



Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools
Guam District
Office of the Superintendent
U. S. Naval Hospital Bldg 100
PSC 490 Box 7655
FPO AP 96538-1600

School Board Official Minutes
October 14, 2008, 6:00 – 7:30pm
Guam High School Library

School Board Members Present

Richard E. Friend
Kimberly Owens
Timothy A. Puzan
Jane Scanlon
William T. Locklear

School Board Members Absent

None

Non-voting Members Present

Susan E. Burdick
Barbara Askey, Navy

Non-voting Members Absent

Vacant, Air Force

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by president Richard Friend. Introductions of the School Board were made. Minutes for the September 2008 meeting was approved by unanimous vote.

Principals' Reports

Ms. Linda Connelly, Principal, Guam High School (GHS)

- Chelsea, a GHS student attended the National Young Leaders Conference in D.C.
- Far East journalism, tennis, volleyball, football, cross-country tournaments are coming up. GHS will host girls' volleyball. Details of these events will be in the newsletter. The Far East Girls' Volleyball planners need assistance with manpower in setting up and helping with official rooms. Information requesting this support will go in the newsletter
- We will hold a "Meet the Teams" night on Wednesday, 15 October, at 1700 in the Panther Den. All parents are welcome.
- PSAT – All 10th and 11th graders will be taking the PSAT on Wednesday, 15 October. Some 9th graders who've paid to take the test will also be taking the test.
- During PSAT, 9th graders will be working on the Red Ribbon Week programs with the support of the military.

- During PSAT, seniors will be having a breakfast and instruction on finances by Bank of Guam representatives.
- A senior class parent meeting will be on 23 October at 1730.
- PDI STARS will include parent workshops on 24 October at MEMS.
- No School will be in session for students on 31 October, as this is our teacher workday.
- Dr. Miles, Director of DoDEA, had a very successful visit to GHS. Students had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Miles during the day. A burning issue that the students had was going off base for lunch.

Ms. Helen Bailey, Principal, Andersen Elementary School (AES)

- Student Enrollment is 1020
- Personnel Update – Current Vacancies
 - Assistant Principal
 - ESL
 - Foreign Language Teacher (Spanish)
 - 1 Information Specialist

We found a crack in Building 1600 and notified the appropriate agencies/personnel for an evaluation. At this time, the building is structurally sound, but needs some cosmetic repairs.

- New Personnel
 - PM Pre-K – Selected Illuminada Mendiola (will start 20 Oct 08)
 - Kindergarten – Jennifer Herr
 - Kindergarten – Selected Sheila Franquez (will start 20 Oct 08)
 - 2nd Grade – Beth Twilley
 - 2nd Grade – Selected Robin Malicsi (will start on 20 Oct 08)
 - 4th Grade – Kristi Sabo
 - 5th Grade – Kim Allen
 - LI SPED Teacher – Katrina Pieper
 - PreK Aide – Jan Hummel
 - Kinder Aides – Stefany Morin
 - Nicole Walker
 - SPED Aides – Julie Porter
 - Bryan Willis
 - Lori Murray
 - Office Assistant – Mae Estoy
- Hispanic Heritage Assembly Dolphin Theater
 - Kinder, 1st and 2nd Grade 1245-1320
 - 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade 1330-1410
 - PTO Fall Festival 4-7 pm at Andersen Elementary School
- Important Dates
 - **30 Oct** End of First Quarter
 - **31 Oct** Teacher Work Day – No School for students

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

- NJHS News – Membership Requirements provided to parents via the school newsletter on 10 October. Scholarship (3.5), Service, Leadership and Character.
- Red Ribbon Week is 27 to 30 Oct. We have and Artist contest planned (Se Me , Be Me, Drug Free) poster are due by 15 October
- We have activities planned for each day of the week that are within the policies for school uniforms in the DDESS/Guam School District.
- School Picture retakes are scheduled for 18 November. Retakes will not be back before the Holiday Break. Parents notified via the weekly parent newsletter.
- 24 October – No school for students. Professional development day for all staff members in the DDESS/Guam, School District – PDI Stars. Parents notified via the weekly parent newsletter
- 31 October – No school for students. Teacher Workday (End of the First Quarter). Parents notified via the weekly parent newsletter.
- 11 November – No school for students (Veteran’s Day Federal Holiday) parents will be notified via the weekly school newsletter.
- 27 and 28 November – No school for students (Thanksgiving Break). Parents notified via the weekly school newsletter.
- 03 November (Monday) – Begin Second Quarter/First Semester.
- Misti Speck (6th Grade language Arts/Reading Teacher) is the new Student Council Sponsor at Andersen Middle School for the 2008 ~ 2009 School Year, parents were notified via the weekly newsletter I have included her e-mail address misti.speck@pac.dodea.edu
- In the parent newsletter on Friday, 10 October we sent a reminder to all parents concerning the dress code for school uniforms. We have had several students coming to school that were not in the appropriate attire.
- Andersen Middle School has a new attendance clerk, her name is Michelle Smith. One of her primary functions is to call parents when students are absent from school.
- Weekly after school activities (parents were notified via the schools weekly newsletter):
 - Homework Club 1420 to 1520 hours on Mondays and Thursday’s (Mr. Hack and Mrs. Ada are the sponsors)
 - Computer Club 1420 to 1520 hours on Wednesdays (Mrs. Bordallo is the sponsor)
 - Culture Club 1420 to 1520 hours on Wednesday (Mrs. Cruz is the sponsor)
 - Academic Challenge Bowl 1420 to 1520 hours on Wednesdays (Mr. Rhodes is the sponsor)
 - WAVE Club 1420 to 1520 hours on Thursdays (Mr. Diaz is the sponsor)
 - AMS Parents were notified via the weekly parent newsletter on Friday, 10 October.
- Andersen Middle School PTSO Officers for the 2008 ~ 2009 school year are:
 - Sharon Pomeroy – President
 - Judy Stine – Vice President
 - Kim Funk – secretary
 - Kirby Arnold – Treasurer
 - Crystal Box - Volunteer Coordinator
 - Chanttal Kinney - Membership

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

- Hosting tree planting – Oct 16 0900 with 1st Lady, Mrs. French and RDML French and Base CO. attending
- 22 Oct National Guard presentation for Red Ribbon Week.
- 24 Oct McCool host PDI Stars
- 28-31 Oct picture days
- 30 Oct Anna Kournikova visit MS & 5th grade
- 12-14 Nov parent teacher conferences
- Evaluating drop off circle for better flow and safety – will ask base safety’s opinion
- Girl’s Basketball and Boy’s Soccer still on going – haven’t won much – students enjoying themselves
- Volleyball season starting soon – boy’s and girl’s on same night – B team games on 2 Saturday’s

Superintendent’s Report: Dr. Gayle Vaughn-Wiles

1. PDI STARS

- This year we have included parent strands for the Professional Development Institute (PDI STARS). Parents can attend any of the programs throughout the day; however, there are special strands developed with parents in mind.
- Some of the items for parents include: assessment, math, reading, deployment, and working with your teen. Work shops are either 45 or 90 minutes in length.
- A babysitting service will be provided by the NJHS under the supervision of our PTO parents. We will need to know how many parents need the service in order to have the appropriate ratio of children to babysitters.
- The PDI is open to the local public and private schools. This is a good partnership that DDESS-Guam has with the local schools, and it is a great time to share our expertise. Workshops help bring those various academic areas into the classroom and enrich the classroom instruction.

2. School Board Vision

- We need to have a mission and goal for our school board. The vision is to engage the School Board members in partnership with parents and the community to support highest student achievement.
- Part of that vision is to have a vehicle for parents to support their child’s achievement. We plan to present specific areas of the school program at our School Board meetings to include: literacy in October; math in November; and assessment in December.
- Dr. Vaughn-Wile envisions that School Board would take this information back to their schools to provide support for parents in the area of literacy, math and assessment.

3. New Manpower Positions for the Anderson Complex Schools

- As a result of a large increase in student enrollment at Andersen Elementary School, DoDEA Headquarters has approved additional staffing. We are very pleased and grateful for this support. This will alleviate overcrowded classrooms and provide additional support staff. Some of the new staff will include a new nurse, librarian, office automation clerks, and classroom teachers.

- AMS also received new staff due to enrollment increases.
 - This year the DDESS Guam district has an enrollment over 2600, the highest enrollment since DDESS-Guam opened schools in 1997.
4. AdvancED/NCA Accreditation Visit
- School accreditation is very important for our schools and students. It has a major impact on high school students as they begin to apply to colleges. The vehicle for school accreditation is the School Improvement Process (SIP).
 - SIP is an ongoing process that focuses on student achievement. Parents, teachers and community members come together and review all of our school data keeping in mind the areas that need to be strengthened. Once the goals are selected, the teachers select the appropriate strategies to target improvement in student learning. The schools are working very hard to implement the strategies.
 - All the district schools will have their AdvancED Accreditation visit the first two week of February. There will be two teams that each consist of two stateside members and other Pacific Area augmenters. The team members will interview teachers, parents, and students and visit the Commands. They will also visit classrooms.
 - Parents are asked to join the school in this effort in supporting the SIP in preparation for the AdvancED accreditation visit.

OLD BUSINESS

- Bus Unloading in Rain Storms
 - Mr. Scantlan, MEMS assistant principal, provided information on the unloading of students during the rain storms. He stated that there is a possibility that the children be detained on their buses for a few minutes until the rain subsides. If there is prolonged rain, the buses could also unload in the loop in front of the school. We can also use the two transportation contractors to assist with the students to provide assistance with the children. Discussions will be held with the school staff to develop a plan to reduce the impact of boarding buses during inclement weather. Dr. Burdick has approached CAPT Galbreath and asked if the Navy had any funding to support covered walkways to the bus loop. CAPT Galbreath did not promise, but he would like to see the original plans for the covered walkways. Sometimes funds come available, but that would be their call. We can also bring this issue up to DoDEA engineers. CAPT Galbreath will be looking at it, and we will also go up the chain for DoDEA. This also affects Andersen students who; attend Guam High School, as they do not have covered walkways.
- Dr. Burdick indicated that there are specific rules and regulation regarding the use of MILCON funds.
- Col Talley indicated that we can submit a request for the funds to install the covered walkways, as they would be allowed because they had been part of the original plans. He indicated that it might still take a year to receive funds.
- Col Talley asked about the playground at AES. Dr. Burdick indicated that we have been promised the funds for the playground.

NEW BUSINESS

- Literacy for Parents (Jane Chop and Frances McDonald)
 - Jane and Frances shared a variety of topics to support the School Board's Parent Partnership work. Jane introduced the 8 components of the Pacific Area Office's Balanced Literacy Program and best practices, so students can become independent readers and writers. They also discussed the DoDEA Standards.
 - Reading Counts Program. We know that the more you read the better you become at reading. The more you read at your level the better reader the child becomes. To encourage appropriate grade level reading, our schools are using the Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI). In this program, students chose a book that interests them. Following their reading, they take individual test that provides a lexile score. This data helps teachers match the reading level of the student with the appropriate books. An appropriate list is generated based on the student's reading level. SRI is given to all grades from 3rd to 12th grade. Some teachers give it every quarter. Levels range from 0-1500. More information is on the Website. Lexile expectations by grade were shared. Reading counts has been introduced to the Guam District. Students select a book, take a quiz, and receive points as part of recognition programs.
 - 6+1 Traits in the research based writing program that most of our schools are using. The program includes prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. MEMS has an author's chair, so when students finish their work they can sit in the chair and share their writing. This program starts in 1st grade and goes up to 12th grade. It is also important for parents to know the terminology used in the program, so together they can work with their child on writing.
 - Research indicates that the more children read the better they become in reading and writing. A book, The Ways Parents Can Support Literacy At Home, was presented. Seven Keys to Comprehension are included in this important book.

OPEN FORUM:

- Comment: The Navy Thrift Shop had lots of uniforms available. They are on sale for \$1.00 a piece or for one to one trade. Schools can call Jane Scantlan 564-1880 (Navy/Marine Relief Society Office number) for more information.
- Open Forum ...continued
 - Heather Horvath, Navy Ombudsmen, asked if the School Board minutes were available online, because not even the dates for the School Board meetings are online. She also asked what the initial age is for the children for the PDI babysitters. Richard Friend, President, mentioned even if minutes are posted they will be a month later. The President said that he can approve a draft copy so the minutes can be posted immediately after the school board meeting.
 - What are we doing about teaching cursive to middle/high children? Parents expressed a concern about the lack of teaching cursive writing and worry about the children's future. A parent commented that they know about spelling not

being a concern, but still want to know what the schools are doing about teaching cursive. A comment was made that cursive writing is in the 3rd grade curriculum and is reinforced in the 4th and 5th grade curriculum. Another comment was that some of the problems experienced were that the teachers want students to write in cursive when students are unable to do so, and they are being marked down in their grade. We will research this topic and report back at the next meeting. A parent asked if there was a standard for cursive writing and if so, what it is. The answer is there is for 3rd grade. Our new textbook adoption will include a writing program. We will provide more information at the next meeting on our writing standard.

- A Guam HS Booster Club member asked if anyone had considered eye strain due to computer usage. There was little discussion on this issue.
- An inquiry was made as to when the textbooks for the middle school would arrive. MEMS will trace the order.
- A School Board member shared her appreciation at how Ms. Bailey took care of the Pre-Kindergarten issue related to the Child Development Center. She stated that “Ms. Bailey made magic and it is working”.
- A Board member asked about the status of school accreditation? The AdvancED will be coming to Guam the first 2 weeks of February for the accreditation visit. The team will be meeting with parents, students, and the Command.

- PTO News
No PTO reports were provided.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12, at 6:00 PM at Guam High School.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

11 NOV 08
Date Signed


Chairperson