positions that control our budget. He agreed that we need to get our parents and all our stakeholders involved so that we can provide the best service to our community and that is to educate our young people.

Mr. Mendiola stated that a 5% cut equates to about an $11 million shortfall.

Mr. Lujan stated that he fully supports the Superintendents request and expressed his concerns regarding the budget cuts.

Ms. Angel stated that she supports the Superintendent in all his advocacies. She asked how far we can go and if we need to lobby.

Mr. Fernandez informed the Board that that is the way ahead and he wanted to seek their support. He stated that they did have a lengthy discussion with the Legislature about the maintenance of effort, they are aware of the requirement, we will see where we end up in the budget and they have asked if we would consider requesting a waiver. He noted that we did request for guidance on that waiver and we received a response this morning that the waivers would not be considered until after September so this is a risk that we are taking by continuing to spend money but everyone who needs to know has been informed. He stated that he would like to proceed to make those purchases for the students and the schools. He noted that this includes purchases for the private and charter schools as well. He stated that this is not just for DOE, it is for all the students who are going to be supported by these efforts.

Ms. Borja, Ms. Benavente and Dr. McNinch also stated that they are in support of the Superintendent.

Ms. Gutierrez noted that she watched the session and the Superintendent was very calm in trying to make them understand. It seems to her as if they do not trust the Superintendent and the Board. She instructed the Superintendent to proceed because they all support him.

VII. NEW BUSINESS – Dr. McNinch commented and congratulated the Superintendent on a wonderful job and thanked him for his service, particularly during the COVID-19 crisis. He stated that he and the GDOE staff deserve a hero award. He also pointed out that he thinks parents will gain a whole new appreciation for teachers because of the COVID-19 crisis and just how hard it is to teach young people and how difficult of a job that is. That might be the silver lining of the COVID crisis. He stated that Mr. Burch had a good idea in making a finite point for the semester. If we do limit face-to-face he likes that we do it to a finite point because it gives us some breathing space to work from that point on.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT – Ms. Gutierrez informed the Board that the next meeting will be on September 15th. She asked the Superintendent to give the Board a weekly update regarding distance learning.

Mr. Fernandez responded that we are going to be working with Ms. Benavente to have the online discussion and update and we will provide regular updates for the Board.

Ms. Gutierrez thanked everyone, especially all of the DOE employees for all the work they have done.

Mr. Burch moved, seconded by Mr. Mendiola 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 7:58 p.m.

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:

Date: September 16, 2020

CHRISTIE L. SAN NICOLAS
Administrative Officer

MINUTES OF AUGUST 25, 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING:
( ) Approved as submitted
(√) Approved subject to corrections
( ) Other: _____

MARIA A. GUTIERREZ
GEB Chairwoman

Date: 9/24/2020

JON J. P. FERNANDEZ
Executive Secretary/GDOE Superintendent

Date: 9/24/2020