

**A PROPOSAL TO TEMPORARILY PLACE THE
GUAM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE PURVIEW
OF THE
GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE
IN ORDER TO ENHANCE
GDOE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY
AND
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
(Proposed by GBOE Member, Dr. Judith P. Guthertz)**

INTRODUCTION

Education is the cornerstone of individual and societal advancement and the Guam Department of Education (GDOE) plays a crucial role in shaping the lives of thousands of students across the island. Currently the Department is experiencing serious deficiencies and challenges due to both external and local factors. In order to enhance administrative operations, financial management, and student learning outcomes, this proposal advocates for temporarily placing the GDOE under the administrative purview of Guam Community College (GCC) upon consultation and agreement by the Board of Trustees and President of Guam Community College and through a joint emergency declaration by the Guam Board of Education, the GCC Board of Trustees and President, the Guam Legislature and the Governor of Guam.

OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of this proposal is to create a more efficient, financially stable, and academically enriching public educational system at GDOE by leveraging the strengths and expertise of GDOE and GCC. This collaboration aims to streamline operations, improve resource planning and allocation, and enhance the educational programs at GDOE to better prepare students for college, higher education and career readiness.

RATIONALE

1. Administrative Operations: By temporarily aligning GDOE's operations with GCC's administrative structure, it is possible to reduce redundancies and optimize the management of resources. GCC's established protocols and practices in higher education administration could be adapted to benefit Pre-K -12 systems at GDOE, ensuring a seamless educational experience for both students and educators.

2. Financial Management: GCC's experience in managing budgets, securing grants, and fiscal and operational accountability could improve the financial and operational management of GDOE. This collaboration could lead to increased financial transparency, responsible allocation of funds, and the identification of new funding opportunities.

3. Student Learning and Preparation: GCC's expertise in vocational, technical and professional education can be integrated into GDOE's Pre-K-12 curriculum, providing students with critical and practical life-skills and knowledge that align with higher education and Guam's workforce readiness needs.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

1. Joint Emergency Declaration: After the completion of preliminary consultations with the GCC Board of Trustees and President, the Guam Board of Education, the Guam Legislature and the Governor of Guam will issue a joint declaration to initiate the temporary administrative transition. The declaration will outline the goals, expected outcomes and timelines for the integration process.

2. Transition Committee: Establish a committee comprised of representatives from GDOE, GCC, the Legislature, the Office of the Governor, and other stakeholders to oversee the transition. This committee will be responsible for developing a detailed implementation plan -including any needed legislation- addressing potential challenges and ensuring smooth collaboration between GDOE and GCC.

3. Policy and Curriculum Alignment: Review and align policies, curricula, and educational standards to ensure seamless integration. Emphasize the incorporation of vocational, technical and professional education including STEM education and life-skills development in the Pre-K-12 curriculum and academic readiness for college education at the Guam Community College, the University of Guam and other recognized educational institutions.

4. Professional Development and Training: Provide professional development and training opportunities for Guam Department of Education educators and administrative personnel at all levels to adapt to the new operational framework. This will ensure that all stakeholders are adequately prepared and onboard with the changes, inclusive of opportunities for further professional development in order to effectuate these changes.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES FOR GDOE

- 1. Improved administrative efficiency**
- 2. Enhanced financial management practices**
- 3. Accountability in the use of local and federal funds**
- 4. Increased funding opportunities as a result of enhanced administrative efficiency/accountability of funds**
- 5. Greater alignment of Pre-K – 12 education with college, higher education, and career readiness standards**
- 6. A more dynamic and responsive public education system that meets the evolving needs of public school students and the Guam community.**

CONCLUSION:

The proposed temporary integration of the Guam Department of Education under the administrative purview of the Guam Community College represents a new model and a strategic opportunity to create a more effective and sustainable public educational system on Guam. Through collaborative efforts and a shared vision, all of Guam's public school students can achieve their full potential and contribute positively to the island's future. This proposal calls for decisive action from all stakeholders to realize a brighter future for Guam's educational landscape.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2025-0__

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION FROM THE GUAM BOARD OF EDUCATION REQUESTING TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FROM THE GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE, GUAM LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM FOR THE GUAM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

WHEREAS the Guam Department of Education (GDOE) is committed to providing high-quality public education to the children and youth of Guam, and recognizes the need for continuous improvement in administrative operations, financial management, and student preparation for all future challenges;

WHEREAS Guam Community College (GCC) has demonstrated excellence in administrative efficiency, fiscal responsibility and accountability, and in the delivery of vocational, technical and professional education, which are essential components of modern education systems;

WHEREAS the temporary integration of GDOE under the administrative purview of GCC represents a strategic initiative to enhance the overall effectiveness and sustainability of Guam's public educational system,

WHEREAS this initiative has been designed as a model initiative aimed to streamline GDOE operations, improve resource planning and allocation, enrich educational programs and provide critically needed professional development opportunities for GDOE educators and administrative staff to better GDOE operations and prepare students for higher education and career readiness;

WHEREAS a collaborative effort involving the Guam Board of Education, the Guam Community College, the Guam Legislature, and the Governor of Guam is critical to ensure successful implementation of this proposal and address current and potential challenges through a unified approach;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Guam Board of Education (GBOE) urgently requests the Board of Trustees and President of Guam Community College, the Guam Legislature, and the Governor of Guam to support this strategic action through the support and issuance of a joint declaration by all parties herein to initiate the temporary transfer of administrative purview of the Guam Department of Education to Guam Community College;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Guam Board of Education commits to working closely with the Guam Department of Education, Guam Community College, the Guam Legislature, and the Governor of Guam to develop a comprehensive implementation plan that ensures a smooth transition, addresses stakeholder recommendations and concerns, and maximizes the benefits for Guam's public school students and educators;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the GCC Board of Trustees and President, the Speaker and Education Committee Chair of the Guam Legislature, and to the Governor of Guam.

ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025, by the Guam Board of Education.

Chairperson, GBOE

Secretary, GBOE