

Renovating Sanchez High

Maria Hernandez, mhernande@guampdn.com 12:03 a.m. CHST October 5, 2015



(Photo: PDN file)

Rayana Ubas, a senior at Simon Sanchez High School, said the current state of the school's campus is not suitable for learning. [Fullscreen](#)

"Having to learn in an environment where it's already falling apart is not a good thing for a student," Ubas said. "School is actually supposed to be a place to make you feel safe." **Disappointed at Simon Sanchez High School**

As she walks through the halls to get from one part of the campus to another, she says she has to be conscious of leaking rooftops and sinking floor panels so as not to trip or get her books wet.

"I'm just like, OK, if I step on that, I'm doomed because what happens if I fall in that," she said.

Guam DOE Superintendent Jon Fernandez said the building is in need of significant renovation.

"That's why I worked with Speaker Won Pat and Governor Calvo to find the \$100 million in funding for school repairs and renovations. While I would have liked to have seen the ... projects start much earlier, we have been working closely with (Department of Public Works) ... to complete the procurement process that will finally get us started," Fernandez said.

Local law authorizes \$100 million for a leaseback program for schools in need of major renovation or construction.



Broken floor tiles with no grout cover the student library at Simon Sanchez High School in Yigo on Oct. 1. (Photo: Mark Scott/PDN)

The law would allow a landlord developer to take over schools in need of major repairs, and then Guam DOE would lease the schools from the landlord developer until they are paid for.

Simon Sanchez has been a priority for the department, and plans are to build a new campus to address existing problems — including a lack of windows and aging facilities.

DPW, the lead agency for the project, issued a request for proposals for the project on June 15.

Interested companies had 90 days from the day the request was published to respond to the invitation for bids.

The deadline to submit the invitation for bids was Aug. 28. However, it has been pushed back to Nov. 6, according to DPW Deputy Director Felix Benavente.

The deadline was pushed back because of a lengthy question and answer period.

"The whole process of getting back the answers took almost six weeks," he said.

Friday was the last day for interested companies to submit additional questions in connection with the bid.

Once the proposals are submitted, they will go through a review process, in which a selection committee will decide which company will be awarded the contract.

"Each (submission) will have to be reviewed and rated," Benavente said.

After the committee selects the awardee, the chosen company will be given time to compile and submit documentation, including corporate papers and licenses.

The company will then negotiate the contract, which could take about 30 days, he said.

After that, it could be about four more months until any construction begins, he said.

Benavente said the contracted company for the project will propose whether to build an entirely new high school or renovate the existing structure.

Fernandez previously told the Pacific Daily News the agency opted to build a new campus as opposed to renovating the existing structure.

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Because the agency has a large property surrounding the existing campus to build a new school, it's possible to keep students' school year uninterrupted as they can continue to use the current campus as a new one is built, Fernandez has said.

If the decision is to build a new school, some of the old structures can be taken down to make room for sports facilities, he has said.

"We are looking forward to the bidders giving us an assessment of the options to renovate or to build," Fernandez said.

"We'd like to see students remain on campus without the need to find an alternate location."

At the school last week, waterlogged ceiling tiles can be seen in the hallway.

Melvin Finona, assistant principal for discipline at the high school, said water seeps in through the ceiling and sometimes in through a doorway at the school, flooding the hallways when it rains.

Rats

Finona also pointed out a hole in the hallway that is known for housing rats.

However, he said, the rats don't normally come out during school hours.

Ray Villafior, a social studies teacher at Sanchez, said he also has issues with rats in his classroom.

While they don't come out when people are in the classroom, he said, he cautions students not to eat in class because the crumbs might attract the critters at night.



(Photo: Mark Scott/PDN)

On Thursday, students ushered in and out of restrooms that emitted a strong, pungent smell of urine. Inside the restrooms, standing water pooled in sinks, graffiti was painted on bathroom doors and human waste sat in toilets that did not flush.

"Sometimes we don't have much supplies," Ubas said.

"Our soap dispensers are not working. Sometimes in the restrooms, the toilets — they don't flush," she said.

While the renovation will not be complete until after Ubas graduates, she said she hopes it will be done in time for when her younger siblings attend the school.

"I just want it to be fixed," she said.

"Like a lot of people have been saying, it's gonna be fixed, it's gonna be fixed.' I've just been waiting. I'm already a senior. This has been happening since I was a freshman."

Fernandez said he's ready for construction to begin.

"To the students, I know it's hard to be patient. I'm glad that teaching and learning still take place, as evidenced by two Gates Millennium Scholars in the past two years," he said.

"There are many strong teachers and students there now and a good team of administrators. At the same time, I'm ready to see a change in the condition of those facilities, and we need the work to start soon."

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Sanchez High to be inspected

Maria Hernandez, mohernandez@guampdn.com

12:03 a.m. CST October 6, 2015



(Photo: Mark Scott/PDN)

Following a Pacific Daily News report on the deteriorating conditions of Simon Sanchez High School, a team from the island's public health department visited the school Monday to perform a preliminary health inspection.

"It can't get any worse than it is," said James Gillan, director of the Department of Public Health and Social Services.

Disrepair at Simon Sanchez High School

Jon Fernandez, Guam Department of Education superintendent, said the school is in need of significant renovation, PDN reported Monday.

Conditions at the school last week included water-logged ceiling tiles, rat holes in the walls, unsanitary restrooms with standing water pooled in sinks, and toilets that didn't flush.

Gillan noted part of the reason for the poor conditions is the way students choose to treat their campus.

"I'm just very disappointed. Not in DOE... I don't know what's happening with our children," he said. "Part of it may be because of the physical facility itself... It's old and has got problems."

Michelle Lastimoza, an environmental public health officer at DPHSS, said a three-person team visited the school Monday morning to perform a "comprehensive, room by room" preliminary inspection of the entire school, except the cafeteria.



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Fix Sanchez High quickly or build a replacement

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/05/fix-sanchez-high-quickly-build-replacement/73363840/>)

The school could be shut down if health standards are not met.

Simon Sanchez was shut down in 2013 after it was found that the school's leaking roof would cause massive flooding in hallways and a majority of classes were without air conditioning, Fernandez said. There also were fears of structural defects, he said.

Since then, the department sealed the roof, installed air conditioning units and worked with the Department of Public Works to address structural concerns.

While the issues that shut down the school in 2013 were different from recently observed problems, Fernandez said the education department agrees a major renovation needs to take place — one that would include electrical upgrades, repairs to duct systems and restroom modernization.

Lastimoza said it was not clear how long the health department's inspection would take or when the results would be released.

The team will assess whether the school has an approved sewage disposal system, a valid sanitary permit, adequate toilet facilities, adequate lighting throughout the school, and ventilation, among other items on a checklist.

Public Health plans to coordinate another inspection of the school with a team composed of officials from multiple agencies, including the Guam Fire Department, Guam DOE and Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Gillan said.

Guam Education Board Chairman Peter Alexxis Ada said Guam Cleaning Masters is the company contracted by Guam DOE to clean the restroom facilities.

"My question here is, 'How long has the contractor not followed through with the cleaning of the restroom facilities and what else haven't they cleaned?'" Ada said.

"Where is the school administration to follow through?"

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[\(http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2015/10/04/renovating-sanchez-high/73192026/\)](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2015/10/04/renovating-sanchez-high/73192026/)

On Monday, Ada said he was waiting on answers from the school as to when the last work request was submitted.

Guam Cleaning Masters General Manager Alex Thomas said his company has been in business with Guam DOE for close to 15 years. In the time he's worked with the department, he said Simon Sanchez and George Washington High schools are the only facilities that have posed any problems.

"Basically the school is too old," he said. "There are major plumbing issues. The urinals — a lot of areas. How am I going to clean a toilet bowl that can't even flush? How am I to clean a urinal that can't even flush?"

Under the contract, the company visits Sanchez every day from 6 to 9 a.m., Thomas said.

"We are just there to clean the restrooms and get out of there," he said.

They clean the restrooms every day, but they return to poor conditions after only a short time, he said.

"The beautiful children, they're a little bit naughty," he said. "They break up the (soap) dispensers. Why doesn't (the restroom) have a dispenser? They're breaking it all away... and putting toilet tissue in the toilet bowl and plugging it."

Fernandez said the department is working with its cleaning vendors to ensure they are doing their job.

"The school is old but there are still obligations that they need to meet," he said. "I had my deputy superintendent speak directly with their management to address the school's current concerns."

Restrooms are a big concern not just at Simon Sanchez but in schools throughout the system, Fernandez said. He added plumbing, stalls and fixtures need to be upgraded.

Local law authorizes \$100 million for a leaseback program for schools in need of major renovation or construction.

The law would allow a landlord developer to take over schools in need of major repairs, and then Guam DOE would lease the schools from the landlord developer until they are paid for.

Simon Sanchez has been a priority for the department, and plans are to build a new campus to address existing problems, including a lack of windows and aging facilities.

DPW, the lead agency for the project, issued a request for proposals on June 15.

Interested companies had 90 days from the day the request was published to respond to the invitation for bids. The deadline is Nov. 6.

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Sanchez High inspection reveals rodents, inoperable toilets

Posted: Oct 06, 2015 4:53 PM
Updated: Oct 13, 2015 4:53 PM

By Isa Baza [CONNECT](#)

The fate of Guam's largest high school hangs in the balance as a preliminary results of a Public Health inspection at Simon Sanchez High School have yielded alarming results. Overflowing toilets, rat infestation, and a slew of maintenance issues has led the agency officials to conduct a full inspection at the Home of the Sharks.

Department of public health and social services director James Gillan said the health inspection continued this morning. "It looked pretty bad, you could also see there were things pulled off the wall, towel dispensers and things like that," he stated.

He said preliminary results of the inspection that began Monday and will continue tomorrow are alarming. As of 2pm this afternoon, Sanchez High's campus in Yigo received a total of 48 demerits. Gillan says schools warrant closure after 40. And depending on tomorrow's assessment, the number of demerits may go up or down.

Some of the biggest problems identified were maintenance and facility issues.

"As far as the condition of most of the toilet facilities they weren't too bad, but again typically no soap dispensers, no paper towels, which can be taken care of fairly quickly. Chris Anderson and his rapid response people were right behind us making sure that was done," said Gillan. While one urinal wasn't working, he said many other issues were easy fixes. One of the biggest was a rodent infestation. Gillan said facilities maintenance contributes to the issue.

Superintendent of public education Jon Fernandez said, "The more significant pieces related to cleaning and rodents, we're working with our outsourced vendors to make sure that they meet the terms of their contract and then work together to find the most effective solution."

It was back in 2013 when similar problems led DOE voluntarily closed Simon Sanchez. The superintendent added, "From 2013 to where we are today I have not seen a recurrence of some of those major issues that we invested in trying to fix." However, both Fernandez and Gillan contend the campus is in need of major investment. Bids for the \$100 million request for proposal to renovate DOE schools are due by November 6.



GDOE Superintendent
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We will have to wait and see what the bidders come up with.
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3:52 PM - 6 Oct 2015 · Tamuning, GU, Guam

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Department of Public Works director Felix Benavente says the RFP calls for the renovation or rebuilding of Sanchez High, and the creation of a master plan to categorize the needs of 35 other public school campuses. If the RFP continues on track, Benavente says construction on a new or renovated Simon Sanchez could begin early next year.

As for the immediate needs, Public Health is working with DOE and its maintenance contractor Guam Cleaning Masters to mitigate and address immediate issues so that the school will be cleared to open Thursday morning.

The campus will open on Wednesday and every measure will be taken in an effort to keep the school open. In a statement to KUAM News, former Consolidated Commission on Utilities chairman Simon Sanchez - grandson of the school's namesake - said, "Concentrate on the children and try to improve the facility as soon as possible. It's long overdue."



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GDOE, Public Health work to keep Simon Sanchez open

Maria Hernandez, mohernande@guampdn.com

11:22 p.m. ChST October 6, 2015



(Photo: Mark Scott/PDN)

A health inspection team that examined the conditions of Simon Sanchez High School on Monday and Tuesday found enough health violations to close the school, according to Guam's public health department director.

Disrepair at Simon Sanchez High School

However, Director James Gillan said his department would work closely with the Guam Department of Education to keep the school open.

Superintendent Jon Fernandez said the school would be open Wednesday.

"We're working hand in hand with the health department," Fernandez said. "We'll work with them (Wednesday) and make sure we can keep functioning at the school and address any health and safety issues."

Gillan said the school received a "demerit rating" that warrants a shutdown of the facility.

A demerit score is a tally of health violations that an inspection team finds.

After the inspections conducted Monday and Tuesday, Gillan said the school received a demerit score of 48.

A score of 40 is enough to shut down the school.

"Right now, the demerit rating could possibly close them," Gillan said Tuesday afternoon. "We're going to do everything we can short of compromising the health and safety of the kids."

A team composed of officials from Guam DOE and Guam Public Health and Social Services visited Sanchez for the second day of health inspections Tuesday. Public Health conducted a preliminary inspection Monday following a Pacific Daily News report on the deteriorating conditions of Simon Sanchez.

The inspection will continue Wednesday, Gillan said.

Early Tuesday morning, Gillan told Pacific Daily News the conditions at the school were not bad enough to close the facility. Tuesday afternoon, Gillan said further assessment of the school garnered more serious findings, which led the health department and Guam DOE to find alternatives so the school could be kept open.

One major infraction found at the school, Gillan said, is a rat infestation.

"That's got to do with making sure the outside grounds is clean, grass is cut and trash is dumped," he said.

The department's pest control vendors were on site Tuesday to resolve the issue, as well as several of the issues raised, Fernandez said.



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Sanchez High to be inspected

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2015/10/05/sanchez-high-inspected/73364042/>)

Fernandez on Monday said the school is in need of significant renovation. Conditions at the school last week included water-logged ceiling tiles, rat holes in the walls, unsanitary restrooms with standing water pooled in sinks, and toilets that didn't flush.

After the first two days of the inspection, Fernandez noted that many of the demerits from the inspection were "quick fixes." For example, locker rooms were missing shower heads.

"Students are removing them because they like the water flow," he said.

Fernandez said demerits also were tacked on for paper in the air conditioners, which he said students would place in the ducts because classrooms were too cold.

Additionally, demerits were added for too many plugs in a multioutlet extension cord at one time, he said.

"I don't think there's going to be any need to shut down classrooms," he said.



PACIFIC DAILY NEWS

Renovating Sanchez High

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2015/10/04/renovating-sanchez-high/73192026/>)

As far as the restrooms, Gillan said, there was only one out-of-order urinal. "The rest of it was ... people stuffing things in the toilet," he said.

Gillan said the core of the problem with the school's condition is student inaction.

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Public Health continues inspection of Sanchez

Maria Hernandez, mohernandez@guampdn.com 11:04 p.m. ChST October 7, 2015



(Photo, PDN file)

Officials from the island's public health department and Guam Department of Education continued inspections at Simon Sanchez High School on Wednesday, as efforts continue to fix health and safety issues at the school.

Health inspections began Monday. On Friday, the health department at Simon Sanchez High School's inspections, note whether Guam DOE resolved issues and any additional concerns that need to be addressed, said James Gillan, director of the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services.

On Wednesday, Gillan said the agency sent a report to Guam DOE detailing the tentative results of the ongoing health inspection at Sanchez.

There was confusion between the health agency and the Guam Department of Education Tuesday about the seriousness of the results of Monday and Tuesday's inspection because of a misunderstanding about how demerits are determined, he said.

A demerit score is a tally of health violations that an inspection team finds.

After the Monday and Tuesday inspections, Gillan said the school received a demerit score of 48. A score of 40 is enough to shut down the school.

"They said they weren't aware the situation went from so-so to bad," he said Wednesday. "It was their position it was a surprise to them. I didn't understand that... (Their) people were there every time we pointed out something."

As of press time Wednesday, Guam DOE Superintendent Jon Fernandez couldn't be reached for comment.

There was no need to move students from their classrooms to alternative locations Wednesday because "there was no classroom that was considered unsafe," Gillan said.

Gov. Eddie Calvo is standing by to pull in agencies that could help resolve some of the school's maintenance issues, Gillan said.

"Anybody with maintenance work — carpenters and electricians — that's what we have on standby," he said.

The inspection will continue Thursday, Gillan said.

"We want to make sure we do a very thorough job," he said.

Guam Education Board Chairman Peter Alecxis Ada said he was among the officials on campus Wednesday during the inspection.

Ada said the school's teachers and students could've solved some of the issues that resulted in demerits, such as moving desks so a wire wasn't exposed or picking up a box in a book room.

One particular infraction that has been addressed is showers at the school without water spouts.

"All of the shower rooms now do have water spouts," he said.

Ada said he was unsure whether any other issues had been resolved since Monday.

Public Health conducted a preliminary inspection of the school Monday after a Pacific Daily News report on the deteriorating conditions of the high school.

Conditions at the school last week included water-logged ceiling tiles, rat holes in the walls, unsanitary restrooms with standing water pooled in sinks, and toilets that didn't flush.

Guam DOE Superintendent Jon Fernandez on Monday said the school was in need of serious renovation.

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JTC Services is a local company seeking to hire individuals to work on a federal contract on Naval Station and Andersen Air Force Base.

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Work at Simon Sanchez continues into weekend

Maria Hernandez, mohernande@guampdn.com 9:41 p.m. ChST October 9, 2015



(Photo: PDN file)

Some of the health and safety concerns identified by the island's health department this week at Simon Sanchez High School have been dealt with, according to Superintendent Jon Fernandez.

Guam Department of Education officials will continue to correct other problems this weekend, and several GovGuam agencies are available to assist, Fernandez said.

Following inspections on Monday and Tuesday, health department Director James Gillan said the school received enough infractions to shut down the facility.



PACIFIC DAILY NEWS

Public Health continues inspection of Sanchez

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2015/10/07/public-health-continues-inspection-sanchez-1008/73500736/>)

On Friday, about half of the infractions had been addressed, Fernandez said.

"Over the weekend, we'll make further progress," he said.

The superintendent said school staff, administrators and other employees are pitching in, as well as the Mayors Council. Gov. Eddie Calvo also has responded to a request from Fernandez for help, according to the governor's office.

Several GovGuam agencies — including A.B. Won Pat International Airport Authority and Guam Public Works — are on standby to provide manpower, equipment and other supplies to address maintenance issues at the school, Fernandez said.

The health department began inspections at the school following a Pacific Daily News report that described the high school's poor condition.

On Thursday, the governor's office issued a release stating Fernandez had requested the administration's help in addressing safety and cleanliness not only at Sanchez, but at all island public schools.

Fernandez said the education department would continue to work with the governor's office to address schools in need of renovation or construction until repairs can be complete across the school system.

Once the education department addresses issues at Simon Sanchez, it plans to sit down with key agencies to create a schedule to assist all schools in the same way.

Local law authorizes \$100 million for a program that would help schools in need of major renovation or construction.

The law would allow a landlord developer to take over schools in need of major repairs, and then Guam DOE would lease the schools from the landlord developer until they are paid for.

The deadline for interested companies to submit a contract proposal is Nov. 6. Department of Public Works deputy director Felix Benavente previously told the Pacific Daily News. The final plan might include a brand new facility.

"I'm hopeful we can soon begin the long-term work on Simon Sanchez High School as well as other schools within the \$100 million investment that we know will greatly assist us in providing environments conducive to learning," Fernandez said.

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Negotiations stall Simon Sanchez renovation, other projects

Haidee V. Eugenio, Pacific Daily News 12:29 a.m. CHST May 3, 2016



(Photo: PDN File)

The Guam Department of Education is still involved in negotiations with a nonprofit organization that is the go-to choice to perform renovations at [Simon Sanchez High School \(/picture-gallery/news/2015/10/04/disrepair-at-simon-sanchez-high-school/73327804/\)](#) and other projects, Guam DOE Superintendent Jon Fernandez said.

The high school renovation, along with the other projects, is capped at \$100 million.

"We're just hoping that we can conclude negotiation as soon as possible," Fernandez said.

Fernandez met last week with officials from the Department of Public Works, the Guam Economic Development Authority, the Attorney General's Office and the project's highest-ranked offeror, Guam Education

Facilities Foundation.



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[Sanchez High improvements unlikely until end of 2016](#)

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2015/10/26/sanchez-high-improvements-unlikely-until-end-2016/74611724/>)

GEFF is a nonprofit group established by development company Iron Bridge Capital Partners Inc., which leases four schools to the government of Guam. The schools are Astumbo Middle School, Liguán Elementary School, Adacao Elementary School and Okkodo High School.

As to what the remaining sticky points are, Guam DOE said those couldn't be disclosed at this time, as negotiations are ongoing.

At some point in the process, the interagency project committee has to decide whether to award the contract to GEFF as the highest-ranked offeror or to move on to the next best offeror, if terms cannot be reached between GEFF and the committee.



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[Renovating Sanchez High](#)

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2015/10/04/renovating-sanchez-high/73192026/>)

"Procurement in general on this island probably could use some improvement," Fernandez said. "But in this particular case when you're talking about \$100 million and you're talking about complex work, then you want to make sure that enough time is given to do a good job and make sure that the procurement is successful. So it's not just the amount of money, it's the complexity of entering into an agreement in construction and so forth. This is a pretty big procurement."

The public works department is leading the procurement for the \$100 million Guam DOE projects, with priority given to the Simon Sanchez High School renovation.

A request for proposals was issued in June 2015. In January, Core Tech International, one of the companies that submitted a bid, filed a protest, stating procurement law wasn't followed during the evaluation process.

The protest was denied and negotiations with GEFF recommenced that same month.



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[DPW denies Core Tech project protest](#)

[\(http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2016/01/30/dpw-denies-core-tech-project-protest/79501850/\)](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2016/01/30/dpw-denies-core-tech-project-protest/79501850/)

"Right now we're holding off on major investment (at Simon Sanchez)," Fernandez said. "We want to make sure we continue to support the school but at the same time we want to recognize that we're in the middle of procuring renovations to our facilities whether it's rebuilt or whether it's renovated in part. My job right now is to help us get through procurement successfully."

If a roof leaks at Simon Sanchez, there is patchwork that will be done but there won't be roof replacement because that could eat up a large chunk of money, according to Fernandez.

Guam DOE would rather wait for the major renovation, the procurement which is still under negotiation.

Once a contract award is made, then there will be more detailed discussion of the design component of the project, among other things, Fernandez added.



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[Forum asks how would new candidates help schools, GMH](#)

[\(http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2016/04/27/forum-gives-new-candidates-voice/83623952/\)](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2016/04/27/forum-gives-new-candidates-voice/83623952/)

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JTC Services is a local company seeking to hire individuals to work on a federal contract on Naval Station and Andersen Air Force Base.

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Clock ticks for Simon Sanchez to address safety hazards

Haidee V Eugenio, Pacific Daily News 12:08 a.m. CHST May 13, 2016

School seeks volunteers to help scrape off falling paint on walls, ceilings, etc.

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(Photo: PDN file)

Simon Sanchez High School may not be able to address all the remaining health and safety hazards on campus by the time the Department of Public Health and Social Services re-inspects the facility on May 21.

Disrepair at Simon Sanchez High School

However, school principal Carla Masnayan and Guam Department of Education deputy superintendent Anderson are hoping that Public Health will consider the amount of work that's already been done year and a specific action plan to address the remaining ones.

To date, Simon Sanchez High School has a health and sanitation inspection rating of "C."

A downgrade to "D" does not necessarily mean a shutdown for the school.

But even if a shutdown will be ordered for Simon Sanchez High School after the May 21 follow-up with still repeat violations, classes will already be over by then. Public school classes end on May

The summer time, according to Masnayan, will give Simon Sanchez High School ample time to address the remaining violations because that's the most amount of human and material resources such as scraping off interior and exterior walls and ceilings of peeling paint and then repainting.

"The ones that we're trying to work on now are the ones that cost a lot of money. So, for example, like the peeling paint because it's not only one area," Masnayan said.



PACIFIC DAILY NEWS

Sanchez High improvements unlikely until end of 2016

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2015/10/26/sanchez-high-improvements-unlikely-until-end-2016/74611724/>)

The principal said Simon Sanchez High School needs all the help from volunteers and government of Guam agencies for them to be able to address the remaining violations.

Volunteers may include students, teachers, parents, community members, private groups and other stakeholders, she said.

Based on the Division of Environmental Health's school building inspection report signed and sent on April 21, Simon Sanchez High School must correct repeat violations such as removing peeling paint from interior and exterior building walls including but not limited to the ones in the gymnasium, Science Building and the boy's restroom; a ceiling that's leaking from the skylight above the cafeteria stage area; outdoor trip hazards such as loose floorboards; and awning in disrepair.

Claire M. Baradi, environmental public health officer, confirmed Thursday that Simon Sanchez High School's remaining health violations involve peeling paint on walls and ceilings, and other facility concerns having to do with maintenance and housekeeping. These issues are listed in an inspection report signed April 21.



PACIFIC DAILY NEWS

GDOE, Public Health work to keep Simon Sanchez open

Plans of action

Masnayon and Anderson said Simon Sanchez High School would be able to show specific plans of action to address the remaining hazards

Besides seeking volunteers to help scrape off peeling paint on walls and ceilings, the school also looks at borrowing a lift from another agency the Guam International Airport Authority, to be able to reach the gym's high ceilings and scrape it off.

There is no telling yet whether the cash-strapped school will be able to buy paint and apply it on several problem walls and ceilings, and whether there will be enough manpower to do the painting.

Public Health's Division of Environmental Health inspected Simon Sanchez High School for three days in October 2015 and found dozens of ([/story/news/2015/10/12/sanchez-remains-open-despite-high-demerit-score/73802388/](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2015/10/12/sanchez-remains-open-despite-high-demerit-score/73802388/)) that resulted in citations.

A follow-up inspection between December 2015 and early January 2016 still found several items not corrected.

A February 12 follow-up inspection ([/story/news/2015/10/07/public-health-continues-inspection-sanchez-1008/73500736/](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2015/10/07/public-health-continues-inspection-sanchez-1008/73500736/)) based on the previous inspection still found items that were not corrected, and the school was given up to April 21 and May 21 to address these remaining concerns.

"We're going in for the follow-up inspection and we hope that they've already corrected the issues by then. But we have been working with the issues," Public Health's environmental public health officer administrator Rosanna Rabago said.

Anderson said on Wednesday that Simon Sanchez High School went ahead and decided to buy corrugated tin to replace the damaged canopy in a student walkway.



PACIFIC DAILY NEWS

Simon Sanchez High fire alarm malfunction possibly linked to maintenance needs

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2016/05/09/simon-sanchez-high-fire-alarm-malfunction-possibly-linked-maintenance-needs/84129220/>)

'Not critical' but needs to be addressed

Baradi said the remaining violations are "not critical violations" but just the same, the school needs to "remove the hazards."

Baradi said Public Health's Division of Environmental Health has been working closely not only with Simon Sanchez High School to address safety hazards, but also with five other schools that are a part of a school sanitation pilot program.

This pilot program is an important tool for schools to be able to monitor their own facilities and address health and safety concerns more effectively before Public Health can cite them for any violations.

'Miscommunication'

Anderson said there might have been "miscommunication" after Public Health conducted a re-inspection in February.

He said at the time, Guam DOE was concerned that their letter rating of "C" would be downgraded to "D," which the school system thought would result in an automatic shutdown of Simon Sanchez High School. That could mean classes had to be suspended for an indeterminate number of days.

"They clarified to us that that's not the way it works," Anderson said.

Receiving a "D," he explained, doesn't automatically mean the school will be shut down.

Guam DOE, he said, was under the impression that it had to put in a request for extension "to be all the way until a new campus is built."



PACIFIC DAILY NEWS

Negotiations stall Simon Sanchez renovation, other projects

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2016/05/02/negotiations-stall-simon-sanchez-renovation-other-projects/83813356/>)

"And that's why I'm saying I think Public Health misunderstood what we're trying to accomplish, in that we're not wanting to address the citation wasn't the case. We were just concerned that we were not going to be able to take care of some of the high-value items like painting, and then we want to get shut down because we weren't able to address something that in our estimation was not a direct health and safety issue for students," Anderson said.

He added that what Public Health would want from Guam DOE is for the challenges to be dealt with completely, and that's also what Guam DOE wants.

The Guam Department of Education is prioritizing Simon Sanchez High School for a major renovation or reconstruction, using up to \$100 million in funding for different schools.

But as of early this week, negotiations with the best-ranked offeror, Guam Education Facilities Foundation, and the Department of Public Works with Guam DOE, are still ongoing, DPW deputy director Felix Benavente said.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH			
4			
SCHOOL BUILDING INSPECTION REPORT			
REASON	INSPECTION DATE	ESTABLISHMENT NAME	
Regular	02/12/16	SIMON SANCHEZ HIGH SCHOOL	
Follow-up	INSPECTION TIME	OWNERS/OPERATION	
Complaint	10:30 AM to 12:00 pm	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	
Investigation	TRAVEL TIME	LOCATION	
Other (Specify)	Hr. Min.	HIGU, GUAM	
SANITARY PERMIT NO.		PERMIT CATEGORY STATUS (Circle One)	STAR TYPE
190000429		Permanent Temporary Current Expires	SCHOOL BUILDING
Based on an inspection this day, the items listed below identify violations in operation or facilities which must be corrected by the next routine inspection or such shorter period of time as may be specified by the Department. Failure to promptly correct may result in cessation of your operation.			
ITEM NO.	REMARKS		CORRECT BY DATE
15	A follow-up inspection was conducted on February 12, 2016 based on a previous follow-up inspection conducted on December 3 and December 29 - 30, 2015 and January 5, 2016 and a previous regular inspection conducted on October 5 - 6 and October 8, 2015. The follow-up inspection resulted in a downgrade from "B" to "C" grade with six demerit points due to repeat violations. The following observations were noted: THE FOLLOWING ITEM NUMBERS WERE CORRECTED: Walls and Ceilings - Eight out of 18 observations were corrected: The following walls, ceilings, and/or ceiling tiles were not in good repair, light in color, and/or kept clean: 1) Social Studies Book Room 2, Boy's Restroom in the Cafeteria, Girls Restroom in the Cafeteria, and the ROTC Armory Storage Room; 2) Panels and soffits (i.e., wooden boards on ceiling rafters) were deteriorated outside of Room 305; and 3) Mold was present in the Social Studies Book Room 2, the Electrical Storage Room near Room 405 and 406, and ROTC Armory Storage Room. 16 Facility, Maintenance, and Housekeeping - Two out of six observations were corrected: 1) Concrete tiles were open and not covered next to A/C Unit outside Room 311; and 2) Exposed bare wood was untreated in the Boy's Restroom Science Building. 21 Ventilation - All violations were corrected: 1) No air conditioning was provided in Room 212; and 2) Direct airflow was being channeled to students in 401. THE FOLLOWING ITEM NUMBERS WERE NOT CORRECTED BY THE ESTABLISHED TIMEFRAME AND ARE REPEAT VIOLATIONS: 13 Walls and Ceilings - Seven out of 18 observations were not corrected: The following walls, ceilings, and/or ceiling tiles were not in good repair, light in color, and/or kept clean: 1) Walls were not light in color in Room 318; 2) Paint was peeling inside and outside of the school building, not limited to: Rooms 223, 305, Gym, Science Building, and Boy's Restroom next to Room 108; and 3) The ceiling was leaking from the skylight above the Cafeteria Stage Area. All walls and ceilings shall be kept in good repair, clean, light in color, and properly maintained. 18 Facility, Maintenance, and Housekeeping - Four out of six observations were not corrected: 1) Damaged outdoor trip hazard: Metal sheets covering a concrete hole was not secured: outside Room 312, inside of Room 310, and Room 306; and 2) Awnings were in disrepair at Room 320. All areas, facilities, and equipment shall be maintained in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition and kept in good repair.		5/21/2016
18	A Request for Extension Memorandum to postpone the follow-up inspection was received by DEH from SS45 on 02/09/16 for review. The memo requests for an extension up to November 2016 to complete all non-compliance issues related to the 02/09/16 inspection. Additionally, a status update on the reconstruction will be provided by SS45 to DEH by November 2017. In an effort to comply with the Rules and Regulations Pertaining to School Sanitation, DEH conducted a non-graded assessment to observe and document SS45' progress in correcting the outstanding violations and compliance with the School Building Maintenance Pilot Program. The assessment found that two items remain uncorrected as documented above. Photographs were taken. The above findings were discussed with the undersigned individual and a Request for Reinspection form was issued. Compliance of the outstanding violations and status of the Request for Extension Memorandum are further addressed in a memo to DOE dated April 12, 2016.		5/21/2016
I have read and understand the above violation(s) and am aware of the corrective measures to be taken.			
RECEIVED BY (Name and Title)			
DEH INSPECTOR (Name and Title) <i>Paula M. Masterson, Principal</i>			
DEH Based (LPHD NO.) <i>705 1/1/16 Duane Dominguez (EPH) is</i>			
*When any of the following items are cited above, they shall be corrected within ten days of the inspection (01), (02), (23), (27), (31).			

Read or Share this story: <http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2016/05/12/clock-ticks-simon-sanchez-address-safety-hazards/84>



JTC Services is a local company seeking to hire individuals to work on a federal contract on Naval Station and Andersen Air Force Base.

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Public Health: Simon Sanchez High School needs repairs before August

Haidee V Eugenio, Pacific Daily News 10:48 p.m. ChST June 21, 2016



(Photo: PDN file)

Simon Sanchez High School will have to repair its gym, Science building, boys restroom and some other problem areas before classes resume in August to ensure the safety of students and school personnel, according to two recent building inspection reports prepared by the island's health department.

According to the health department, if repairs aren't done or completed before school begins, the schools should continue to restrict access to these areas for safety.

With the Yigo campus using the gym and the Science building for classes, it becomes imperative for the school to make the necessary repairs before August, according to the Division of Environmental Health.

The environmental health division falls within the Department of Public Health and Social Services.

The health department has conducted several inspections at the school since October when the agency found dozens of health violations. Since then, school officials have been working to fix the various issues.



PACIFIC DAILY NEWS

[Clock ticks for Simon Sanchez to address safety hazards](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2016/05/12/clock-ticks-simon-sanchez-address-safety-hazards/84263978/)

[\(http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2016/05/12/clock-ticks-simon-sanchez-address-safety-hazards/84263978/\)](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2016/05/12/clock-ticks-simon-sanchez-address-safety-hazards/84263978/)

Health officials conducted inspections on May 21 and June 3 and didn't find additional violations, but identified at least five items that the Yigo campus has yet to completely address.

Simon Sanchez High School remains to have a health and sanitation inspection rating of "C," as the last reinspections were considered "non-graded" inspections.

But a downgrade to "D" does not necessarily mean a shutdown for the school, especially because there is no alternate campus to house the students when schools reopen.

Areas that were closed off or cordoned off "shall be repaired before reopening for school operations in those areas," a June 3 inspection report prepared by environmental public health officer Claire M. Baradi stated.

In addition to the gym, Science building and restroom, the areas also include an entrance to the cafeteria and a "back wall adjacent to student parking," according to the report.

Another follow-up inspection assessment is scheduled for July 29, the report states.

Other items that Simon Sanchez High School was able to address prior to the June 3 reinspection were the replacement of awnings or canopies, and the removal of peeling paint in the main outside corridor.

School Principal Carla Masnayan, who received and signed the inspection report, said the school would use the summer break to address the inspection reports and hopes volunteers will come forward to help the school scrape off peeling paint, among other things.

Simon Sanchez High School is a priority school for renovation and repair. However, its long-awaited major renovation may have to wait a little longer because of an ongoing procurement protest, and soon, an appeal.



PACIFIC DAILY NEWS

[Tiyon costs to rise, GovGuam to pay \\$10M a year](#)

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2016/06/18/tivan-costs-rise-govguam-pay-10m-year/86032106/>)

Core Tech International Corp. said last week it will appeal the Department of Public Works' recent decision to deny its protest of an "intent to award" a contract that could be worth up to \$100 million for the renovation of Simon Sanchez High School and other schools.

As of Tuesday, an appeal has yet to be filed with the Office of Public Accountability.

Read or Share this story: <http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2016/06/21/public-health-simon-sanchez-high-school-needs-repairs-before-august/86167640/>



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Sections of Sanchez could be closed next year

Posted: Jun 22, 2016 4:40 PM

Updated: Jun 22, 2016 4:40 PM

By Isa Baza [CONNECT](#)

Health issues continue to plague Simon Sanchez High School, and in recent inspection reports, the Department of Public Health and Social Services has warned that if these issues persist, portions of the school could be closed-off next year.

Health and safety issues are nothing new for the Home of the Sharks. But if outstanding violations are not addressed by the fall, portions of the school could be off limits to students. The Department of Education is working with Public Health to ensure the campus fully reopens this August.

According to deputy superintendent Chris Anderson, some of the outstanding areas date back to last school year, as he said, "Public Health came out, did the inspection, and of course they found quite a few demerits that could have shut down the school. But they allowed DOE to address those issues and then come back and re-inspect."

Although almost all of the school's previous demerits have been addressed, he said painting and waterblasting issues remain. A recent health inspection report shows several areas are in need of repair, including the gym, science building, boys restroom, cafeteria entrance and back wall.

"I have to admit the school administration has been very proactive trying to address that," said Anderson candidly. In the past month, three of these areas have been corrected. But in spite of continued progress, the school's health rating remains low. "Because of the re-inspections that are required and the painting that didn't get addressed the few times they've come back to do the inspections, our letter grade will remain at 'C'," he noted.

Public Health director James Gillan said he is working with DOE to keep schools open. He feels perennial maintenance issues are affected by funding shortages. A \$100 million deal to rebuild Simon Sanchez and repair 35 other schools has been in the works for several years, but is once again stalled due to multiple protests from bidder CoreTech International.

"My understanding is that Coretech is going to probably appeal to the Office of Public Accountability and I believe that's the process they can pursue, and the Department of Education is just going to have to sit patiently and wait for the process to resolve itself," he said.

According to the OPA, CoreTech has not filed for an appeal as of this afternoon.



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OUR VIEW: Officials need to ensure Sanchez High safe for students

Pacific Daily News 12:54 a.m. ChST June 25, 2016



(Photo: PDN file)

Elected and appointed officials should be ashamed of their failures to ensure that Simon Sanchez High School is safe for students.

The school still needs a lot of work done before classes resume in August — repairs are needed in the gym, a boys' bathroom, the science building and other problem areas around the campus.

Last October, an inspection by the Department of Public Health and Social Services found a host of health and safety violations — enough to have shut down the high school. Instead, Public Health ([/story/news/2016/06/21/public-health-simon-sanchez-high-school-needs-repairs-before-august/86167640/](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2016/06/21/public-health-simon-sanchez-high-school-needs-repairs-before-august/86167640/)) said it would work closely with the school to keep it open.



PACIFIC DAILY NEWS

Public Health: Simon Sanchez High School needs repairs before August

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2016/06/21/public-health-simon-sanchez-high-school-needs-repairs-before-august/86167640/>)

Subsequent inspections in May and June highlighted that some of the necessary work still hasn't been completed. Unsafe areas continue to be cordoned off.

Local law allows for \$100 million to be spent to repair public schools, and Sanchez High is the top priority, according to the Guam Department of Education. However, the bid for the schools renovation project has been protested ([/story/news/2016/06/23/core-tech-appeals-dpws-protest-denial-100m-contract/86277232/](http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2016/06/23/core-tech-appeals-dpws-protest-denial-100m-contract/86277232/)) and no work can begin until the protest is resolved.

But just because Sanchez High is the top priority in a future repair project doesn't mean the education agency, and elected officials, can ignore the dangerous conditions at the Yigo school.

These persistent problems were identified more than eight months ago. If elected officials truly believe that education and student safety is a top priority, they would have been fixed by now. No, they would have been fixed several months ago.

Perhaps senators, the governor and top education officials should be required to move their offices into schools with persistent health and safety issues. Maybe having to work in that kind of environment every day, along with the students who have to endure the same to get an education, would result in faster repairs to the facilities.



PACIFIC DAILY NEWS

Clock ticks for Simon Sanchez to address safety hazards

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/education/2016/05/12/clock-ticks-simon-sanchez-address-safety-hazards/84263978/>)

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JTC Services is a local company seeking to hire individuals to work on a federal contract on Naval Station and Andersen Air Force Base.

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THE ALL NEW PRESTIGE CLASS
PRESTIGE SUITES



Campus readiness assessment held for GW



Posted: Jun 24, 2016 4:40 PM
Updated: Jun 24, 2016 4:40 PM

By Isa Baza [CONNECT](#)

The Department of Education met with Public Health officials at George Washington High School this morning to discuss school readiness. The agencies are partnering to train school safety liaison teams made up of DOE employees that would inspect campuses before the beginning of the school year.

Deputy superintendent Chris Anderson said, "These two individuals that are trained are basically paired up with a different school and their function is to act as if they were inspectors at that school looking at the school from the eyes or the lens of a Public Health inspector." And environmental public health officer Claire Baradi added, "The training will start on July 11 and then continue on July 13."

Each inspection will generate a report that schools must work to address. Baradi said the partnership is due to a shortage of Public Health inspectors, and is the expansion of a six school pilot program that began last year.

The inspections should begin next month.



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Roofs at Sanchez High leaking due to heavy rain



Posted: Sep 09, 2016 1:35 PM
Updated: Sep 09, 2016 1:35 PM

By Isa Baza [CONNECT](#)

When it rains it pours - at least for students at Simon Sanchez High School, who are experiencing leaking roofs as a result of recent heavy rains. According to deputy superintendent Chris Anderson, DOE's Facilities and Maintenance Division has been contacted to confirm the source of the leaks and to mitigate them accordingly.

He added that while leaks in classroom and offices do occur, the extent of these leaks varies greatly. He added that leaking and dilapidated school awnings are pervasive throughout the school system.

DOE hopes funding from the Department of the Interior and residual money from the \$100 million procurement could be a possible solution.



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