

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

www.gdoe.net 501 Mariner Avenue Barrigada, Guam 96913 Telephone: (671) 300-1677| Email: mtreyes@gdoe.net



TES REYES-BURRIER
Public Information Officer
2024-PIO-0182

#### July 16, 2024 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Faneyåkan Sinipok (CHamoru Language Medium/Immersion) Program Continues Accepting Applications for SY 2024-2025

*Tiyan, Guam* – The Guam Department of Education (GDOE) CHamoru Studies and Special Projects Division continues to accept kindergarten applications for the Faneyåkan Sinipok (CHamoru Language Medium/Immersion) Program until July 30, 2024. Kindergarten students for SY 24-25 will be the 6<sup>th</sup> cohort for the Faneyåkan Sinipok Program.

The Faneyåkan Sinipok Program was established to address the critical need for children to become proficient in the CHamoru language. This innovative program utilizes CHamoru as the primary medium of instruction for all the subjects by GCEC Certified Teachers. Immersion teachers receive professional development opportunities and educational tools to learn innovative instructional strategies, ensuring a rich, indigenous education for our students. By immersing students in the language, it aims to deepen their understanding of CHamoru culture and heritage.

#### **Program Requirements:**

- Aspiring students must be children living in Guam who will be 5 years old by July 31, 2024.
- CHamoru language speaking skills are preferred but not required.
- Families committed to providing service of eight (8) hours a month to the program.
- Families committed to learning the CHamoru language and culture to provide an immersive language environment for the student outside the classroom.

#### **Application and Selection Process:**

- Interested stakeholders may fill out the application online http://tinyurl.com/SinipokApply
- Eligible applicants will be interviewed to discuss program requirements and commitments.

### Faneyåkan Sinipok also provides the following services at NO COST to families accepted into the program:

- After school tutoring
- Summer school
- Parent Classes
- PC Lujan GATE Services
- PC Lujan Library Services
- PC Lujan Counseling Services



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The Faneyåkan Sinipok Program is located at Pedro Camacho Lujan Elementary School in Barrigada. The school days are from 8:30 a.m. to 2:43 p.m. Transportation to and from school must be provided by the parents or guardians, however, students within the school district of P.C. Lujan Elementary School may take the school bus.

Supplemental activities are administered by the Guam Department of Education (GDOE) – Federal Programs Division (FPD) and funded by the Consolidated Grant to the Outlying Areas.

For more information, please contact Siñora Jocelyn T. Santos, CHamoru Language and Culture Specialist at (671) 300-1387 or email jtsantos@gdoe.net or mtreyes@gdoe.net.



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