

**GCEC Regular Meeting
Wednesday, May 18, 2016
5:30 p.m., UOG SOE Building**

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

GCEC Chair Hendricks called the meeting to order at **5:30 p.m.**, Wed, May 18, 2016 at the UOG - SOE, Room 213, Mangilao.

Commission Members: All Present

Others Present: Joann Muna (GCC), Doris Faisao (GDOE) and Dan Del Priore (Guam Federation of Teachers)

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

L Santos added under New Business

- A. Dan Del Priore representing the Guam Federation of Teachers, and
- B. Praxis II Middle School Science.

Hendricks suggested to move New Business to the top.

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Guam Federation of Teachers

Dan Del Priore (GFT Field Representative) discussed that for classified public educators, GCEC “... *does no initiate investigatory or prosecutorial action until the Adverse Action process has been completed by the Guam Civil Service Commission. If no Adverse Action is undertaken, then certainly the Commission would be free to act.*” He added that GCEC can use CSC transcripts, exhibits and witness list for the GCEC hearing. Del Priore pointed out that PL 32-55 mandated time periods for CSC to act. He estimates the process will take 6 months.

M Santos asked if lawyers at the AG’s Office were classified employees and Del Priore replied “yes”. M Santos asked if the Guam Bar Association waited for CSC decisions before they disbarred lawyers. Del Priore replied that “they are not mandated to and I don’t know if they have such a requirement or procedure.” M Santos stated that she does not understand why teachers should be different. The licensing organization and the employer are separate entities with different functions. Del Priore will check the operating procedures of the Bar Association and inform GCEC if they do or not defer to CSC. He added that “*just because others don’t do it that way does not mean that we or you all have to do it that way.*”

Hendricks was concerned “*that when you have one group treated differently from another group that you open yourself up to discrimination.*”

Del Priore promised to send his findings on whether the Bar Association defers to CSC decisions when dealing with classified lawyers.

B. Middle School Science

Maria Christina Diaz sent a letter requesting for the commission to issue Middle School Science certificates by allowing her to take and pass the PRAXIS Middle School Science content test. DOE currently has 38 Science teacher vacancies - 17 are for Middle School. Santos explained that the individual is a Psychology major and has completed the MAT Program. GDOE placed her in a Science position. M Santos asked if she took Science courses. Camacho did not know. She added that there are several individuals in the same situation. M Santos explained that she wants to broaden the option of persons who want to teach. She expressed her concern for a person who acknowledges that their Science education is very limited, can't pass the required test and is requesting if they can take an easier test. Hendricks is willing to explore opening Middle School Science because of the need but not to accommodate those who cannot pass the Praxis Science content test. Ichihara-Rosario will take the lead in studying this issue.

IV. REPORTS

A. TREASURER'S REPORT

Ichihara-Rosario reported that as of May 10, 2016, Expenditures were \$129,588.26 and the balance for the Local account was \$152,233.74.

For the Appropriation Account, FY16 rollover appropriated funds is \$29,528.47, Total FY 2016 Expenditures is \$8,614.88 and a balance of \$19,641.98

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

L Santos explained that DOA granted GCEC permission to load \$72,873.15 from the Fee Account for local expenditures without an expiration date. She proposes funding the Oct 2016 PPI Conference in Des Moines, Iowa, the June 2017 NASDTEC Conference in New Orleans, and for Frederick Lane who will be conducting training on cybertraps and educator misconduct during FY 2017.

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by Ichihara-Rosario to a load \$72,873.15 into the GCEC account. APPROVED.

Santos will request for individual approvals from the commission for all expenditures from this account.

B. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

No report.

C. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

From March 5 to May 13, 2016, GCEC issued 81 certificates, granted 4 extensions and denied 1 extension request. There were 253 walk-ins, 428 emails and 908 telephone calls with the following breakdown.

- 218 24% Others
- 146 16% Office info – location, office hours, etc.
- 130 14% Renewal requirements
- 127 14% PRAXIS
- 64 7% Initial info
- 52 6% Endorsements
- 44 5% SOE
- 38 4% DOE
- 30 3% Reciprocity
- 23 3% Replacement certificates
- 21 2% Extensions
- 8 1% Cost of Certificates
- 7 1% Educator file / records

L Santos attended the GCC Advisory Committee meeting on March 11. She had meetings with the GDOE Investigator, GFT (Dan Del Priore and Sanjay Sharma), Vice Speaker of the Legislature and the AG.

L Santos responded to NASDTEC surveys for

- Washington on the policy for required credential requirement,
- New Hampshire on the jurisdiction's elementary teaching credentials,
- Pennsylvania on the services provided to limited English proficiency speakers,
- Massachusetts on specific incentives or programs regarding teacher recruitment efforts, and
- Annual Satisfaction Survey.

Hendricks added that she attended the GFT meeting with L Santos.

Motion by Ichihara-Rosario and seconded by Baza-Cruz to approve the Executive Directors report. APPROVED.

D. SUB-COMMITTEE

No reports.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. LIST OF PRAXIS II CONTENT TESTS

- a. Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications – Test #5354
Baza Cruz recommended using the PRAXIS II Elementary Ed content test # 5018 as the content test for Special Education because it tests knowledge in the 4 content areas (Math, Social Studies, Science and English). M Santos added that there is currently no content test for Special Education. M Santos

explained that this issue evolved because the previous test only tested Special Ed and not the content area.

Motion by Ichihara-Rosario and seconded by Cooper-Nurse to approve PRAXIS II # 5018 for the Special Education Elementary content test. APPROVED.

B. Early Childhood certificates

a. PLT Early Childhood – Test #5621

Cooper-Nurse enumerated the content categories of the test. M Santos stated that these are the same categories for the PLT K-6 and PLT 7-12. The difference is that it narrows the scenarios. She questioned if the commission wanted “*something this limiting*”? The issue is the endorsement for Early Childhood. M Santos asked should GCEC just maintain the 2 PLT’s or specific PLT for Early Childhood, Special Education, Elementary and Secondary. “*Do we want to be specific or leave it as an option for endorsement?*” Hendricks mentioned how the new federal law (Every Student Succeed Act) will cause changes in the future for special education. She added that perhaps GCEC should maintain the status quo. Ichihara-Rosario volunteered to investigate the issue in Hawaii during the summer. Cooper-Nurse explained that with the universal pre-school, she believes that the teachers need that Early Childhood PLT. M Santos asked if this was too limiting considering that the teachers are graduating with the K-6 degree and take the test that measures 5 to 11. M Santos suggested that perhaps this test should be considered for an endorsement. Hendricks pointed out that there will be a need for 40 pre-school teachers in the future.

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Cooper-Nurse to adopt Test # 5631 PLT Early Childhood with the recommended cut score from PRAXIS. APPROVED.

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

L Santos explained that the bill is still with Speaker Won Pat’s office. Hendricks recommended that all commission members study this issue because of the problems relating to discrimination and to develop questions for future discussions.

D. Requirement for Regional Accreditation

M Santos discussed how GCEC accepts degrees from foreign institutions with an evaluation from one the NACES members and that there is no level of scrutiny compared to not entertaining non-regionally accredited schools from the USA. She added that there is a question of equity. Based on the NASDTEC survey that was conducted for GCEC, out of 25 respondents, 40% of the respondents required regional accreditation, 32% No and 28% only had comments.

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by Ichihara-Rosario to close the issue on the requirement for regional accreditation. APPROVED

VI Ex-Officio

Muna stated that licensing organizations for all other professions do not wait for the government to take action on a license / certificate. Certification bodies are separate and apart from employers. She urges GCEC to stay firm, that the commission's job is certification and is separate from the job of their employers.

Faisao stated that the GDOE ROTC instructors get their certification from the Dept of the Army. GCEC handles the licensing and GDOE handles employment. If a GDOE employee gets arrested, GDOE does not get involved with the police investigation.

VII Announcements

No announcements.

Recess at 6:37 pm

VII Executive Session

Resume at 6:55 pm

Hendricks requested for a review of the Ethics laws.

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Baza-Cruz for a review of the Ethics law. APPROVED.

IX Adjournment

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by M Santos to adjourn. APPROVED.

Adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for August 15, 2016.