

**GCEC Regular Meeting
Monday, August 15, 2016
2 p.m., UOG SOE Building**

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

GCEC Chair Hendricks called the meeting to order at **2:04 p.m.**, Mon, Aug 15, 2016 at the UOG - SOE, Room 213, Mangilao.

Commission Members: All Present

Others Present: Joann Muna (GCC), SOE Dean John Sanchez (GDOE) and Dan Del Priore (Guam Federation of Teachers)

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

L Santos added under New Business

B. 20th Professional Practices Institute, Oct. 26-28, 2016 in Des Moines, Iowa

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by M Santos to amend the agenda. APPROVED.

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by M Santos to approve the amended agenda. APPROVED.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

B. a. GFT

M Santos asked if the commission had a policy limiting the amount of time for people requesting to speak at a meeting. Hendricks and L Santos stated replied negatively. M Santos proposed that this be discussed at a later time.

Del Priore emailed John Walsh's (Civille and Tang) statement that "...*the Guam Bar Association had no per se rule but that their standard operating procedure is to hold in abeyance their investigation or prosecution until the adverse action procedure has run its course.*" By waiting for Civil Service to complete the process, GCEC can use all the Civil Service submissions and documents.

Del Priore suggested that if GCEC had concerns with adding language as requested by GFT, then the commission could consider adopting a standard operating procedure whereby complaints against classified educators will be held in abeyance while the adverse action procedure moves forward.

Hendricks expressed her concern regarding Walsh' statement relating to 6 years. Del Priore stated that the Guam Bar's statute of limitation is 6 years. Hendricks emphasized that "... *there was no way that we can have a teacher be in the classroom that is hurting kids.*" Del Priore said that GFT concurs with Hendricks "... *but they are looking at the procedure that the process would take place.*"

Baza-Cruz discussed that although GovGuam had a 60 day rule that they follow, the Camacho Torres law gives CSC 4 months to begin the investigation - not necessarily

to complete the process. Del Priore promised to provide a copy of the law and the CSC Resolution.

L Santos asked if CSC was caught up with their backlog. Del Priore stated that although the Camacho Torres law required an Administrative Judge, it is not yet in place.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by M Santos to approve the minutes. APPROVED.

III. REPORTS

A. TREASURER'S REPORT

Ichihara-Rosario reported that as of Aug 15, 2016, Expenditures were \$185,873.39 and the balance for the Local account was \$95,948.61.

For the Appropriation Account, FY16 rollover appropriated funds is \$20,866.49

Total FY 2016 Expenditures is \$8,614.98 and a balance of \$7,664.00

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by Cooper-Nurse to approve the Treasurer's Report. APPROVED.

B. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

No report.

C. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

From May 14 – Aug 5, 2016, GCEC issued 220 certificates, granted 2 extension request. There were 483 walk-ins, 808 emails and 1,635 telephone calls.

- 360 22% Office info – location, office hours, etc.
- 346 21% Others
- 224 14% Renewal requirements
- 187 11% PRAXIS
- 150 9% Initial info
- 88 6% DOE
- 79 5% SOE
- 45 3% Reciprocity
- 45 3% Endorsements
- 40 2% Extensions
- 34 2% Replacement certificates
- 21 1% Cost of Certificates
- 16 1% Educator file / records

A July 11, 2016 Educator Misconduct meeting was held.

L Santos responded to a NASDTEC survey on the policy regarding teacher prep program to teach dyslexic P-12 students.

Motion by Cooper-Nurse and seconded by M Santos to approve the Executive Directors report. APPROVED.

M Santos questioned the details of the Executive Director’s report. L Santos replied that those details were reported in the annual Citizen Centric Report that was submitted to the Office of Public Accountability. Baza-Cruz suggested that the details should only be discussed when it is was out of the norm. Sanchez recalled that the details was required because of a proposed bill relating to the possible consolidation of regulatory agencies.

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by Cooper-Nurse to limit the Executive Director’s report to highlights (meetings with legislature, changes in the budget, etc.) and to share with the commission info not contained in the Bi-Monthly reports. APPROVED.

L Santos discussed how the number of Temporary certificates was declining. PRAXIS Core test takers are having a difficult time passing the Math test. Sanchez stated that SOE is currently analyzing the data. Baza-Cruz and Hendricks suggested that GCEC post SOE-PRAXIS training on the commission website.

D. SUB-COMMITTEE

No reports.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Early Childhood certificates

Tabled for next meeting.

B. Bill 209-33 to amend PL 32-236

Hendricks designated Baza-Cruz to examine the issues. Hendricks and Baza-Cruz expressed their concern that an amendment might open the flood gates to other matters. Hendricks wants to make sure that if an SOP is adopted, that it complies with the law. Baza-Cruz is disturbed that the CSC hearing starts within 4 months with no idea how long it will take to complete. She closed by stating that she does not support the GFT position for classified educators.

C. Middle School Science

Hendricks discussed the need to look at Middle School Science and English. M Santos expressed her concern that “... *we might be hamstringing DOE with the flexibility of placement.*” Cooper–Nurse stated that there are only 7 middle schools. Hendricks added that there are 6 high schools. M Santos declared that the commission needs to examine the data. Hendricks is concerned with filling the vacancies. Hendricks has been analyzing the PRAXIS scores for Math, Science and English for the 7–12 grades. Although there has been a high failure rate, she feels that some of the test takers could probably pass the middle school test. M Santos discussed that for accreditation, “... *you need the content expertise and not only pass the test. Where in your training do you also have the content?*”

Sanchez stated that for the 2016 GDOE Job Fair, 43 Science teachers were needed – 17 for middle school & 26 for high school. Sanchez and Camacho explained that a teacher with a Middle School Math certificate can also get a Temporary certificate which allows the person to teach even in high school.

Language Arts needed 18 for secondary school. Social Studies needed 19.

M Santos volunteered to study the Middle School Science content test issue.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Chamorro Language Certification

Sanchez explained that for the teacher preparation program, educators must have their content and complete a teacher preparation program. The way the law is written, a student can graduate with a Chamorro Studies degree, take 18 lower division education credits and get a Basic Chamorro certificate. Camacho stated that this was the old practice under the previous law and she does not allow it anymore under PL 31-50. Camacho explained that they can only get a Basic Chamorro certificate because they did not complete a teacher preparation program. M Santos and Sanchez stated that based on the law, as long as they had a bachelor's degree, they could be fully certified. Camacho stated that for those with degrees in Early Childhood or SPED, but could not pass PRAXIS I or content or PLT, if they pass the proficiency test, they can start with a Temporary or Basic Chamorro. When they complete 24 credits in Chamorro based on the list of Chamorro classes, they can get an Initial Chamorro certificate. This practice came from the former commission member, Connie Guerrero, when the law passed in 2011. This way they can teach Chamorro, be fully certified because they have all the education foundation courses and student teaching. If they take the MAT or other programs, they will be required to pass PRAXIS. Camacho has informed both Mark Duarte (Yamashita Program) and Rufina Mendiola (GDOE Chamorro Program) that they need to inform Chamorro teachers that to be fully certified, they must complete a teacher prep program. Sanchez stated that the language must be clear. Camacho added that there are Basic Chamorro certificate holders who have completed 200 – 300 credits. Sanchez stated that their problem is that they cannot pass the PRAXIS CORE test which is needed to enter SOE. M Santos worked with Guerrero on the Chamorro certification law and feels that the law is clear. In addition, it is important that the language thrives. Santos will look at the law.

B. 20th Professional Practices Institute, Oct. 26-28, 2016 in Des Moines, Iowa
Baza-Cruz, M Santos and L Santos will be attending and expenses will be charged to the Fee Account. Hendricks will be paying for her expenses.

C. PRAXIS

- a. Taling Taitano forwarded to GCEC Judy Gutherz's email suggesting that GDOE request GCEC or the Legislature to pass a law "... allowing retired UOG and GCC Math, Science and hard to fill subject professors to teach for DOE on a limited term basis with a special certification recognition designation because of their education and teaching experience." They would not be required to take the education classes and also pass the PRAXIS tests.

L Santos informed Taitano that she forwarded her email to the commission members. M Santos believes that GCEC should not act on Gutherz's suggestion.

- b. Kin Fernandez wrote the commission requesting that anyone who has received an education degree but has not passed the Praxis I / CORE should be granted full certification. Ichihara-Rosario believes that this sets a bad precedent. Baza-Cruz added that the GCEC was created to raise the standards of the profession. She believes that these individuals need to take more classes and develop their skills to pass the test. M Santos stated that GCEC should not lower the standards to create a larger pool of teachers. Hendricks stated that since the 70's, a test was required for certification. Hendricks will draft response letter for Fernandez.

VI Ex-Officio

Muna discussed that perhaps Gutherz's suggestion was motivated by the law that allows retirees to return as double dippers at Step 4. Hendricks added that over the years, Superintendents have set different pay rates for double dippers ranging from Step 1 to Step 10.

VII Announcements

Baza-Cruz stated that a couple of teachers approached her requesting for Ethics training. The training is needed especially for new teachers. L Santos explained that she is working with GDOE Erika Perez to schedule Frederick Lane's training during FY17.

Baza-Cruz asked if an off-island teacher can maintain their mainland and Guam certificate concurrently. Camacho and L Santos said yes.

Meetings has been moved to Thursdays.

IX Adjournment

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by Ichihara-Rosario to adjourn. APPROVED.

Adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 22, 2016.