



**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
**News Release**

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*Tourism is Everybody's Business!*

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MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

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**MTEC SEEKS NEW MEMBERS**

**Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI)** – The Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC) is seeking new members to join its tourism education initiative. MTEC will hold its annual general membership meeting on Sept. 20, 2012, at 3:30 p.m. at the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) office on Beach Rd., Oleai, where election of officers will also take place.

This school year, MTEC will continue its focus on educational presentations at Northern Marianas public and private schools.

“Since we started school presentations two years ago, we have seen the students become more aware of the importance of tourism and, more importantly, become more active in supporting the CNMI visitor industry. We even have students contacting us directly, asking how they can get involved,” said MTEC Chairwoman Vicky Benavente. “MTEC stands ready to help advisors in forming their own MY WAVE (Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) Clubs to channel the students’ new enthusiasm.”

Benavente added the next MTEC-MY WAVE Tourism Summit for MY WAVE clubs is tentatively set for October 2012. Over 400 students attended last year’s summit, where they learned about the industry and spent time developing their own action plans for the school year.

MTEC is also prepping for the Sept. 1 DOCOMO Pacific Golf Classic, which will donate its proceeds to the non-profit organization.

“We’re very appreciative to DOCOMO for supporting MTEC for a third year with this event,” said Benavente. “We invite all our golfers to come out and support MTEC’s efforts through the tournament.”

Currently MTEC officers are President Benavente and Treasurer Chris Libo. Council is comprised of individuals from both the private sector such as hotels and other businesses, as well as the public sector, including the MVA and the Public School System.



Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC) Chairwoman Vicky Benavente, arms crossed, visits with the Marianas High School Tourism & Hospitality Class during school year 2011-2012. MTEC will continue its educational outreach to students this school year and is inviting new members to its annual membership meeting on Sept. 20, 2012, at the Marianas Visitors Authority office.

The Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of idyllic islands in the West Pacific, offering a friendly, fun and exciting vacation in paradise. They are an excellent destination for

families, adventure and sports-minded travelers, as well as business people looking for a tropical haven. Adventurous travelers from Asia, Australia, Europe and elsewhere looking for new travel discoveries will find them in the Mariana Islands, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four from Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served from Tokyo and Osaka in Japan by Delta Air Lines and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct flights from Seoul and Busan. China is served from Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. For more information visit [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com).

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