

RITA HOCOG INOS
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



Rita Hocog Inos was born on May 12, 1954, on Rota Island. She is the oldest of seven children. She is married to Cristobal Songao Inos and has two daughters.

Rita attended grades 1-9 at Rota School. In 1969, ninth grade was the highest grade offered. In 1969-70, she moved to Guam and completed her 10th grade at George Washington Senior High School. With the help of a sponsor in 1970, she transferred to Arlington, Texas, and graduated from Arlington High School in Texas in 1972.

In 1972, Rita taught second grade at Rota School. Her class was the first second grade to pilot vernacular language instruction in the Chamorro language.

From 1975 to 1979, Rita studied in the Bilingual/Bicultural Training Program at the University of Hawaii. In August, 1979, she received her B.A. degree in liberal arts, bilingual education. While a student at the UOH, Rita participated in the Pacific Area Language Materials Development Center in 1976. She was the Curriculum Writer/Educational Specialist with a major concentration in writing learning materials for students' use in Northern Marianas bilingual classrooms.

From 1982 to 1983, Rita was an intern for a year at the Cross-Cultural Resource Center. In May of 1983, she received her Master of Arts degree from San Jose State University in educational administration. It was also in 1982-83 that Rita attended California State University in Sacramento to take other graduate studies. She is presently a candidate for another Master of Arts degree in anthropology.

Mrs. Inos became school principal at Rota School in 1980. After taking the principal's position, she was involved in training entitled, "Instructional Leadership and Effective School Practices" from the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory (NWREL). Presently Rita is the only woman principal in the CNMI in grades 1-8. Her role as an instructional leader in the school is bringing the standard of education to the desired level.

In 1982, Mrs. Inos was certified as an instructor for both the University of Guam and the Northern Marianas College. She is the coordinator for off-campus instruction for Northern Marianas College programs on Rota. In the summer of 1984 she was the coordinator for Project BEAM (Bilingual Education Assistance for Micronesia) on Guam. She continues to be very active in language and cultural maintenance.

In 1985, Rita Inos was elected as a delegate to the Second Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention where she served as vice chairperson for the Committee of Finance and other matters. It was also in this year that Rita was a Task Force member for the Northern Marianas Pacific Region Education Conference (PREP). As a member she recommended activities for the CNMI for education and training, needs assessment, and identifying ways of implementation. At the Second Annual PREP Conference, held in Saipan, she presented a workshop session for participants on second language learning in the classroom.

In addition to school activities, Rita has been involved in other functions. She is a member of the Christian Mothers on Rota, was a secretary for the Pacific Islands Bilingual-Bicultural Association (PIBBA), and is a member of the Mayor of Rota's Cabinet for the Island of Rota. She was at one time a member of the Northern Marianas Health Coordinators Council, representing the island of Rota.

Rita Inos has had a very satisfying and rewarding career thus far. She was the first woman in Rota to get both a Baccalaureate degree and a Master's. Her most significant accomplishment is taking a lead role in improving the quality of education for the people of Rota. She is also taking a leadership role in issues relevant to her community, both CNMI and Rota, in the areas of legislative reform, local government, and language issues.