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August 11, 2026

COMMUNITY UPDATE ON THE OPENING OF SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027

Dear CNMI Public School System (PSS) Families and Community,

As we prepare to welcome our students back for the 2026-2027 school year on **Tuesday, August 18, 2026**, I want to acknowledge the immense challenges weighing on our islands. Facing two back-to-back typhoons in recent months has tested our community deeply.

We know this opening comes at an incredibly challenging time. Our islands are still recovering from two recent super typhoons, and many of our families are dealing with property damage, power outages, and displacement. Please know that the CNMI Public School System stands with you, and we carry a profound understanding of the burdens you are bearing.

To adapt to these challenges, we have made necessary changes to school schedules, campuses, and services. We understand this may cause concern, but please be assured that every decision is made with the safety, well-being, and education of our students as our top priority. Thank you for your resilience and partnership as we work together to support our children.

Below is a breakdown of the major updates for the new school year.

1. First Day of School

The first day of school for CNMI PSS elementary, middle, and high school students will remain **Tuesday, August 18, 2026**.

2. Power Restoration at Schools

Power has been restored to the majority of CNMI PSS schools, and we extend our sincere appreciation to the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) for their continued partnership, hard work, and dedication in helping restore power service across our campuses.

To date, the following campuses are still experiencing power-related issues:

- Sinapalo Elementary School (Rota)
- Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior Senior High School (Rota)
- Kagman Elementary School (Saipan)

PSS continues to work with the appropriate agencies and professionals to address these concerns.

3. Shared Campuses and Double-Session Schedules

Due to facility repairs, several schools will begin the year using shared-campus arrangements and double-session schedules. In this setup, one school will attend classes in the morning, and the other will attend in the afternoon.

- **William S. Reyes (WSR) Elementary School and Koblerville Elementary School (KES)**

William S. Reyes Elementary School will temporarily share its campus with Koblerville Elementary School while KES undergoes major construction.



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To support Koblerville's recovery, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are installing modular classrooms on their home campus. Once completed, these modern facilities will enable Koblerville students and staff to return home and resume full-day instruction. In the meantime, both schools will operate under the shared schedule detailed below:

William S. Reyes Elementary School

Morning Session

7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Koblerville Elementary School

Afternoon Session

12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Students will remain officially enrolled at their current schools while temporarily sharing the William S. Reyes Elementary School campus.

• **Kagman Elementary School (KagES) and Chacha Oceanview Middle School (COVMS)**

Kagman Elementary School will temporarily operate at the Chacha Oceanview Middle School campus due to a damaged pad-mounted transformer that has left the KagES campus without power. PSS is already working with qualified technicians to repair the equipment and restore power safely. In the meantime, both schools will follow the temporary schedule detailed below:

Kagman Elementary School

Morning Session

7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Chacha Oceanview Middle School

Afternoon Session

12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Kagman Elementary School students will stay enrolled at Kagman Elementary School while temporarily attending classes at Chacha Oceanview Middle School.

We understand that these temporary schedules may disrupt family routines, transportation, childcare, and work schedules. We are deeply grateful for your patience and flexibility as we work to keep students learning safely during this transition. Parents and guardians of affected students are strongly encouraged to attend their school's upcoming orientation. Each school will notify families directly regarding specific dates, times, and locations. During these sessions, school administrations will share detailed information regarding:

Student arrival and dismissal	Campus procedures	Class schedules
Transportation services	Student safety	Available family support



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4. Da'ok Academy

The Da'ok Academy campus was completely damaged by Super Typhoon Sinlaku. While construction of the new academy facilities is underway, the school remains temporarily stationed at the Saipan Southern High School campus.

PSS is carefully evaluating all administrative and structural options to ensure a smooth transition for students and staff. A finalized plan for Da'ok Academy's School Year 2026-2027 will be formally announced in the coming days.

We appreciate the patience of our families as we finalize these arrangements and will share updates immediately upon confirmation.

5. Rota Schools Update

PSS remains optimistic that the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) will restore power to Sinapalo Elementary School and Dr. Rita H. Inos Junior Senior High School before the first day of classes. Regardless of utility restoration timelines, both campuses will open as scheduled on Tuesday, August 18, 2026.

If power is not yet available, schools will temporarily operate on a half-day schedule until power service is restored.

School administrators will provide Rota families with specific details on school hours, bus transportation, and important arrangements before the start of the school year. We recognize the profound challenges Rota has faced following recent super typhoons, and we deeply appreciate the continued patience and understanding of our students, families, and staff during this recovery process.

6. Head Start/Early Head Start Program

Several Head Start/Early Head Start centers sustained facility damage during the recent super typhoons.

To ensure each location is thoroughly repaired, sanitized, and safe for our youngest learners, the program requires additional preparation time.

Consequently, the first day of **Head Start/Early Head Start Center-Based Services** is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 8, 2026**.

Program staff will contact enrolled families directly to provide specific updates regarding center assignments, daily schedules, bus transportation, and reopening timelines. We appreciate your understanding as we prioritize the health and safety of your children.

7. Continued Community Updates

PSS will continue to provide regular updates as repairs, construction, and recovery efforts progress.

Families are also encouraged to watch for direct communication from their child's school regarding orientation schedules and school-specific procedures.



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We deeply appreciate the patience and understanding demonstrated by our students, families, and staff over these challenging months. While the start of this school year may look different for some of our schools, our core mission remains unchanged. We remain fully committed to providing safe learning environments, supporting our families, and ensuring our students stay connected to their education. Thank you for your partnership and for supporting one another as our community continues to heal and recover.

Respectfully,

Jacqueline P. Che
Acting Commissioner of Education