



CNMI Public School System

# STUDENTS FIRST

• Accountability • Responsibility • Transparency

May 2022

## Graduation

Tinian High School • Saipan Southern High School, Kagman High School • Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior Senior High School • Marianas High School • Daok Academy

## Promotion

Tinian Junior High School, Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior High School, Tanapag Middle School, Francisco M. Sablan Middle School, Hopwood Middle School, Chacha Oceanview Middle School, Dandan Middle School.

# CLASS *of* 2022

Special Edition



# Our Students and Community's Triumph

HAFA Adai, Tiirow, and Congratulations to our School-Year 2021-2022 Graduates and Promotees!

I am just as excited and proud as you are for reaching this important milestone. As you. Close this chapter of your academic story, take a moment to reflect on the journey it took to get here.



**Dr. Alfred B. Ada**  
Commissioner  
of Education  
Chief State School  
Superintendent

You are the Class of 2022. You promote and or graduate at a time in history is still battling, yet slowly healing from a pandemic... but at a time when the opportunities created by such a challenge have never been greater.

In the past years, you have survived typhoons, a pandemic, and many learning challenges. You did not give up. Instead, you embraced the challenges and became resilient and energetic individuals. Armed with the skills and knowledge you have gained, you are ready to tackle high school and begin a new chapter of your academic story.

Although we celebrate what you have accomplished today, I want to challenge you to continue learning, growing, and rising above the hardships. The resiliency and enthusiasm you have now—take it out into the world and use it to accomplish your goals.

As you go forward, make sure that your journey includes moments of joy and laughter. Continue to care for yourself, your friends, your family, and your community.

I would like to extend my utmost appreciation to the teachers, parents, families, and school leaders of our promotes. They say it takes a village to raise a child and, in this case, you are the village.

Students, congratulations on a job well done! Let's celebrate! I know you got this!

# 'You have what it takes to reach your outcome'

WELCOME parents, family, and loved ones. And to our dignitaries and educators.

Class of 2022!

Today marks a milestone in all of your lives. Not only have you endured four years of high school, which is no easy feat, you have done so under extraordinary circumstance. You all have been challenged by



**Gregory Pat Borja**  
Chairperson  
CNMI Board of Education

typhoons, a pandemic, and the chore of remote learning during the last few years of your education. AND YOU MADE IT! You and your peers in the CNMI Public School System have shown what can be accomplished when you show your determination and dedication in reaching your educational goals.

To our promotes, next year as high school freshmen, you will get the opportunity to explore which path you wish to take into the future.

I hope that you take the chances provided to you, to expose yourselves to the many career options made available to you through your respective schools. Work hard to accomplish your goals.

To our graduates, as you prepare to move on into the next phase of your lives, I wish you the best in whatever it is you choose to pursue as your goal in life. Whether it would be continuing your education by seeking a degree in higher learning, starting a pathway toward a profession that fits your interest, or proudly serving our country through a career in the military. You have shown that you all have what it takes to reach your desired outcome.

Congratulations on this momentous occasion. Stay safe. Good luck. And thank you for being the amazing students you are. Again congratulations.



The BOE Award for the Tinian Jr. High School 8<sup>th</sup> grade promotion was presented to Valedictorian Edmar Timothy Mangubat Tirona by Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, and Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio. School Principal Lizabeth Hofschneider and Vice Principal Nikita Mendiola joins the parents.



The Commissioner of Education Award for Tinian Jr. High School's 8<sup>th</sup> grade promotion went to class Salutatorian Geremy Lim Santos. Santos, joined by his mother, received the award from Dr. Alfred B. Ada, Principal Lizabeth Hofschneider and Vice Principal Nikita Mendiola.

## Tinian Jr. High School promotes 39

**T**INIAN Junior Senior High School promoted thirty-nine eight grade students into the next level and thirty-three senior high schools were conferred graduates in a ceremony that took place on May 13, 2022

Tinian Jr. Sr. High School ceremonies officially kicked-off the Public School System's Class of 2022 promotion and graduation exercises.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade promotion was held in the morning at TJSHS cafeteria and the senior high school graduation was held in the afternoon at the Jones Beach.

Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada led PSS' key management team in attending both ceremonies.

Representing the policymaking Board of Education were Chairman Gregory Pat Borja and Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio, both of Saipan, who joined Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja who is from Tinian.

### Top 10 promotees

During the eight grade promotion in the morning, Edmar Timothy Mangubat Tirona was valedictorian and Board of Education Award recipient. BOE Chairman Borja, Vice Chairman Borja and Secretary/Treasurer Tenorio presented the award.

Jeremy Lim Santos was class salutatorian and Commissioner of Education Award recipient. Commissioner of Education Dr. Ada presented the award.

Joining Tirona and Santos in the top 10 are: Dylan Calibao Subia (3); Isa Mina Rodriguez Dosalua (4); Ha'nai Darence Dela Cruz Palacios (5); Angelica Joy Sosa Reyes (6); Adriel Roy Fabreag Lenteja (7); Dawn Princess Borja Flores (8); Brandon Jay Cruz Cepeda (9), and Jasper Manibusan Borja, Jr. (10).



# STALLIONS



Tinian High School Graduating Class of 2022.

## Tinian Jr. Sr. High School graduates 33

**T**WIN sisters: Isa Ha'ani Gutierrez Long and Clelo Citlalli Gutierrez Long were valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively. Ha'ani is the recipient of the Board of Education Award, which was presented by BOE Chairman Gregory Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio Borja and Secretary/Treasurer Tenorio.

Isa Ha'ani was also the recipient of the PTSA Award.

Commissioner Ada, along with his senior directors, presented to Clelo Citlalli the Commissioner of Education Award. Clelo Citlalli also received the Outstanding Female Graduate Recognition Award (OFEGRA).

Both Long sisters have been accepted by Harvard University.

The other top 10 high school graduates were: Peyton Robert Christian (3); Lloyd Aaron Lopez Rivera (4); Matt Edison Salvosa Soliva (5); Malinao Tasi Quitugua Palacios (6); Chit Alain Llanora Acollador (7); Emiliana Anastasia Famaw King (8); Colleen Michelle San Nicolas Cing (9), and Elcy Lizelle Ayuyu John (10).

The Governor's Award was presented to Lloyd Aaron Rivera. Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres personally presented the award.



Tinian High School valedictorian Isa Ha'ani Gutierrez Long received from Chairman Gregory Pat Borja and Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio the CNMI Board of Education Award. Parents Arley and Philip Long join their daughter.



The Tinian High School's Class of 2022 Governor's Award recipient was Lloyd Aaron Rivera, who received the award personally from Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres. Rivera's family joined him on stage.



Matt Edison Salvosa Soliva was the recipient of both the School Leadership Award and 18th Municipal Council Recognition Award. In this photo, he received the award from Principal Lizabeth Hofschneider and Vice Principal Nikita Mendiola.

The Lt. Governor's Award went to Malinao Tasi Quitugua Palacios. Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios presented the award.

Tinian Mayor Edwin Aldan presented the Mayor's Award to Chi Alain Llanora Acollador.

Matt Edison Salvosa Soliva was the recipient of both the School Leadership Award and 18th Municipal Council Recognition Award.

**Resilient class**

TJSHS Principal Lizabeth Hofschneider, in her welcome remarks, is proud of her Class of 2022: "This class was one of the easiest classes I have had to teach because you are motivated and many of you worked harder to outpace your friends. At the end of that year, this class outscored the entire CNMI High Schools in Math Assessments. You make me very proud. I saw your potential when you were 7th graders."

BOE Vice Chairman Borja proudly shared the success of TJSHS graduating class.

"Today, be proud of how far you have come, but remember that those opportunities are for you to grab...(and) this year we have graduates that will be attending Harvard University, the Air Force Academy; we have graduates that are aspiring to be engineers and doctors, enlisting in the military, entrepreneurs," Vice Chairman Borja said in his congratulatory remarks.

BOE Chairman Borja, in his remarks, said the year's Class of 2022 of TJSHS "have been challenged by typhoons, a pandemic, and the chore of remote learning during your last few years of your education."

"You made it. You and your peers in the CNMI Public School System have shown what can be accomplished when you show your determination and dedication to reach your educational goals," Chairman Borja said.

Commissioner of Education Dr. Ada described the Tinian's Class of 2022 as the "resilient group" who have "endured hardships".



Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada, left, certifies the Class of 2022 of having been able to meet the criteria for graduation.



Tinian High School's Class of 2022 top 10, from left to right: Isa Ha'ani Gutierrez Long, valedictorian; Clelo Citlalli Gutierrez Long, salutatorian; Peyton Robert Christian (3); Lloyd Aaron Lopez Rivera (4); Matt Edison Salvosa Soliva (5); Malinao Tasi Quitugua Palacios (6); Chi Alain Llanora Acollador (7); Emiliana Anastasia Famaw King (8); Colleen Michelle San Nicolas Cing (9), and Elcy Lizelle Ayuyu John (10).



Tinian High School salutatorian Clelo Citlalli Gutierrez Long received the Commissioner of Education Award from Dr. Alfred B. Ada, who was joined by Associate Commissioner Eric Magofna and Senior Directors Jackie Quitugua and Yvonne R. Pangelinan, and acting Senior Director Marian Tudela.



The Mayor's Award went to Chi Alain Llanora Acollador who received the award from Tinian Mayor Edwin Aldan.



The Lt. Governor's Award recipient was Malinao Tasi Quitugua Palacios who received the award from Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios.



Class Valedictorian and recipient of the Board of Education Award Jarrod Raychesko Chong Muna. Pose with his parents, BOE Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, and Secretary Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio.

## Chacha Oceanview Middle School promotes 85

Chacha Oceanview Middle School promoted 85 students on May 17 in a ceremony held at Pacific Islands Club. The theme of their ceremony was "Difficult Roads Lead to Beautiful Destinations".

Class valedictorian and recipient of the Board of Education Award was Jarrod Raychesko Chong Muna.

Class Salutatorian and recipient of the Commissioner of Education Award was Jayden Jean Kawaii Pangelinan.

Principal Award recipient is Kimora Jo Quitugua and Leadership Award recipient Brandon James Seman Sablan.

The other awardees are: English Language Arts, Logan Elijah Lizama Tudela; Physical



Class Salutatorian and recipient of the Commissioner of Education Award Jayden Jean Kawaii Pangelinan poses with his parents. He received the award from Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada, who is flanked by Associate Commissioner for Administrative Services Eric Magofna, and Senior Directors Jackie Quitugua and Dr. Rizalina Liwag.

Education Award went to Jayne Cierra Faisao, Erii Mae Masga Trinidad, Nayari Darlene Manglona Maratita, and Jarrod Raychesko Chong Muna; Computer Application Erii Mae Masga Trinidad, Social Studies Jayden Jean Kawaii Pangelinan and Kimora Jo Quitugua, CCLHS, Jayden Jean Kawaii Pangelinan, Leadership Corps, Tiana Lia Hamilton Aldan; and Math, Science, Business Math and Wood Shop all went to Jarrod Raychesko Chong Muna.



### Career options

BOE Chairman Borja told the promoted students that as freshmen high school students next year, they are presented with various career options that they can take advantage of and get access to.

"Today marks the next step in your educational lives. Next year as high school freshmen you will get the opportunity to explore which path you wish to take you into the future," Chairman Borja said.

He added, "I hope that you take the chances provided to you, to expose yourselves to the many career options made available through your respective schools. Work hard to accomplish your goals."

Commissioner of Education Dr. Ada was excited with all of the promoted eight graders.

"You promote at a time in history when our world is still battling, yet slowly healing from a pandemic...but a time when the opportunities created by such a challenge have never been greater," education chief Ada said.

"In the past years, you have survived typhoons, a pandemic, and many learning challenges. You did not give up. Instead, you embraced the challenges and became resilient...," Commissioner Ada said.

Dr. Ada challenged all promoted students: "Although we celebrate what you have accomplished today, I want to challenge you to continue learning, growing, and rising above hardships."

At 9 am today, Dandan Middle School will be having their promotion on campus, and this will be followed by Da'ok Academy at 4 pm today at their Koblerville campus.



Principal Award recipient is Kimora Jo Quitugua beams with pride with her parents. She received the award from Principal Martha Kintol, and elementary schools principal representative Dr. Ignacia Demapan of Kagman Elementary School.



Leadership Award recipient Brandon James Seman Sablan proudly hold his award with his parents upon receiving it from Principal Martha Kintol.



Class Salutatorian was Chenille Rys Sabangan, who also received the Commissioner of Education Award from Dr. Ada and associate commissioner Magofna. Principal Osung and Vice Principal Sablan assisted in the presentation of awards.

# Francisco M. Sablan Middle School promotes 95

With the theme, "Ride the Waves and Navigate to a New Beginning," Francisco M. Sablan Middle School promoted 95 students into high school on May 17, 2022. The ceremony was held at their campus in San Antonio.

Francisco M. Sablan Middle School, Principal Cheryln Osung and Vice Principal Carla Sablan led their school community in celebrating the success of the 95 students.

Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada was joined by Associate Commissioner for Administration Eric Magofna in leading the Public School System leadership team in attendance. Principal representatives for elementary Dr. Ignacia Demapan of Kagman Elementary School, for middle school Hilda Rios of Tanapag Middle School, Head Start/Early Head Start Director Lathania Angui, Human Resources Officer Lucretia Deleon Guerrero, and Director of Instructional Technology & Distance Ed. Dr. Bobby Cruz also attended.

Two of Saipan's elected Board of Education members: Chairman Gregory Pat Borja and Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio attended both ceremonies. BOE Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja of Tinian flew in to celebrate with FMS and Chacha's promoted students.



The promotees are congratulated by education and elected leaders including Rep. Joseph LeePan Guerrero, Rep. Joseph Flores, Minority Leader Angel Demapan, Commissioner Ada, BOE Sec/Treasurer Tenorio, BOE Vice Chairman Borja, Chairman Borja, Principal Osung and Vice Principal Sablan.

The Francisco M. Sablan Middle School community gather to celebrate the promotion of their children





The promotees singing the national anthems.

Joining education leaders in celebrating FMS school community's successes were House Minority Leader Angel Demapan, Rep. Joseph LeePan Guerrero and Rep. Joseph Flores.

#### Top Awardees for FMS

Aubrey June Tabenas is this year's class valedictorian. He is the recipient of the Board of Education Award, which was presented to her by BOE Chairman Borja, Vice Chairman Borja and Secretary/Treasurer Tenorio.

Class Salutatorian was Chenille Rys Sabangan, who also received the Commissioner of Education Award from Dr. Ada and associate commissioner Magofna.

The recipient of Napu Spirit Award was Heman Addy.

The Leadership Award was presented to Noreen Malakai, and the Middle School Leadership Corps Award went to Kaylene Deleon Guerrero.

The following are the subject award recipients: English Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, Project Lead The Way were awarded to Tabenas, and Math & Chamorro Carolinian Language and Heritage Studies- Carolinian went to Sabangan.

The CCLHS-Chamorro Award went to Amiah Benavente; Leadership Corps & Computer, Christel Ann Aninzo; Performing Arts, Aubrey Tabenas & Daverish Alqueza, and Physical Education were shared by Tabenas & Joannah Lynn Concillado.



Aubrey June Tabenas is this year's class valedictorian. She also is the recipient of the Board of Education Award, which was presented to her by BOE Chairman Borja, Vice Chairman Borja and Secretary/Treasurer Tenorio. Principal Cherlyn Oaung and Vice Principal Carla Sablan assisted in the presentation of the award.



Several awards were also presented. They were Napu Spirit Award, Heman Addy; Leadership Award, Noreen Malakai; MSLC Award, Kaylene Deleon Guerrero; English Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, Project Lead The Way all went to Aubrey June Tabenas; Math & CCLHS Carolinian were awarded to Chenille Sabangan; CCLHS Chamorro, Amiah Benavente; Leadership Corps & Computer, Christel Ann Aninzo; Performing Arts, Aubrey Tabenas & Daverish Alqueza, and Physical Education, Aubrey Tabenas & Joannah Lynn Concillado.

# Dandan Middle School promotes 146

**D**ANDAN Middle School promoted 146 students into high school during its annual promotion ceremony held on May 18, 2022.

This is the 8<sup>th</sup> promotion ceremony for Dandan Middle School, which transitioned from an elementary school in 2014.

Class valedictorian is Arce Aligado Sangalang. He is also the recipient of the Board of Education Award, which was presented by BOE Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio Borja, Secretary/Treasurer Maisie Tenorio and Board Member Herman Atalig of Rota.

Class salutatorian is Herminia Kolani Sablan Agulto and recipient Commissioner of Education of Education Award. Dr. Alfred B. Ada, Associate Commissioner for Administration Eric Magofna.

Principal James Sablan and Vice Principal Reo Arriola assisted in the presentation of awards.

### Awards

Several awards were also presented during the promotion ceremony which was held on campus.

The Female Athlete of the Year was awarded to Angelina George.



Class Salutatorian and Commissioner of Education Awardee Herminia Kolani Sablan Agulto received the award from Public School System officials led by Dr. Alfred B. Ada, Associate Commissioner for Administration Eric Magofna, Senior Director Dr. Rizalina Liwag, Principal James Sablan and Vice Principal Reo Arriola. Beaming with pride are her parents: mother and Marianas High School Vice Principal Melanie Sablan Rdial, and father, Paython.

Subject award recipients: Herminia Kolani Sablan Agulto (English Language Arts and Chamorro Carolinian Language and Heritage Studies Awards); Arce Aligado Sangalang (Mathematics, Science, Leadership Corps, and STEM Awards); Julliana Perez (Best in Social Studies and Best in Computer Literacy Awards); Miamoure Torwan (Best in Physical Education), and Kyla Diestro (Best in Advance Art Award).





L-R Serrina Manabat, 8th grade promotee Keziah Manabat, Maria Manabat, and Bryan Manabat. Promotee Keziah is a recipient of Presidents E (1 of 2) Program for outstanding academic achievement.



Proud parents Tanya Pangelinan and Adrian Mendiola celebrate with a photo the promotion of their daughter, Monique Mendiola.

It was a tie for the Male Athlete of the Year: than John Sablan and Klan Peter Helgen.

Ten subject awards were awarded.

Two of the awards – English Language Arts Award and Chamorro Carolinian Language and Heritage Studies Award – were awarded to salutatorian Hermina Kolani Sablan Agulto.

Arce Aligado Sangalang, the class valedictorian, received four subject awards. They are for Mathematics, Science, Leadership Corps, and STEM (Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

The other award recipients are: Best in Social Studies and Best in Computer Literacy Awards both were presented to Julliana Perez, Best in Physical Education was Miamoure Torwan, Best in Advance Art Award was Kyla Diestro and

**'Beginning'**

Valedictorian Sangalang, in his address, highlighted the struggles that he and his fellow eight graders have "to experience throughout 3 years of middle school".

"For most of us, remote learning has been a struggle to keep up with . It was a sudden change that we all had to adapt to within a short amount of time. But we are here promoting to the next level," Sangalang said. "A new chapter of life is coming; that means new struggles and new challenges but I am hopeful that these things will help mold us to becoming the person we were meant to be."



The Female Athlete of the Year was awarded to Angelina George



John Sablan and Klan Peter Helgen tied for the Male Athlete of the Year.



Class Valedictorian and Board of Education Award recipient Arce Aligado Sangalang is flanked by his father, Cesar Sangalang and godmother Arlene Silva. He received his awards from Board of Education Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio Board Member Herman Atalig, Principal James Sablan and Vice Principal Reo Arriola.

Sangalang also paid tribute to his parents, his teachers, and his friends. "I want to express my gratitude to my family, my teachers, and my friends. I would like to thank my parents: Caesar and Edna Sangalang for nurturing and providing me with everything I needed to achieve this academic accomplishment.

Class Salutatorian Sablan-Agulto said, "To my parents, Melanie and Paython, you've been the biggest support system in my life. I know you're going to say this is all me, which it is, but you are the main reason I achieved this milestone in my life. You've pushed me to put my best effort in everything I do, taught me to always be the bigger and better person, inspired me to be a leader, but most importantly to be humble and true to myself."

Sablan-Agulto told her fellow promoted students: "The future is unknown and we know that life sometimes isn't fair. Obstacles will come our way and challenge us. It is in those trying times that we need to be resilient so that we are able to overcome and rise above ourselves in order to move forward."



Lawyer Jack Torres and wife, Irene Tudela Torres, with her mother, Ana Tudela and daughter Tiana Reyes, celebrate the promotion of their daughter Jacqueline Torres. Principal James Sablan congratulates the family.



The top ten students are: Perpetua Jasmine Magcalas Garcia, Vivien Liu, Jieun Yang, Joanah Victoria Bartolome Jimenez, Shu Qi Wu, Christina Kim, Arisa Iseyama Custodio, Jerawn Christopher Camacho Joyner, Seung Won Lee, Lizzie Joy Del Rosario Manabat, and Jigger Zyrus Manalo Parayaon.

# Thousands celebrate graduation of Marianas High School's 371 high school seniors

**M**ARIANAS High School has produced yet again the largest number of high school graduates for all of the graduating Class of 2022 of the Public School System.

371 high school seniors stepped into the sprawling MHS parking space and used it for their final walk in high school on May 16, 2022.

As each of the 371 students climbed up the huge staged, which was built next to the brand new cafeteria to receive their diplomas, the area was suddenly filled with electric exuberance as they were cheered on by their parents, relatives and loved ones.

Close to a thousand witnessed the largest graduation ceremony for the Class of 2022.

The 371 MHS graduates will now pursue college, join the military and enter the workforce.

The theme for this year's graduation was a quote from William Shakespeare's poem: "It is not in the stars to hold our destiny, but in ourselves".

Graduating top of the class was Perpetua Jasmine Magcalas Garcia, class valedictorian and recipient of the Board of Education Award.

Vivien Liu is class salutatorian and representative of the Commissioner of Education Award.



Aleena Frances Tenorio Ada, daughter of Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada and Frances Tenorio Ada.



Board of Education Chairman Greg Borja and wife Mel celebrate with their son Garrett.



Student Sydney Mansanares with the governor Torres and Principal Jonathan Aguon.



Daisy Quitugua, Zylar Hocog, Haeven Hocog, Lorenzo Hocog Jr. and JJ Atalig



Perpetua Jasmine Magcalas Garcia, class valedictorian and recipient of the Board of Education Award, which was presented to her by BOE Chairman Borja, Vice Chairman Borja, Secretary/Treasurer Tenorio and Dr. Ron Snyder.

Completing the top ten students are: Jieun Yang, Joanah Victoria Bartolome Jimenez, Shu Qi Wu, Christina Kim, Arisa Iseyama Custodio, Jerawn Christopher Camacho Joyner, Seung Won Lee, Lizzie Joy Del Rosario Manabat, and Jigger Zyrus Manalo Parayaoan.

The recipients of other awards are: Easton Joel Cabrera Dela Cruz, Governor's Award; Jigger Zyrus Manalo Parayaoan, Lt. Governor's Award; Rownel Jody Villadolid Coloma, Mayor's Award; Perpetua Jasmine Magcalas Garcia, Outstanding Female Graduate, Izeah Napu Rocky Santos, Principal's Award, and Jerry Oscar Mettao, Dolphin Award

**'Not Perfect'**

For Class Valedictorian Garcia, her Class of 2022 is not book-perfect but is admired for their strength, spirit and love.

"The Class of 2022 is not pretty, we, as a class, have our own flaws, our own storms, we are not the most perfect, book-perfect class we can possibly be. But something that I will always admire is the never-ending strength, never-ending spirit, and never-ending love that this class has to offer," Garcia said in her valedictory address.

"From what I know, we are the first ever class to never experience a complete school year. We had typhoon Yutu in our freshman year, the pandemic in the end of our sophomore year, which eventually stretched all the way up to now, our senior year. But did we let those things affect our class? No. No matter how many challenges were thrown to our class, we faced and adjusted around them, and made these past four years memorable at our best abilities," she added.

Garcia is also the class president.

"Marianas High School, thank you for providing us a second home for the past four years and providing us amazing quality education and comfort. The memories that we have made on this campus will never be forgotten."

She will be pursuing a degree in nursing in the Philippines.

Salutatorian Liu said to officially mark the end of 4 years, she reminisced some things that she learned while attending MHS.

“(1) Trust nobody. Especially when they tell you, falsely, that you can expect to have the same counselor for all 4 years of high school. If I had a penny for every time I got assigned a new counselor, I’d be wealthy enough to purchase 4/99ths of a 99-cent coffee. (2) And I’ll be serious this time: talk to people. Conventional wisdom may suggest that talking to like-minded people will result in the most pleasant conversations, which for all intents and purposes is probably a lot of times. But when I think back to the conversations I’ve had with complete strangers, Joe Rogan style, I’m always humbled and I’m always reminded of just how little I know,” the class salutatorian said.



Sommer Kalani Reyes Gomes



Ydrane Lizama Sanje



Aaron Cayading with his mom, Theresa.

**Determination**

In his remarks, Board of Education Chairman Gregory Pat Borja said the Class of 2022 exemplified determination and dedication.

“...Not only that you have endured your years of high school, which is no easy feat you have done so under extraordinary circumstances. You all have been challenged by typhoons, pandemic, and the chore of remote learning during the last few years of your education: you made it,” said Borja who spoke on behalf of the policymaking body of the Public School System.

He added, “You and your peers in the CNMI-PSS have shown what can be accomplished when you show your determination and dedication in reaching your educational goals.”

Chairman Borja was joined by Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio and Non-Public School Representative Dr. Ronald Snyder.

Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada said that high school career was no walk in the park.



Mariana Bermudes Tenorio, daughter of Michael Tenorio and Board of Education Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio.

“Half of your high school journey was a rollercoaster ride due to the worldwide pandemic. We are now making our way towards normalcy in our community: booster shots are available, face masks are becoming optional, and drive thru ceremonies are long gone,” said education chief Ada.



The top 10 of Kagman High School Shannea Mae Javate Dino (1); Dasol Erin Kim (2); Helen Chen (3); Rabeya Akter (4); Kayla Patriz Tanate San Nicolas (5); Ezra Gabriel Camacho Towai (6); Ely Joseph De Guzman Taitano (7); Mikyla Cruz Capalad (8); Alex Benjamin Menchikh Megino (9), and Princess Rikki Dela Cruz Lacson (10).



Victoria Mary Igitol Pangelinan received the Governor's Award from Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres. Her parents and Principal Jones join her.



Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios presented the Lt. Governor's Award to Ely Joseph De Guzman Taitano, who is flanked by his parents.

# Kagman High School graduates 117

One hundred seventeen high school seniors from Kagman High School will pursue college, join the military and or join the workforce following their graduation on Tuesday afternoon which was held at the American Memorial Park Amphitheater.

Shannea Mae Javate Dino is the Class of 2022 valedictorian and recipient of the Board of Education Award. BOE Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, Secretary/

Shanlea Mae Javate Dino, valedictorian of Class of 2022 and recipient of the Board of Education Award. She is joined by her parents in receiving the award from BOE Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, Secretary Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio, and Board Member Herman Atalig.



Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio and Rota Board Member Herman Atalig presented the award.

Dasol Erin Kim is the Class of 2022 salutatorian and Commissioner of Education Award recipient. Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada and Associate Commissioner Eric Magofna, among others key school district officials, presented the award.

This is the 20th commencement exercises of Kagman High School following its establishment was the newest public high school in the CNMI in 2002.

Eight other high school seniors complete the top ten high school graduates with the highest grade point average, and must have attended any public high school for 3 years in the CNMI. The top 10 students must not have taken remedial courses or repeated any course.

They are: Helen Chen (3); Rabeya Akter (4); Kayla Patriz Tanate San Nicolas (5); Ezra Gabriel Camacho Towai (6); Ely Joseph De Guzman Taitano (7); Mikyla Cruz Capalad (8); Alex Benjamin Menchikh Megino (9), and Princess Rikki Dela Cruz Lacson (10).

Nine other awards were presented during the day of the students' graduation: Governor's Award went to Victoria Mary Igitol Pangelinan; Lt. Governor's Award recipient was Ely Joseph

De Guzman Taitano; Principals' Award recipient was Jacoby Sylvestry Cabrera.

OFEGRA – Outstanding Female Graduate Awards – was presented to Kayla Patriz Tanate San Nicolas; PTSA Award Liekeila'akata Tapua'ialupe Iakopo; Mayor's Award Helen Chen, Ayuyu Spirit Award Kristan Razon Isip.

The Female Athlete of the Year was Wallis Marie Kaipat Bai and the Male Athlete of the Year was Darren Jose Dela Cruz Pangelinan.

Of the 117 graduates, a total of 28 were recipients of Presidential Award for Educational Excellence-Gold.

There were 49 high school seniors that received the Presidential Award for Educational Excellence-Silver.

### What now?

Valedictorian Dino, in her address, asked two questions that her fellow graduates have in mind: "What now? What's next after high school?"

"Jessica from Twilight put it best when she says, 'Who the hell knows?'. It's insane that high schoolers are put on this pedestal and are expected to know what career path they'll take and what kind of life they'll lead five or ten years from now," she said in her valedictory address.

"Parents, teachers, and elders present here today: let's be honest, you guys had no idea at the ripe age of 18 either (and some of you still don't know what you're doing)," she added in her remarks that elicited laughter from everyone.

"Time almost feels like the blind leading the blind, but seniors, as we enter this new chapter of our lives (a cliché I know), go out, meet new people, and learn from them. I didn't think I'd learn much about life over the course of high school, but my teachers have taught me a lot."

**Milestone**

BOE Chairman Borja, in his remarks, said, "Today marks milestone in all of your lives. Not only have you endured four years of high school, which is no easy feat, you have done so under extraordinary circumstances."

He added, "You all have been challenged by typhoons, a pandemic, and the chore of remote learning during the last few years of education—and you made it."

It was particularly poignant for Commissioner of Education Dr. Ada, a former principal of KHS. He highlighted the students' strength and perseverance.

"You may have gone through many moments of disappointment, moments of not knowing what's going to happen next, moments of difficulty, yet, here you are today past those challenges, past those hardships, and past those dark moments," said Dr. Ada, a former principal of KHS.

"Here you are today with the ability to be strong, the ability to endure, the ability to adapt to any situation you are faced with. My dear students, focus on the bright side. Focus on the gift of time you spent with your loved ones, the new things you learned about yourself, and the experiences that shaped who you are today."

Dasol Erin Kim, Class Salutatorian and recipient of the Commissioner of Education Award, is flanked by her family upon receiving the award from Public School System officials led by Dr. Alfred B. Ada.



The Class of 2022 singing Kagman High School's hymn, and joined by Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada, a former KHS principal.





Taldon Langu is the Against All Odds Award recipient from the Office of United States Congressman. Field Office Manager Paula Bermudes-Castro, Board of Education Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio and Principal Christine Tudela presented the award.

## Da'ok Academy graduates 28

**O**N its fifth year as a newly established public high school, Da'ok Academy produced its biggest number of graduates yet.

Twenty-eight high school senior received their diplomas during their May 18 graduation ceremony held at the newly built Koblerville Elementary School cafeteria.

These graduates said they will enter the workforce, pursue college and join the military.

This is the fifth graduation ceremony for Da'ok Academy, which was only established in 2018 following the transition of the Alternative Education Program of the Public School System into a secondary level-program.



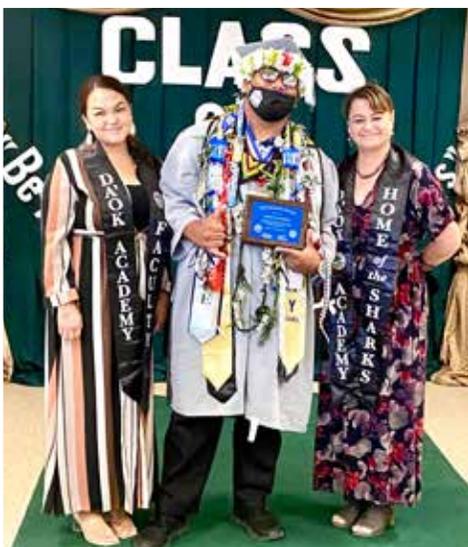
Jesse James Pua is this year's Principal's Award recipient. He received the award from Principal Tudela.



Isa Marie Cabrera is the recipient of the Resilience Award. She received the plaque from her school administrators.



Cleman Mikko Techur is the Lt. Governor's Award recipient. Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios personally presented the award.



Lance Ray Repeki is recipient of both Trailblazer Award and Governor's Award.

The 28 graduates are: Keith Joevin Aldan, Reannalynn Marie Blass, Isa Marie Cabrera, Jesse Cabrera, Jr., Mark Anthony Castro, Austin Christopher, Nicolas Zachary Dela Cruz, Ian-Jake Diopulos, Koyuki Ichikawa Angel Vincent Iguel, Norintha John, Clayton Jean Kaipat, Andres Carlos Kalen, Taldon Langu, Patrick Manglona, Mellio Meippen, Devin Wallace Norita, Jesse James Pua, Raymond Austin Quitano, Lance Ray Repeki, Neitan Rudolph, Herman Sablan, Ethan Elijah Salavaria, Shawna Schneider, NaeAnna Jean Solomon, Cleman Mikko Techur, and Elias Hezekiah.

#### Awards

Jesse James Pua is this year's Principal's Award recipient.

Lance Ray Repeki is this year's recipient of the Governor's Award.

Cleman Mikko Techur is the Lt. Governor's Award recipient.

Norintha John is the Outstanding Female Graduate Award recipient.

Taldon Langu is the Against All Odd Award recipient from the Office of United States Congressman.

Herman Sablan received the Mayor's Award.

Several other awards were presented, highlighting the students' classroom performance.

Repeki and Meippen were A Honor Roll in Language Arts.

Quitano received the Academic Excellence in U.S. Government-Social Studies.

John was Achieve 3000 Highest Score for March and April for the entire Public School System.

Langu was Achieve 3000 Highest Score for April for the entire PSS.



The recipient of the Principal's Leadership Award is Zack Itibus, who received the award with his parents next to him. Principal Borja and Vice Principals Manuel and Seman presented the award.

# Hopwood Middle School promotes 182 to high school

**T**HE largest middle school in student population, Hopwood Middle School, has promoted 182 students into high school in a ceremony held on May 19 at its sprawling campus.

Class valedictorian and Board of Education Award recipient is Mark Ryan Ortizo Costales. His father, Samuel and aunt, Irene, received the awards on his behalf from Principal Victorino Borja, Vice Principals Karen Manuel, Ben Seman, Board of Education Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio and Student Rep. to the BOE Jed Sta. Theresa.



With his parents next to him, Commissioner of Education Award recipient and class salutatorian is Hayden Romeo Igiomar. He received both awards from Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada and Associate Commissioner Eric Magofna.

Samuel Costales, center, and Irene Costales, father and aunt, respectively, of Hopwood Middle School valedictorian and Board of Education Award recipient, Mark Ryan Ortizo Costales, receive both awards from BOE Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, BOE Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio, and Student Rep. Jed Sta. Theresa. They are joined by Principal Vice Borja and Vice Principals Karen Manuel and Ben Seman.





Ortizo is in the mainland US attending his sister's graduation.

Commissioner of Education Award recipient and class salutatorian is Hayden Romeo Igisomar. He received both awards from Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada and Associate Commissioner Eric Magofna.

The recipient of the Principal's Leadership Award is Zack Itibus. Principal Borja and Vice Principals Manuel and Seman presented the award.

Eighteen students were recognized for excellence in various subjects.

Social studies: Mark Ryan Ortizo Costales and Jun Hirase Zhang.

Science: Costales and Laura Hui Bin Wang.

Mathematics: Clyve Jairus Elchico De Guzman and Alfred Ruita Borja Sabanal.

English Language Arts: Costales and Chester Lopena Torres.

Chamorro Carolinian Language and Heritage Studies: Maxine Angela Amado Candare and Alfred Ritz Borja Sabanal.

Physical Education: Maria Corazon Ayson Battalones and Laura Hui Bin Wang.

Middle School Leadership Corps: Hyden Romeo Igisomar and James Gavriel Matias Mercader.

Career Technical Education – Agriculture: Teresa Lin Ahn and Laura Sibong Cabrera Mareham.

CTE – Computer Literacy : Teresa Lin Ahn and Alfred Ritz Borja Sabanal.

**Worked hard**

Valedictorian Costales, in a pre-recorded video address, said he has worked hard for what has achieved today.

"I worked hard for it. I sacrificed for it and I stressed over it. Juggling clubs, sports, and school was no easy job and the stress was starting to build up. My mental health wasn't looking good and I wanted to give up. I learned a lot more from my mistakes than from success. When I got the call that I was selected to receive this award my heart started to race, and my body was filled with excitement. It felt so good to hear my name announced for that award," he said.

He added, "With sacrifice and hard work you all can achieve great things. Nothing is impossible. I'd like to give a big thank you, to my family, who have always been my number one supporter, my brother, who taught me almost everything I know, my older sister, for always believing in what I could do, my younger sister, who is always there for me, and finally, my parents, who raised me to become the person I am today, I thank you. I owe my success to all of you."

Class salutatorian Igisomar acknowledged that despite the "hardship of the past 3 years" they were able to endure.

"We have endured classroom displacement because of Typhoons and were forced to carry classes in tents. We have gone through learning through social distancing and online classes because of the pandemic known as COVID. However, here we are today. Standing tall and proud and ready to take on the next step, high school," Igisomar said.

He also honored his parents and his Hopwood Middle School teachers for his achievements.



Right to left, the Top 10 graduates of Saipan Southern High School: Jia Li Chen (1), Juan Isaiah Jose Deleon Guerrero Ada (2), Anna Pan (3), Diana Cao (4), Marie Ann Hembra (5), Marianne Kate Kapileo (6), Journey Te'i Mafnas (7), Alyssa Jean Alegre (7), Claire Eliesa Barrozo (9), and Pauline Shaine Viray (10).



Valedictorian Jia Li Chen, with her mother and father next to her, received the Board of Education Award from Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio and Student Rep. to BOE Jed Sta. Theresa.



Graduating second best in his class, is Juan Isaiah Jose Deleon Guerrero Ada, salutatorian, who received the Commissioner of Education Award from Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada and Associate Commissioner Eric Magofna. Ada is flanked by his mother and sibling.

# Chen, Ada leads 154 Saipan Southern High School graduates

**J**IA Li Chen and Juan Isaiah Jose Deleon Guerrero Ada are Saipan Southern High School's Class of 2022 top graduates.

SSHS held in the afternoon of May 19 a festive ceremony for the successful graduation 154 high school seniors who have decided to pursue college, joined the military and enter the workforce. This is the first time in two years that SSSH, and all other Saipan public high schools along with middle schools, held an in-person ceremony following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chen is the Class of 2022 valedictorian. She is also the recipient of the Board of Education Award which was presented by BOE Chairman Gregory Pat. Borja, Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio and Student Rep. to the BOE Jed Sta. Theresa.

Ada is the class valedictorian and recipient of the second high award, Commissioner of Education Award which was presented by Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada.



Education and local officials joined SSHS community in celebrating the milestone of the 154 graduates.



Graduating number 5 of the Class of 2022, Marie Ann Hembra beams with pride with her parents, Arsenio and Didith.

Chen was also the recipient of the Governor's Leadership Award which was presented by

Principal Vince Dela Cruz and Arisa Sakai Peters presented to Fran'ko Antwan Pangelinan Deleon Guerrero the Principals Award.

The rest of the top ten high school graduates were: Anna Pan (3), Diana Cao (4), Marie Ann Hembra (5), Marianne Kate Kapileo (6), Journey Te'i Mafnas (7), Alyssa Jean Alegre (7), Claire Eliesa Barrozo (9), and Pauline Shaine Viray (10).

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres and first lady Diann Torres presented the Governor's Award to Chen.

Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios presented the Lt. Governor's Leadership Award to Alyssa Jean Alegre.

**'We beat nature'**

Valedictorian Chen praised her fellow graduates for "beating nature".

"I applaud all students that pull through with the constant change of schedule even though that means lunch will conflict with 2nd or 3rd period classes, but most importantly the class of

Theron Factor the last graduate of SSHS Class of 2022 to walk up the stage to receive his diploma.



Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres and first lady Diann Torres presented the Governor's Award to Chen.



Principal Vince Dela Cruz and Vice Principal Arisa Sakai Peters presented to Fran'ko Antwan Pangelinan Deleon Guerrero the Principals Award.

2022 for not having a full year of (face-to-face) instructions. But we are on stage today to prove to the world and ourselves that we persevered and developed that grit, that is so strong that I can say "we beat nature" and that we beat ourselves," Chen said.

As she thanked several people, she particularly paid honored her parents as her "biggest inspirations and first loves".

"(A)lthough they only finished middle school, they never fail to motivate me and taught me how to be independent. They fail to study due to economic changes but there's not one day I go without hearing that Education can make a difference in my household. To my parents, I have done this and reached the top 1 title because of you guys, thank you for being proud of me."

Chen expressed her appreciation to her SSSH family: "Thank you for giving us a 2nd home, providing education during the hardest times, and to every hardworking staff, teacher, and admin thank you for ensuring that our school runs smoothly. I am glad to have spent my 4 years of high school here and not anywhere else. To teach me what it is like to have a manta spirit and how much I've grown as a leader."

Salutatorian Ada said his family has been his "great supporting pillars".

"My late father, Raymond, and my brothers,



Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios presented the Lt. Governor's Leadership Award to Alyssa Jean Alegre.

Giovanni and Greg. As well as my family that I have overseas. And finally, saving the most important for last, I would like to thank my mother. Full legal name, Velma Yvette Aldan Deleon Guerrero-Ada. The greatest person I know and my inspiration. I made sure to use her full name in order to give a proper shout-out. Thank you, mom. It has been a turbulent last 4 years but I am glad to say that the graduates that have gathered here today persevered through it all and completed a life goal."

Ada's advice to his fellow graduating peers: "Always laugh when you can, it's the cheapest form of medicine. So please, laugh more and also love more. We need more love in the world. Especially in these trying times, we need all the love we can get."



# Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr. Sr. High School promotes 35

**D**R. Rita Hocog Inos Jr. Sr. High School on Monday graduated 37 high school seniors and promoted 35 eight graders.

The promotion was held in the morning and the graduation was in the afternoon. Both were held on campus of the school which was named after the island's famous daughter – the later former commissioner of education.

Of the 35 promoted eight grades, Rianna Isa Tuazon Barcinas is the valedictorian and recipient of the Board of Education Award.

BOE Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio joined Rota BOE member Herman Atalig and Student Rep. to the BOE Jed Sta. Theresa in presenting the award and celebrating the Rota public school community's success.

The Salutatorian is Lovelee Zhene Balidad Jingco. She is also the recipient of the second highest award, the Commissioner of Education Award.

Dr. Alfred B. Ada was joined by all the Public School System's senior directors, Jackie Quitugua (instructional services), Dr. Yvonne Pangelinan (student support services), and Dr. Rizalina Liwag (accountability research and evaluation) in presenting the award.

Principal D. Tanya King and Vice Principal Annette Calvo presented Aiden Chonne Hocog Calvo.



Rianna Isa Tuazon Barcinas is valedictorian and Board of Education Award recipient of Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr. High School promotion. She received the award from BOE Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, Secretary-Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio, Board Member Herman Atalig and Student Rep. Jed Sta. Theresa.



Rianna Isa Tuazon Barcinas received the Mayor's Award from Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig.

The top seven promotees are: Jelina Renee Aldis Calvo, Eianne Miel Mangalindan Ladao, Carlos Antonio Atalig Calvo, Edward Ulloa Maratata III, Ngiraibai Bernard Takawo, Danica Lovidad Malaborbor, and Lorenzo Zyler Curameng Hocog.

## Subject awards

Valedictorian Barcinas also received the subject awards for English, Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, Leadership Corps, Physical Education and Career Exploration/Fine Arts.



Promoted class salutatorian and Education Award recipient Lovelee Zhene Balidad Jingco received her plaque from Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada, Senior Director Jackie Quitugua, Dr. Yvonne Pangelinan and Dr. Rizalina Liwag, and Special Education Director Donna Flores.



With Principal King, BOE Chairman Borja and Commissioner Ada, partly hidden, salutatorian Jingco received the subject awards for Science, Social Studies, Leadership Corps and Career Exploration-Fine Arts.



Danica Lovidad Malaborbor receives the subject award for Career Exploration-Fine Arts.

Salutatorian Jingco received the subject awards for Science, Social Studies, Leadership Corps and Career Exploration-Fine Arts.

The Mayor of Rota Award valedictorian

Municipal council – or the most improved award Zayden Castro Atalig.

Carlos Atalig Calvo received the subject awards for Social Studies, Leadership Corps, and Career Exploration-Fine Arts.

Jelina Renee Aldis Calbo received the subject awards for Social Studies, Leadership Corps, Physical Education and Career Exploration-Fine Arts.

Edward Ulloa Maratita III received the subject awards for Social Studies, Leadership Corps and Physical Education.

Eianne Miel Mangalindan Ladao received the subject awards for Chamorro, Computer and Career Exploration-Fine Arts.



Principal D. Tanya King and Vice Principal Anette Calvo, with BOE Chairman Gregory Borja and Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada, partly hidden, presents to valedictorian Barcinas the subjects awards for English, Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, Leadership Corps, Physical Education and Career Exploration-Fine Arts.

# 11TH COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY



## Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr. Sr. High School graduates 37

**O**f the 37 high school graduates, Cevon Atalig Calvo graduated top of her class. She is the recipient of the highest education award, the Board of Education Award. BOE Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, Secretary/Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio, Rota Board Member Herman Atalig and Student Rep. Jed Sta. Theresa presented the award.

She also received the Governor's Award, which was presented by Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres himself, and the Rota Mayor's Award, which was presented by Mayor Erfram Atalig.

Salutatorian is Namiko Nani Mendiola Calvo, who also received the Commissioner of Education Award. Dr. Ada and the three senior directors – Quitugua, Dr. Pangelinan and Dr. Liwag – presented the award.

She also received the Lt. Governor's Award from Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, and the Outstanding Female Graduate Award.



Graduating class salutatorian Namiko Nani Mendiola Calvo is presented with the second highest award, the Commissioner of Education Award, by Dr. Alfred B. Ada, left, who is joined by Senior Directors Dr. Yvonne Pangelinan, Jackie Quitugua, Dr. Rizalina Liwag and Special Education Director Donna Flores.



Board of Education Student Representative Jed Sta. Theresa is the recipient of the Principal's Leadership Award. The award was presented by Principal D. Tanya King.



Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios presented Namiko Nani Mendiola Calvo the Lt. Governor's Award.



Valedictorian Cevon Atalig Calvo is presented with the Board of Education Award by BOE Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, Secretary-Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio and Rota Board Member Herman T. Atalig.

The Principal's Award was awarded to BOE Student Rep. Jed Sta. Theresa. Principal King and Vice Principal Calvo presented the award.

Sta. Theresa also received the BOE Service Recognition Award, which was presented by the Board of Education leaders, Chairman Borja, Vice Chairman Borja, Secretary-Treasurer Tenorio, and Board Member Atalig.

The other top high school graduates are: Hannah Mejia Nerizon, Angela Ann Presas Guiang, Viera Nicole Hocog Atalig, Necimo George Cotas Atalig and Zolekha Liz Sayal Dewan.

The Most Improved Award went to Jerony Jay Mendiola Pinaula. The members of the 18th Rota Municipal Council presented the award.

**'What are you searching for'**

In her valedictory address Cevon Atalig Calvo asked her peers "what are you searching for?"

Using the anime character Luffy as her inspiration, she said: "I would like to ask my peers, what are you searching for? What is your one piece? Is it wanting to be a nurse, a teacher, a farmer? Is it creating your own happy family? It is up to you to define what it is. And it is up to you to take the initiative to go after it, just like Luffy did. But he did not do it alone, he surrounded himself with a crew that supported and believed him."

"I would like to thank my crew. Thank you to my family for their support and valuable advice that has shaped me as a person. Thank you to my friends for the memories we created together throughout high school. Thank you to my three advisors for believing in me and my fellow graduates, and putting their time and efforts into our success. Thank you also to those who have supported me, one way or another."

She is going to attend the Northern Marianas College and transfer to Oregon State University where she plans to major in business, and attain minor in interior design.

Salutatorian Namiko Nanin Mendiola Calvo in her address said: "The past two years have been very difficult and life changing for many people in the CNMI and around the world. However, it was even mor difficult for our class since we didn't even know whether or not we would be up on this stage today."

"Now, today, we are all on this stage because of all of our hardowk, determination, and willingness to never give up. This pandemic may have taken away a lot of things from us, but I'm glad it didn't take away this very important milestone in our lives."

**Tribute**

Principal King, in her remarks, thanked the Board of Education "for sincerely ensuring the employees and students safety and learning in every mode possible...and in the best interest of those who means most to PSS – the students".



Valedictorian Cevon Atalig Calvo received the Governor's Award and Outstanding Female Graduate Award from Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and y Joaquina King of the Rota Women's Affairs Office.



The class valedictorian also received the Mayor's Award from Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig.



The 18th Rota Municipal Council presented Jerony Jay Mendiola Pinaula the Most Improved Award.



Sta Theresa is also presented with the Board of Education Service Award for serving as the BOE Student Representative. BOE Chairman Gregory Pat Borja, Vice Chairman Antonio L. Borja, Secretary-Treasurer Maisie B. Tenorio and Board Member Herman Atalig presented the award.



Class valedictorian is Vinnie Juan Sablan, joined by his parents, and BOE Chairman Greg Borja, Secretary/Treasurer Maisie Tenorio and Student Rep. Jed Sta. Theresa.



Class salutatorian is Trixia Jhoanne Singca with his parents, and Commissioner of Education Dr. Alfred B. Ada and Associate Commissioner Eric Magofna.

# Tanapag Middle School Celebrates biggest number of promoted students at 107

Tanapag Middle School has promoted 107 eight graders into high school in a ceremony that was held on May 20, 2022. This is the biggest number of middle school students that have been promoted.

These promoted students will be attending high schools on its feeder schools: Marianas High School and Kagman High School.

Class valedictorian is Vinnie Juan Sablan and salutatorian is Trixia Jhoanne Singca.

## Awards

Valedictorian Sablan is also the Principal's Leadership Award recipient. He also received excellence in Science, Physical Education and Health, Leadership Corps, English Language Arts and Chamorro Carolinian Language and Heritage Studies Awards.



Twins Ry'ahna Jordin and Rey'aeko Jorjia Attao Quitano with the parents.

Salutarian Singca received excellence in subject awards for Art, CCHLS, Computer, Physical Education and Health, and Leadership Corps.

The other subject awardees are: Farjana Islam, Math and Leadership Corps; Rina Rengiil, Physical Education and Health; Francis Darrell Tomokane, Jr., Leadership Corps; Gabriella Kaylynn Sablan, Leadership Corps; Cristino Benavente, Leadership Corps; Selina Casandra Villena, Leadership Corps; Rhoana Caylee Macalinao, Social Studies, and Denn Wilson Biscocho, Computer.

During his valedictory address, Sablan expressed his appreciation to his parents in the vernacular: "To my parents, hamyu rason na tumotogui yu' guini pagu. Si Yu'us Ma'ase Sa in fan'gui yu' gumai respetu, mu humitai yan sumiguru. I tai finakpu na quinaian miyu yan suppotasion miyu muna memetgot yu'. Hu sen guaiya hamyu na dos."

"To my siblings, my inspirations, much love and thanks for being my number one fans and for pushing me to exceed and reach for the stars."

"To all of the promo-tees, I am and always will be rooting for you. And to end of this speech I would like to give a huge shoutout to Ms. Hilda and her team because Tanapag Middle School has definitely nurtured respectful, healthy, high-achieving, self directed, college and career ready individuals.

In her address, salutarian Singca said, "



Parents Geoffrey Garcia, Mary Hazel Garcia with their daughter Gianine Haley Garcia.



Trishelle, Thomas, Lanie, Grandma Susan and Puppy Trixie

