



Department of Defense Education Activity, Pacific
Guam District
Office of the Superintendent
PSC 490 Box 7655
FPO AP 96538-1600



School Board Official Minutes
November 8, 2012
McCool Elementary/Middle School
Scheduled 6:00-7:30 p.m./Actual Time: 6:03 – 7:09 p.m.

School Board Members Present

Ms. Amata Hutcherson, President
Ms. Kimberlee Lindee, Vice-President
Ms. Michelle Dana, Secretary
Mr. Allen Blend

School Board Members Absent

Mr. Michael Gadsden

Non-voting Members Present

Ms. Barbara Askey, Navy School Liaison
Ms. Rebecca Duncan, Air Force Liaison
Mr. Jeff Arrington, Assistant Superintendent

Guests were welcomed. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. Minutes were reviewed. Ms. Lindee moved to approve the minutes for October's meeting. Mr. Blend seconds the motion. All board meetings will be conducted using Robert's Rules of Orders (see last page "Standards of Conduct).

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS:

Andersen Middle School (AMS), Ms. Krull

- Conducted Signs of Suicide (SOS) training except for those whose parents wanted to opt out.
- Parent Teacher Student Organization held "Thankful for Reading" book fair with discounts on books so students could read them over the break.
- National Junior Honor Society did a food drive for the homeless shelter.
- Two large boxes were filled for the Anderson AFB Christmas drop.

Andersen Elementary School (AES), Ms. Horne-Barnes and Mr. Flores, Assistant Principal

- Students participated in Veteran's Day performances.
- Three students were Red Ribbon Poster contest winners in the island-wide contest.
- Guam District Teacher of the Year was Jacob Dowdell from Anderson ES and was one of the finalists for DODEA Teacher of the Year. Two teachers are retiring this year.

Guam High School (GHS), Mr. Keim

- Sports: Chloe Gadsden is the Tennis champion for the Far East tournament. The Far East Volleyball started this week on Guam.
- Far East Jazz will be held November 30th.
- November 16th is Parent Teacher conferences.
- Letterman Jackets: The Booster Club is carrying them for football; the only choices are wool or leather. The Booster Club is waiting to see what the interest level is.
- School Improvement: Instituting “Problem Solving” and the “6+1” writing across the curriculum, each student will have a copy in front of their binders. The anticipation is the result will be higher test scores and that all students will understand the concept in a similar way.
- Laptop Computers: 1 to 1 ratio, meetings are being conducted on how to implement dissemination of the laptops as well as what should be included on the laptops. Students have good ideas like electronic versions of textbooks, Skype into class when home sick, homework online and ability to edit photos and video. In the classroom, laptops will be a positive change and each teacher is at a different knowledge level. Discussions will be held on the logistics of charging, distribution, and damages. The laptops have Wi-Fi, content filters and are being acquired off-island.

McCool Elementary Middle School (MEMS), Mr. Christensen

- Held “Signs of Suicide (SOS)” training as well, it was worthwhile as the school got some responses on possible issues and is talking about them.
- The week following there will be a Book Fair.
- Congratulations to the Boys soccer, they took 3rd place in their league.

Superintendent’s Report, Mr. Arrington

- The District is ramping up STEM again, promoting awareness of the program as a real-world problem-solving tool with relevance and connections all year. Professional development is being held for teachers on implementing STEM all year. STEM will help promote interest in a digital world.
- CSI: There are five standards that the accreditors look at and that the school must meet. DoDEA schools are mandated to be a “Quality” school to be funded. Accreditors will be visiting soon.
- Far East soccer championship is upcoming.
- iPod Touch’s were received for the Preschool program and the teachers will receive training on their use.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Aspen Gradebook: Mr. Arrington demonstrated the website for Aspen that can be accessed worldwide at dodea.edu/mydata. The user is taken to a log in screen with a keyboard popup that has a security feature for the system. Currently the seventh grade team is piloting a higher level of applications including access to assignments. The

program as a whole is piloting at McCool and Guam High and will most likely be adopted because it is more compatible with the District information management system.

- NEX Representative was unable to attend and the communication from the NEX was not helpful in that it contained only inventory information instead of ordering practices. We will try again to bring a representative from the NEX. It was commented that the inventory actually demonstrated how little was available at the NEX.

OPEN FORUM:

- Ms. Lindee expressed concern voiced by parents per long bus delays during the recent bomb threat and during exercises on base. Is there a mechanism to notify parents when buses are delayed? Mr. Arrington expressed that any notifications must follow base protocols and currently can only come from the base public information office. The District does not have an automated system to do calls or texts to parents in an emergency; it would be costly but has been suggested for the future. The District will do a hot wash of the incident and discuss issues such as teachers' late arrivals because of traffic, lack of knowledge that the buses were so late, how to notify parents. What is the best way for parents to get information in an emergency? Parents can join Facebook pages for Joint Region Marianas and for each school, as well as call the school for information. The suggestion was made that the district can use their non-emergency blanket emails and this was taken under consideration.
- Mr. Arrington announced that November 30th is now a ½ day to enable teachers to attend CSI training. There may be more previously unscheduled trainings in conjunction with the implementation of the 1-to-1 laptops.

NEXT MEETING:

Agenda Setting: Monday, December 3rd at 3:00 p.m. at District Superintendent's Office.
Official meeting: Thursday, December 13th at 6:00 p.m. at Guam High School

Meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT:

- Agenda items must be submitted in writing no later than the last Friday of the month to the District Office for consideration.
- Meeting will start promptly at 18:00 and end no later than 1½ hour after the start.
- The prepared agenda will be followed with the possibility of changing the order of presentation to accommodate presenters.
- The Board has the right to limit public discussion time.
- Issues will be addressed in a courteous, professional manner.
- Meetings will be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.

Date Signed

Chairperson