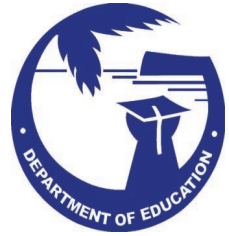




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K. ERIK SWANSON, PH.D.
Superintendent of Education

March 15, 2025

To: All Members, Guam Education Board

From: Superintendent

Subject: Superintendent's Report – March 18, 2025 GEB Meeting

Simon Sanchez HS Construction Project: The Superintendent, Deputy Adamos, and Principal Masnayan and her staff are meeting weekly with the project team led by Guam DPW. The team includes the DPW Director, construction manager, architect, OAG, GSA Procurement, GEDA, and others having a role in the project. The work currently centers on finalizing the detailed Request for Proposal (RFP) to identify a developer for the project. The team completed its initial work developing the RFP document and the evaluation criteria for selecting a vendor. These documents are under final OAG review for pre-publication. Recent press releases state that the RFP will be available to interested parties on March 28th. All other timelines can be made public once the RFP is awarded

Alternative for SSHS to leave JFK Double Session: Outcomes for developing an alternative site are limited by available land that can be immediately accessed to support temporary classrooms. We are currently working on locating ten extra classrooms on the FBLG campus which would result in 80 available classrooms for SSHS and FBLG to double session on the Yigo site. Recent changes brought on by US Ed policy changes accessing federal reimbursable funds and the contractor's loss of his labor force are impacting the work schedule. New estimates from the contractor predict completion by December 2025 or sooner. (Please see attached letter).

FBLG Middle School – Northern Construction states their loss of labor had disrupted the work schedule possibly delaying completion until December 2025. Change orders are pending funding that will allow the contractor to order materials that will affect the pace of work as well. Further procurements using reimbursable ARP funds remain delayed due to changes in the drawdown process with US Ed. Executive Branch decisions regarding US Ed are driving changes to reimbursement processes for ARP approved projects that significantly impact multiple projects. (Please see attached letter)

School Refurbishment Projects: Core Tech is currently working at 9 of the selected schools. Also see the supplemental sheet in your packet. Initial work at GWHS and AIJMS revealed that concrete crack and spall damage being corrected is significantly more extensive than the damage specified in the Corps of Engineers facility study that was the source document for the original solicitation and resulting bid. Full repair of roof cracks and concrete spalls is requiring additional funding. The contractor has projected the needs across the twelve schools and is requesting a change order to offset the cost over the entire project. The planned change order will total approximately \$8.3M for additional work at all included schools. We plan to fund this change from local funds to be drawn against personnel costs from ARP obligated dollars. Delays in accessing these funds could result in work stoppage impacting on time completion. Active work sites are GW, AIJMS, OCPES, JQ San Miguel ES, Benavente MS, and Finegayan ES. Once we have submitted and been reimbursed for expenditures to CoreTech, the pace of work can be better understood.

Status of FEMA Projects: I refer you to the supplemental document in your packet, GDOE-FEMA Typhoon Mawar Report. Several schools have received estimated awards, and several are awaiting determination by FEMA. The campuses already approved are being evaluated for work already completed and how it was funded to determine possible reimbursement. Remaining and FEMA approved repairs will be completed using local funds to be eligible. FEMA is also impacted by federal rule changes regarding reimbursements. Pay first with local funds and file for reimbursement.

Management Audit: Solicitation period closed Feb. 13th at 3 PM. A winning bidder has been selected but cannot yet be announced in keeping with local procurement law.

Auditor Pay Adjustment – Per the letter from DOA dated November 21, 2024, same subject (copy included in the packet). “The Auditor I, II and III positions are shared positions government wide. The DOA has classification and compensation authority over these positions. The Auditor IV (GDOE) and Chief Auditor (GDOE) positions are specific to GDOE. Aside from determining that the assigned pay grades for Auditor I through Chief Auditor (GDOE) positions remain status quo, we also found that the classification specifications of all these positions do not need amending.” This determination has been formally appealed to the Department of Administration. (See supporting letter in the packet).

Respectfully,

K. E. Swanson, PhD
Superintendent