



February 06, 2020



REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 088, s. 2020

POSTPONEMENT OF THE REGIONAL ORIENTATION ON SSG/SPG AUTOMATED ELECTION

TO: ALL SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
This region

1. Pursuant to Deped Memorandum # 015, s. 2020 enclosure No.2 , the said Regional activity is indefinitely postponed until further notice.
2. However, SSG and SPG elections in schools are encouraged to push through on schedule.
3. For your information and guidance.


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OIC – Office of the Regional Director

ESSD/ajc
02/06/2020



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

04 FEB 2020

DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **015**, s. 2020

FIRST SET OF POLICY DIRECTIVES OF THE DEPED TASK FORCE NCOV

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Minister, Basic, Higher and Technical Education, BARMM
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education (DepEd) issued on February 1, 2020, DepEd Memorandum (DM) No. 011, s. 2020, titled **Creation of a Task Force for the Management of Department of Education Response to Novel Coronavirus Acute Respiratory Disease (2019-nCoV ARD)**, following the expansion of the DepEd Quick Response and Recovery Team (QRRT) that included 2019-nCoV ARD. The memorandum declares that the DepEd regards the 2019-nCoV ARD as a matter of serious and urgent concern, and supports the overall efforts of the Philippine government to manage this public health situation.
2. On February 2, 2020, the President issued a directive on the containment and neutralization of the spread of the 2019-nCoV ARD. Accordingly, all heads of departments, agencies, offices, and instrumentalities of the government were directed to adopt, coordinate, and implement the said guideline and such other guidelines to be issued by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases in the Philippines created by Executive Order No. 168, s. 2014, with the Department of Health as chairperson.
3. Pursuant to the directive of the President and DM 011, s. 2020, and in consideration of current government efforts to contain the 2019-nCoV ARD, this memorandum is being issued for the information and guidance of DepEd officials, personnel and staff at the Central, Regional and Division Offices and schools nationwide.
4. This memorandum provides a background/situationer on the 2019-nCoV ARD, policy directives, and guidelines in the following enclosures:

- Enclosure No. 1 - Background and Situationer;
- Enclosure No. 2 - Measures for the Prevention and Control of the 2019-nCoV ARD in Basic Education Schools and Offices;
- Enclosure No. 3 - Formation/Activation of DRRM Teams in DepEd Regional Offices, Schools Division Offices, and Schools;
- Enclosure No. 4 - Operationalizing the Preventive Alert System in Schools (PASS);
- Enclosure No. 5 - Safety Precautions and Protocols;

**MEASURES FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF THE 2019-NCOV ARD
IN BASIC EDUCATION SCHOOLS AND OFFICES**

1. Travel limitations and restrictions

- a. Following the presidential directive on the 2019-nCoV ARD issued on February 2, 2020, all travels (official and personal) to the People's Republic of China and its special administrative regions are temporarily banned.
- b. Official travels of all DepEd personnel and learners previously approved by the Secretary for the month of February 2020 to countries identified to have confirmed cases or persons under investigation for 2019-nCoV are revoked. All DepEd personnel with approved personal travels to the same countries are highly advised not to proceed.
- c. The latest list of countries with confirmed cases is accessible in the WHO's site (<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>).
- d. Personnel and learners coming from travel abroad shall comply with the prescribed quarantine procedures of proper government authorities before returning to work or school.

2. Conduct of national, regional, division and school activities

In the interest of public health, all public and private basic education schools and learning centers are duty-bound to exercise due diligence and take precautionary measures to minimize exposure to risks associated with the 2019-nCoV ARD and support government efforts to contain the spread of the virus.

The following precautionary measures shall be observed for DepEd activities for the month of February 2020:

- a. Upon advice of DOH, all national and regional activities involving learners and/or teachers requiring travel and congregation of various schools, divisions, and/or regions are suspended. The Department shall periodically evaluate the necessity of suspending such national and regional activities, and shall, every Monday and/or when the need arises, announce whether such suspension shall continue, depending on the development of the situation and upon the advice of DOH.
- b. All division and district activities that involve the gathering/congregation of various schools are highly discouraged. Organizers are advised to seek the recommendation of local health authorities should the activities push through.

- c. All off-campus activities as defined in DepEd Order No. 66, s. 2017 (Implementing Guidelines on the Conduct of Off-Campus Activities) are suspended.
 - d. All personnel and learners exhibiting respiratory infections must not attend activities that involve congregation of learners within the school.
3. Public information and awareness campaigns
- a. Campaigns, especially classroom discussions, shall focus on the promotion of precautionary and safety measures and healthy behaviors such as, but not limited to:
 - i. personal hygiene, including frequent and proper handwashing with soap and water, the application of rubbing alcohol or hand sanitizer, and proper cough etiquette (maintain distance and cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the crook of your elbow);
 - ii. maintaining healthy lifestyles, including proper hydration by drinking 8-10 glasses of water within the day, consumption of nutritious foods, and ensuring food safety;
 - iii. ensuring environmental sanitation; and
 - iv. consulting a physician when symptoms attributable to respiratory infection (e.g. coughs, colds, fever, and other related symptoms) persist, and for extracting information on travel history to affected areas and exposure, based on the latest DOH decision tool accessible via <https://www.doh.gov.ph/2019-nCoV>.
 - b. Enclosure No. 5 of this memorandum provides for safety precautions and protocols to be observed in schools and offices (*Safety Precautions and Protocols*).
 - c. Campaigns, especially classroom discussions, shall also tackle the nature of the 2019-nCoV ARD, ways of transmission, and signs and symptoms.
 - d. This memorandum and its enclosures may serve as reference/discussion materials.
 - e. Official collaterals for display in schools and offices containing these key messages (Enclosure No. 7) may be downloaded at <https://www.deped.gov.ph/stopncov>. Editable files are available for translation to local languages and dialects.
 - f. All offices and schools are enjoined to use and share only verified and up-to-date information from reliable and official sources such as the WHO via <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019> and the DOH via <https://www.doh.gov.ph/2019-nCoV>.
4. Close monitoring of the health status of personnel and learners, and appropriate management and referral of persons exhibiting respiratory infection (e.g. coughs, colds, fever, and other related symptoms)

- a. All offices and schools shall utilize existing referral systems as indicated in the School Health and Nutrition Service Manual for personnel and learners who are exhibiting symptoms of respiratory infection and others.
 - b. The Medical Referral Form (Enclosure No. 8) may be downloaded from <https://www.deped.gov.ph/stopncov>.
5. Monitoring and reporting of the general situation and cases

Schools Division Offices shall prepare weekly health situation reports from the field using the attached template (Enclosure No. 9) accessible at <https://www.deped.gov.ph/stopncov> for submission to the BLSS-SHD (medical.nursing@deped.gov.ph), copy furnished Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS) (drmo@deped.gov.ph), their respective DepEd Regional Offices, and Local Chief Executive and the City/Municipal/Rural Health Unit, on or before 12 noon every Friday.

