

**16TH CNMI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
Friday, October 30, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.
Via Google Hangouts at meet.google.com/qkb-ppv-w-eqw
Board of Education Conference Room
Building 1241, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP**

FINAL MINUTES

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Madam Chair Janice A. Tenorio administered the Oath of Office during the swearing in of the newly appointed Board member from Tinian, Mr. Antonio L. Borja. Members of the Board, Commissioner of Education, Dr. Alfred B. Ada, and other PSS leadership welcomed Mr. Borja.

The meeting was called to order at 9:21 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present:

Janice A. Tenorio, M.Ed.
Herman M. Atalig, SGM (Ret)
MaryLou S. Ada, J.D.
Andrew L. Orsini
Antonio L. Borja
Paul T. Miura
Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero

All seven (7) members present, a quorum was established.

PSS/BOE Staff Present:

Alfred B. Ada, Ed.D. – Commissioner of Education
Eric Magofna – Interim Associate Commissioner for Administrative Services (ACAS)
Tim Thornburgh – Federal Programs Office (FPO) Director
George Palican – Acting Director of Finance
Tim Thornburgh – Federal Programs Officer
Leslie Ada – Acting Human Resources Office (HRO) Director
Tiberius Mocanu, Esq. – Legal Counsel
Valerie K. Malwelbug – Administrative Officer
Edward Tenorio – PSS Financial Consultant
Ferdinand Ngirmekur - IT

Others Present (online):

Alex Menor
Anna Guerrero
Annette Calvo
Anthony Frank
Arisa Sakai
Ashley Roberto
Ben Jr.
Bobby Cruz
Brandon Nicholas
Dale Roberts
Darlene Aldan
Dencio Manglona
Denise King
Derwin Johnson
Dominic Pangelinan
Donna Flores
Elizabeth Aguon
Elizabeth Romolor
Emmanuel Erdiano
Evonne Cabrera
Frances Ulloa
Francisca Bondoc
Glenn Smith
Gregory Borja
Herman's Bakery
Ignacia Demapan
Ignacio Dela Cruz
Jackie A. Quitugua
Jacquelin Che
Jessica Taylor
Jesusa Calvo
Jocelyn Manibusan
Jojo Alepuyo
Jonas Barcinas
Karen Alla
Leile Yumul
Livia Pangelinan
Liz Romolor
Lori Lyn Lirio
Lynn Mendiola
Magdalena Mesngon

Others Present (online):

Maria Ornes
Marian Tudela
Marvin Tamangided
Mary Lynn Ogo
Micah Page
Michelle Rasa
Mryna babauta
Naomi Nishimura
Nick Gross
Nora Fujhira
Oswald Quitugua
Patricia Aguon
Paulette Sablan
Peter Arriola
Rizalina Liwag
Sabrina Calvo
Sally Limes
Shawn San Nicolas
Shirley Norita
Suaad San Nicholas
Ulysses T. Sabuco
Victoria Nicholas
Victorino Borja
Vince Dela Cruz
Yvonne Pangelinan

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Herman M. Atalig moved to adopt the agenda, Member Orsini seconded, all (5) voting members voted yes, motion carried.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Vice Chair Atalig moved to table the Minutes until the next Board meeting, Member Andrew L. Orsini seconded the motion stating that they were not presented in the last meeting and this would give new Member Antonio L. Borja the opportunity to review. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Administrative Officer Valerie K. Malwelbug read the policy on Public comments stating the three (3) minutes limit. Member Paul T. Miura welcomed new Member Borja and looked forward to working with him.

REPORTS

Commissioner of Education (Commissioner) Ada stated that Federal Programs Officer (FPO) Tim Thornburgh will report on the Federal Funds Status and Acting Director of Finance (ADOF) George Palican will report on the Local Funds Status.

During the discussions, Vice Chair Atalig raised concerns on the Students First issues stating Rota Schools only get twenty (20) copies. Madam Chair Tenorio advised Commissioner Ada to ensure that the next publication would be distributed to Rota and Tinian first. She added that it should be separated and labeled elementary, middle school, and high school to avoid any confusion.

Member Antonio L. Borja asked if there are mechanics available for the buses for Rota and Tinian. ADoF Palican shared that there are now three (3) mechanics with the Office of Pupil Transportation (OPT) and the buses are maintained on a monthly basis. He added that there is now a diagnostic tool so it saves OPT time and money in figuring out the repairs/issues on the buses.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

In the essence of time, Commissioner Ada gave a quick update on all items under unfinished business and was requested to report on updates at the next Board meeting.

Member MaryLou S. Ada suggested the change of name from Home Economics to Consumer Science and for an update to be given at the next Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

ACTION NO. 001

Member Orsini moved to approve the Ratification of the Head Start/Early Head Start Month Proclamation, Vice Chair Atalig seconded, all five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

All other updates were tabled to be reported on at the next Board meeting.

ACTION NO. 002

Secretary/Treasurer Ada moved to approve the CLO Report No. 2020-005, Member Orsini seconded, all five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Secretary/Treasurer Ada moved to descend into executive session at 12:17 p.m. Member Orsini seconded. The public was advised that the members will rejoin in open session at 1:30 p.m.

Vice Chair Atalig moved to rise out of executive session at 1:35 p.m., Secretary/Treasurer Ada seconded. All five (5) members voted yes, motion carried.


The meeting resumed in open session at 1:36 p.m. Legal Counsel Tiberius Mocanu gave a summary of the executive session. Things discussed in executive session were regarding personnel matters and legal updates which were appropriate to discuss in the executive session.

ACTION NO. 003

Madam Chair Tenorio moved to direct the Commissioner of Education to dismiss the lawsuit against the CNMI Government, Vice Chair Atalig seconded. Secretary/Treasurer Ada voted no, Member Borja voted yes, Member Orsini abstained, Vice Chair Atalig voted yes, Madam Chair Tenorio voted yes. With three (3) votes of yes, one (1) no, and one (1) abstain, motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT- Member Orsini moved to adjourn the meeting, Vice Chair Atalig seconded. All four (4) members voted yes; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.¹

CERTIFIED BY:



MaryLou S. Ada, J.D.
BOE Secretary/Treasurer

11/18/2020
Date

CONCURRED BY:



Janice A. Tenorio, M.Ed.
BOE Chairperson

11/18/2020
Date

¹ This Minutes was adopted at the November 18, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.