



DOMESTIC DEPENDENT ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS
GUAM DISTRICT
U. S. NAVAL HOSPITAL BLDG 100
PSC 490 BOX 7655
FPO AP 96538-1600

**School Board Official Minutes
December 11, 2007 6:00 – 7:30pm
Guam High School Library**

School Board Members Present

Michael A. Dezellem
Sylvia Taylor
Johnny S. Lizama

School Board Members Absent

Ruth Pettit
Elmer F. Taylor

Non-voting Members Present

Michael Diekmann
Clarissa Hautea-Rosario

Non-voting Members Absent

Ms. Barbara Askey

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Michael Dezellem.

The School Board approved the minutes for November 2007 meeting.

Principals' Reports

Dr. Rita Williams, Principal, Guam High School (GHS)

- The Parent-Teacher Conferences held on November 16th at the high school were a success. Many parents turned out to pick up report cards and to meet with their student's teachers.
- The Holiday Concert this year will be held in the GHS Panther Den (cafeteria) on Thursday, December 20, at 6:00 pm. The GHS Choir will also be performing at the PIC on Wednesday, December 19, at 11:00 am. The Jazz Band will play on the 15th at the PIC.
- On November 17, the GHS Japanese I, Japanese II, and Japanese III students participated in the Japanese Language Teachers' Association's annual Japanese Song Festival at the Agana Shopping Center. Eight schools competed in the festival, and GHS came out in first place. As a result, they performed in the Autumn Festival to be held at Ypao Park on December 1. Way to go, Panthers!
- Uniforms become mandatory on January 7, the day students return from Winter Break.
- The accelerated withdrawal date for first semester is December 12, 2007.
- Alex San Nicolas has been accepted into Chaminade University of Honolulu for the Fall 2008 semester.
- Camille Pizarro just received word that she is a recipient of a \$180,000 ROTC scholarship to the University of San Diego.

- Two of our 11th grade students, Justin Samonte and Taylor Marquez, along with staff members Daisy Stanford and Rowena Stanley attended Student-2-Student training in Tokyo November 13-16. Student-2-Student in a student-driven program, which focuses on meeting the needs of all transitioning students, sponsored by the Military Child Education Coalition.
- The Senior Class had a Winter Blues dance on December 7 in the GHS Panther Den (cafeteria). It was the second dance held at the school this year!
- The GHS wrestling team is in first place again this year, and if it maintains first place status, Guam High will be hosting the All-Island competition on December 22 in the gym.
- Mid-quarter progress reports were sent out December 5 and 6.
- We are using CCTV to send out information on our SIP interventions for our SIP goals of critical thinking and written communication.

Mr. Ray Scantlan, Assistant Principal, Andersen Elementary School (AES)

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| 11 Dec 2007 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrollment 883 Students • 100% PPD Completed for Faculty and Staff • Hired a Multi-Age Teacher (Grades 1/3) – Mrs. Miller • Internal announcement for an ESL Teacher filled by Mr. Moreland, 5th Grade Teacher • Request for Personnel Action to fill behind Mr. Moreland • 98% AT Level 1 Awareness Training Completed – new teachers |
| 6 Dec – Thurs | Fire Drill – Postponed due to rain
Story Telling Club starts at 1430 in the Dolphin Theater with Ms. Atkinson – cancelled until after the Winter Break |
| 11 Dec – Tue | District School Board Meeting @GHS at 1800 |
| 11-13 Dec | Pacific Area Math Task Force Meeting in Japan – Mr. Arnot selected |
| 12 Dec – Wed | PACAF Band of the Pacific – perform in Dolphin Theater at 0900 – more info to come |
| 14 Dec – Fri | Kindergarten class program 1045-1130 Dolphin Theater
5 th grade Performance 1230-1330 in the Dolphin Theater |
| 18-19 Dec | CPR Training – Nurses (Sojo/Cayce) |
| 19 Dec – Wed | 2 nd Grade Music Performance 0730-1415; 0930 and 1300 performances |
| 20 Dec – Thurs | Music Performance 0730-1415 Music classes |
| 21 Dec – Fri | 3 rd Grade Performance
Last day of school before the Winter Break |
| 27 Dec – Thu | Eligibility Records Review |
| 7 Jan – Mon | School Resumes
After School Activities/Clubs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chess Club 1420-1520 Rm C-5 – Monday • Kangaroo Club 1430-1530 Gym – Monday • Ukulele Club 1420-1520 Rm B-11 Mr. Moreland – Monday • Student Council 1430-1530 w Mrs. Dickman and Mrs. Whitworth - Wed • Story Telling Club @ 1430 in the Dolphin Theater – Ms. Atkinson - Thurs |

Mr. William Hall, Principal, Andersen Middle School (AMS)

- **Jeremy Walker**- Math ISS from Okinawa visited Algebra Classrooms today. Jeremy has been training Algebra/mathematics teachers how to score the Algebra Online Assessment. This training encompasses a process rubric. How one works the problems to get a correct answer is equally as important as the correct answer.
- Speak up Net survey- Closes December 21. Last day to get your ideas about technology on to <http://www.netdayspeakup.org/>

Login information:

Andersen Elementary-State: AP	Secret Word: dodea
Andersen Middle -State: AP	Secret Word: dragons
Guam High State: AP	Secret Word: panther
McCool MS/ES -State: AP	Secret Word: dodea

- **December 12** First day for early withdrawal with PCS Orders for Semester 1
- **December 12** -PAC AF ensemble Band of the Pacific- Performing at the Dragon Theater Dec 12 @ 1300. 5 piece ensemble.
- **December 13 - Last volley ball game of the season.** AMS plays Bishop. Bishop is undefeated. 4:00pm (B Teams) 5:00pm A Team Boys and Girls Teams Andersen Gym, Thursday December 13.
- **December 17 - Principal's Forum** from 1530 – 1630 in the Principal's Conference room.
- **December 22-** AMS had given 1027 Rota Drive house to decorate. Students will be singing Christmas Carols and handing out candy canes. Gallon jugs for Water are needed to make luminaries.
- **PSAT results** are in and Ms. Jao is meeting with each student to review their test results. Any parent wishing to go over the test with her, please call and make an appointment.
- **Year Books On Sale:** 2007-2008 Andersen Middle School Yearbooks are now on sale. Cost is \$35 before January 24, 2008. After January 24, books will be \$40. Please add \$7.00 for shipping if you are PCS'ing before June 1st. Books will be ALL COLOR and have a HARD COVER. In order to guarantee that your child receives a yearbook, you MUST Pre- Order. Students should see Ms. Leach, Yearbook Sponsor, for order forms.
- **New Cross walk** marked and painted for crossing at the side of the Middle School- Col Tally responded immediately to the school's need.
- **Dec 22 – January 6 - Winter Holiday-** School outside and some inside classrooms will be painted.
- **School Evacuation Drill** will be some time in 2008. Middle School Safe Haven is **Top of the Rock**. Students with younger siblings will go to Ocean View with their younger brother or sisters. IDs will need to be shown in order to pick up students. If you are picking up other students you must be listed on the emergency list for that student. Otherwise students will not be released.
- **Andersen Middle School Staff** wishes everyone a safe Winter Holiday and Happy New Year.

Mr. Stan Chop, Principal, McCool Elementary Middle School (MEMS)

- On 4 December Admiral and Mrs. French invited McCool students to their home for a Christmas tree decorating event. McCool culture students made a variety of ornaments out of woven coconut leaves and pieces of bamboo. The middle school chorus sang while elementary students decorated the tree. Later the 8th grade band played in the yard overlooking the sea. The French's also graciously invited the parents of the students who participated in the event. All in all we had a delightful afternoon at the French's home.
- On 5 December the middle school band and chorus performed at the base theatre.
- On 8 December the middle school band will perform at NEX and Agana Shopping Center.
- On 12 December the middle school band will present their Christmas concert, "Here Come Da Bands" at 1:15 and 7:00.

- On 14 December the middle school chorus and drama classes will be giving 3 performances of their Christmas play.
- On 14 December, Ms. Skinner's third grade class will transform their room into a Poet's Café. Ms. Aliq and Ms. DeVera's kindergarten classes will present, "The World is a Rainbow."
- The supply technicians and administrators are busy ordering furniture for the new school. We hope to have the order done by 1 January.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Sue Burdick for Mr. Michael Diekmann

- Vacancies: a) 0.5 Special Education position LI/EI at McCool.
- Enrollments continue to fluctuate and remain around 2,490 + students. We expect that some students will withdraw in late December and early January due to PCS orders.
- Uniforms go into effect on January 7, 2008.
- We have a CCTV initiative at Guam High School, so we may consider interviewing some of the School Board members.
- A complete computer refresh occurred with year-end reprogrammed funds. The final numbers of new computers for the Guam District is 518. Of this 444 computers were included in the funded purchase. Dell made an error and sent us the wrong model, so to compensate; they are sending us an additional 25 high-end desktops and 49 laptops. Teachers will present proposals to the Guam District Technology Committee for the use of the new laptops in their classrooms.
- We are in the final stages of preparing to redistribute old computers to GPSS as no authority exists to make this donation to the CNMI schools.

OLD BUSINESS

- The stop sign has been erected across from the family housing and the entry to Guam High School.
- We still need to add a new crosswalk from the USNH family housing to the new Guam High School to ensure safety. We will follow up on this with the DoDEA facilities officer.

NEW BUSINESS

- The School Board minutes will be posted on the DoDEA Website only after they have been approved and sign by the Board.
- Concerns are still being expressed related to the school bus drop off at McCool. We continue to monitor the drop off process. The school will remind parents of the safety issues involved in future newsletters.
- Uniforms will be a requirement starting January 7, 2008. Other than answering a few questions, no major issues have been raised about the uniform implementation.
- Concerns were expressed about the Guam High School music program. When compared to the middle school enrollment in band, there is a steady rate of drop off when students enter the high school music program. Several parents who had students in the middle school band program are commenting that their children are asking to drop the high school band class. They questioned whether this was a concern with the band program or a change of interest with the students. At Andersen Middle School, they noticed that some students dropped music between 1st and 2nd year, but overall the students enjoyed the middle school band experience. Dr. Williams noted that in reviewing the course choices made by the 8th grade students in May, and comparing them with those students current enrolled, most of the students are the same. A few new students have also joined the band as they PCS'ed to Guam. The intermediate and advanced bands have about 30 students enrolled, and the choir has 27 members, the largest in 4 years. The Ukulele Club is very popular with the students. This may be related to the fact that the club is held after school while music is an elective credit. With an extensive list of required classes for graduation, students have very few elective slots to fill with classes such as music.

OPEN FORUM

1. A parent commented on the low PSAT scores. He noted that some areas were high, but not in reading, writing and math. When he asked a teacher about the situation, the teacher responded "this is what I have to work with". The parents expressed concern regarding instructional approaches that seemed to be changing frequently, but are not substantiated with good test results. Dr. Williams indicated that the test scores were a concern. She has been working with the teachers to review all of test data to determine the best way to help the students achieve. The teachers are looking at some new learning strategies to increase achievement. These strategies are research based and will hopefully make a difference in student achievement.
2. A question arose about teaching test taking skills. It was clarified that the standardized tests are aligned to our DoDEA Standards and curriculum. We do teach test taking skills, but we are not allowed to review specific materials related to the test or to use other materials or booklets to prepare students for these tests. This is a DoDEA requirement.
3. The parent stated that when his child failed to hand in homework in a timely manner, a math teacher send the wrong message when he stated that he would accept late math assignments. The parent emphasized that the teacher should expect students to hand in their work on time as it is not just about math; it is an important life lesson.
4. Sports are an important part of the school program. A parent asked if the baseball coach is being paid. If he is paid, why isn't he coaching and teaching the kids about the sport. Why doesn't the coach attend practice? All that the coach did was write the lineup for players and nothing else. He did not coach or teach the kids. The assistant coach said that he could not do it, as he was not the head coach. The kids are not really practicing baseball. If nothing is happening to support the students, the coach should not get paid. The parent wondered if there a mixing of funds for transporting the teams and paying the coaches. It was clarified that the transportation funds are not comingled with coaching funds.
5. A parent expressed a concern that occurred at McCool School. His daughter was interviewed by NCIS about a situation that occurred outside of school, but the parents were not notified of the interview. One of the School Board members stated that his child was going to be interviewed, but that NCIS had called for permission. The policy is that before interviews could be conducted, NCIS would get parental permission. Mr. Diekmann would follow-up with NCIS on this issue.

PTO

- No PTO News

The next meeting will be held on January 15, at 6:00 PM at the new Guam High School.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

15 JAN 07
Date Signed


Chairperson