



“Learning something new! I am excited to study Math as I find it interesting. I am also

“Since school is coming back, I am looking forward to getting good grades and those certificates to make my family proud. I am also looking forward to being better at soccer and writing better. I am also excited for after school for learning and doing fun activities.”—*Aiah Bhurn T. Delos*

“Since school is coming back, I am looking forward to my friends being there. I haven’t seen them for months and 7th grade should be new and interesting. I am also curious to see which teachers I’ll like, hoping to get good grades and certificates at the end of the school year to make my family proud. I am excited about making new friends in

“As I enter my first year of high school, expectations for myself include learning new habits to help and improve my mental state for my upcoming studies. I hope to learn important skills such as problem solving, improve reading and writing, public speaking, and

"I'm looking forward to meeting my friends and being with them for one last year. I know that we are probably all going to go to different colleges and it'll be our last time seeing each other for a while, so I'm going to enjoy my time with them. One goal I have is to do great in the college admissions process and after I'm done with that, I want to help out the underclassmen. I want to put them in a good position before I leave, so I'm going to tell them what are some things they should be

“I am looking forward to spending my last year of high school with the close friends I met throughout my journey,  
**See WHAT on Page 6**

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WHAT

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but I am also happy to meet new faces! My main goal for this school year is to just have fun with the people around me, it may be the last time I would see them for a while, so I would hope to cherish the time we have left and enjoy it! My main plan for this school year is to apply to college, and others around me are also doing the same. I knew it is going to be a stressful time, but I hope with the support of my peers I am able to get through it. But generally, I am most excited to see everyone again,

and spend my final year with them!”—**Jedric Aniciete, incoming senior, Marianas High School**

“Going into my first year of college at NMC, I look forward to exploring the responsibilities of a young adult as I learn to become a more independent person. As I am entering a new chapter of my life, I hope to grab onto as many opportunities that will lead me to explore my desired career goal of pursuing pharmacy. Especially as I plan to go

off island after my two years at NMC, I also plan to prepare myself by experiencing the campus life, overcoming aca-

better people person. I can’t say I’m scared or excited going into this school year. Rather, I am more excited to see what the future holds for me.”—**Hana Laxamana Diaz, incoming college freshman taking Business Management, Northern Marianas College**

“One of the main things I look forward to is engaging in the community of New York, one that is of a busy urban lifestyle—a big change from Saipan—and utmost ethnic and cultural diver-

sity. Furthermore, I am excited to engage in learning about the fundamentals of Computer Science as well as other classes as part of the Liberal Studies program. Additionally, one of my main goals is to strive not only for good academic performance in my classes but also for good character and staying true and humble to my upbringing of discipline and faith.”—**Andrew Nunez, incoming first-year student taking Liberal Studies with anticipated degree in Computer Science, New York University**

“As I enter my college years, I am looking forward to becoming more independent and exploring new things, like trying New York’s famous pizza and bagels! In school, I am excited to meet a diverse class. I know that I will be making new friends while still being able to meet up with old ones in and around New York City. I also look forward to experiencing a college class, being in a huge lecture hall, and getting to play with cool machines. I know that my next four years will bring unexpected yet exciting experiences.

In college, I hope to develop my personal skills, particularly in time management. That way, I can diversify my college experience while keeping up with my studies, like picking up a new hobby, maintaining my physical health, or even securing a research position or internship opportunity, which are some other goals of mine. I am looking to major in Earth & Environmental Engineering, though I remain open to exploring other engineering disciplines.”—**Joseph Jimenez, incoming freshman, Columbia University**

“Coming back to school, I’m most looking forward to being immersed in a community that flourishes in hard work and dedication. This year my goals are to pass all my classes and join a club wherein I can showcase my abilities as well as learn from my peers.”—**Raeka Lantin, incoming 2nd year nursing student, Northern Marianas College**

“This year, I’m really excited about diving into strategic management and leadership courses. I’m looking forward to tackling real-world problems through case studies and group projects. It’ll also be great to connect with industry professionals through networking events and internships, which I think will really help me apply what I’m learning in a practical way.”—**Christine Hayag, incoming 3rd year Business Management student, Northern Marianas College**

**THE EDUCATORS**  
“This coming school year, I am looking forward to the opportunity to grow and learn from my new students. I’m excited to tackle new math challenges together, turning those complex problems into moments of discovery and achievement. I aim to explore  
**See WHAT on Page 7**



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markscoggins@gmail.com

Attorney for Petitioner.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF  
THE ESTATE OF

Civil Action  
No. 24-0177

LUISA TAIMANAO ARRIOLA,  
Deceased.

NOTICE OF HEARING /  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Date: September 26, 2024  
Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Judge: Hon. Joseph  
N. Camacho

TO: THE HEIRS, GENERAL PUBLIC AND CREDITORS OF THE  
DECEDENT OR OF HER ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the Petitioner, Jude T. Arriola, has  
filed a Petition For Letters of Administration in the above-entitled  
Estate proceeding pursuant to Rule NIMI R. of Prob. 15.  
A hearing on the petition will be conducted by the Court on  
September 26, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom 220A, Superior  
Court. All persons interested are hereby notified to appear at the  
hearing and show cause, if any, why the order should not be made.  
Pursuant to Rule NIMI R. of Prob. 21, notice is hereby given to  
all creditors of the Decedent or her Estate that they must file their  
claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of the  
publication of this notice. A copy of the claim of any creditor should  
be sent to Attorney Mark Scoggins at the above indicated address.  
Reference is hereby made to the petition for further  
particulars.

SO NOTICED this 5th day of August 2024.

/s/  
HON. JOSEPH N. CAMACHO, ASSOCIATE JUDGE  
CNMI SUPERIOR COURT

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WHAT

From page 6

each subject deeply and create meaningful learning experiences by connecting the lessons to real-life situations. My goal is to go beyond textbook-based teaching and bring lessons to life through practical, challenging, and engaging activities. I hope to build my new students' skills and confidence while also enhancing my own teaching abilities.”—**Salma Cegales Lapuz, educator, Green Meadow School**

“Agape Christian School

welcomes back a brand-new school year filled with boundless possibilities, growth, and excitement as the school continues to encourage talents, unleash potential, and help students be the people God wants them to be in SY 2024-2025.”—**Pastor Kok H. Pang, administrator, Agape Christian School**

“I’m excited to enhance our learning environment with new programs and technology, such as our 3D printer and expanded STEM curriculum. I look forward to fostering strong relationships with parents and the community

while maintaining our commitment to academic excellence and Christian values. Saipan SDA School offers a high-quality education with the North American Division Standards, ensuring students receive the same education as in the American mainland. We provide a holistic education, incorporating academics, arts, physical education, and spiritual growth. This year, we’re introducing a golf club, a ping pong club, and ukulele lessons for all students.”—**Pastor Yeon Ho Song, principal, Saipan SDA School**

“As an educator, expectations for upcoming the new

school year is to focus on preparation for student support that is centered on each individual’s needs. Services for my program are provided at settings, including home, private daycare, and Head Start centers. I look forward to learning and collaborating from teacher colleagues, students, and parents. It is important to create an environment where we can all enjoy learning together. Team communication and safety for all children are top priority.”—**Rose Laxamana Diaz, Early Childhood Special Education Related Service provider, PSS Early Childhood Special Education Program**

“Every new school year is such an exciting time for me as a professor! I am always looking forward to seeing my returning students as well as meeting the new students who have joined our program. As a professor in NMC’s School of Education program under the Rehabilitation and Human Services concentration, my students are simply the best! They’ve chosen this program in counseling and human services because they have such huge hearts and want to give back or advocate for the segments of our population who are underserved—especially those who are at-risk or struggling with mental health is-

sues. My students’ passion for this work continues to inspire me to be a better educator because I want to see them succeed. If I can be even a small part of their academic journey and guide them to be their best selves, that is so fulfilling for me. If any of our community members who want to further their education, have a natural helping nature, or are great listeners, come see me at NMC! There is still time to register and join our fantastic Proa family for the Fall 2024 semester!”—**Dr. Beylul Solomon, Professor, Northern Marianas College, School of Education-Rehabilitation & Human Services**



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INVITATION FOR BID

PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-016-24

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 30, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

“IMPLEMENTATION & MAINTENANCE OF BIOMETRIC FACIAL RECOGNITION”

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) ACCOUNTING OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING JULY 23, 2024. AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF \$100.00 SHALL BE PAID TO CPA BEFORE A BIDDER MAY OBTAIN THE BID PACKAGE. PAYMENTS SHALL BE IN CASH, CASHIER’S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED “IMPLEMENTATION & MAINTENANCE OF BIOMETRIC FACIAL RECOGNITION (IFB-016-24)” TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., AUGUST 30, 2024. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 540-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

LEO B. TUDELA  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE: 7/23/2024



DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES  
CNMI GOVERNMENT



INVITATION TO BID

ITB24-OGM-42400132

SUBMISSION DATE: September 06, 2024

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

“Purchase of One (1) Class “E” Vehicle for the Office of Grants Management and State Clearinghouse.”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED ON THE MUNIS VENDOR SELF SERVICE PORTAL AT (<https://selfservice.dof.gov.mp/vss/>) OR AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT BUILDING NO. 12386, ASCENSION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB CAN BE MADE TO MR. EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR. AT THE OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT AND STATE CLEARINGHOUSE, AT [epi.cabrera@gov.mp](mailto:epi.cabrera@gov.mp) or at (670)322-9994.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70039.3-725 and 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

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/s/ Epiphanio E. Cabrera, Jr.  
STATE ADMINISTRATOR, OGM

/s/ Brien S. Nicholas, Jr.  
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS



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# Back-to-school budgeting blues? Make a plan of action before buying supplies, clothes

By TARA WANDTKE  
The Kansas City Star

Even though the temperatures are still soaring, the end of summer is the perfect time for parents to start budgeting for back-to-school shopping. Outside of the holidays, back-to-school shopping is often the most expensive time of the year.

CommunityAmerica can provide you with all the information and help you need to navigate the back-to-school season, including tips and tricks on how to save money on school supplies.

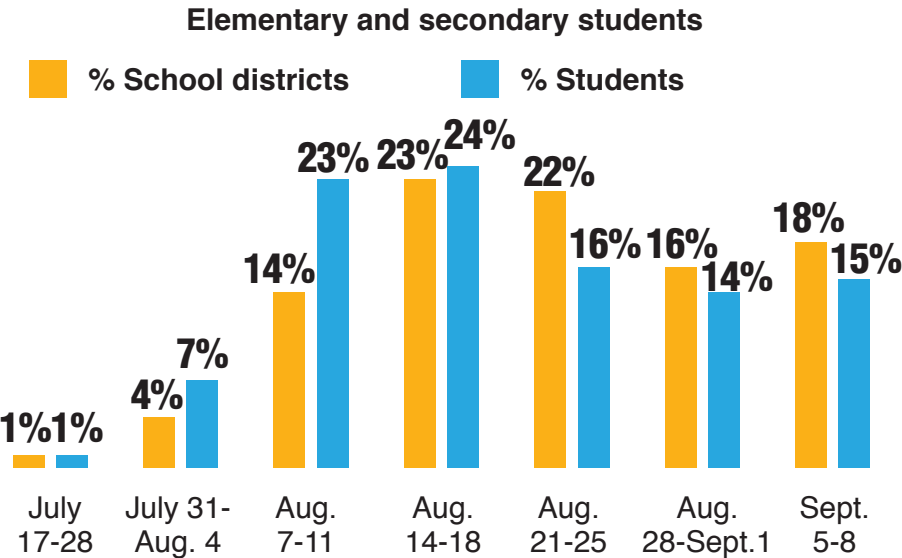
**Shop your drawers first**  
There's something about a

fresh box of crayons that makes the start of another school year feel real. For some of your other supplies, it is important to take a hard look at what is necessary to purchase new, as many things can be reused. You probably have a drawer full of pens and pen-

See BLUES on Page 12

## When do you go back to school?

It's August, which means millions of American schoolkids are planning or already heading back to school.



Source: Pew Research Center  
Graphic: Staff, TNS

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## BLUES

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cils that can be carried over to next year, and the same goes for lightly used binders or notebooks.

While your child might want all-new, shiny supplies, you can save money by reusing certain items. Unless otherwise stated by the school, it's not necessarily true that your kid needs a new backpack, calculator, or USB drive for the new school year, as these things can often last many years. This could also be a good time to teach your little ones a lesson in saving and taking care of their personal items throughout the year.

### Budget first, buy second

There are plenty of things that can't be reused and need to be purchased new. While many schools will send out school supply information as soon as they can, contact your child's school and request a list of what your child will need ahead of time so you can start putting together a budget.

Once you have a good idea of how much you need to spend on school supplies and what will be purchased, start researching. You might find better deals online or at a bulk retailer for basic supplies like paper or pens, especially if you have multiple kids to provide for.

### Dress to impress

A newly updated wardrobe is a must for many kids before they step back into the classroom, especially if they've hit a growth spurt. Late summer and early fall are great times to shop for those first-day-of-school outfits.

As quickly as kids grow, it might be tough for you to pull the trigger on new, brand-name clothing. Instead, hit your nearest thrift store before stopping by the mall, or even check out Walmart or Target. You can find great deals on brand-name clothes for your little ones, and you won't feel like you're wasting money since they're going to outgrow them before the year is up anyway.

Back-to-school ads will flood your inbox soon, but don't ignore them, along with other junk mail. Instead, use them to get an idea of current costs and start preparing your school supplies budget. Think of it as setting a good example for the kids: Even Mom and Dad must do homework.

*If you have questions about creating a budget for back-to-school or your financial picture in general, make a free appointment with one of CommunityAmerica's Financial Well-Being Coaches. You do not need to be a member to use their services.*

# Welcome Back to School!

The entire community is cheering you on and wants to see you succeed. We know that this will require you to dig deep and become innovative and creative in accomplishing the tasks before you. Your commitment to staying focused and dedicated to your schoolwork will take you to higher heights.

From the management and staff of

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