



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

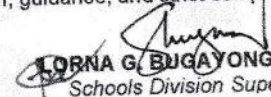
Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region I
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF ALAMINOS CITY

Division Memorandum
DM-2021-201

July 6, 2021

To: Heads of Public Elementary & Secondary Schools
and All Others Concerned

For information, guidance, and strict compliance.


LORNA G. BUGAYONG PhD CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **035**, s. 2021

2021 NUTRITION MONTH CELEBRATION

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) enjoins all learners, teaching and nonteaching personnel, officials, and other stakeholders, including parents to participate in the **2021 Nutrition Month Celebration** this July. This celebration is led by the National Nutrition Council (NNC), the country's highest policy making body and coordinating agency on nutrition.
2. The theme of the campaign for this year, *Malnutrisyon patuloy na labanan*, First 1000 days *tutukan!*, calls for continued efforts to address malnutrition in the country which is expected to worsen as a result of the pandemic and limited resources for nutrition. It emphasizes the importance of good nutrition during the first 1000 days of the child's life as the strategic intervention to prevent stunting and obesity.
3. The celebration aims to
 - a. raise awareness on the importance of the first 1000 days as a **golden window of opportunity** for a comprehensive package of nutrition and related interventions, to achieve significant reduction in under and overnutrition while contributing to optimal child development; and
 - b. advocate for interventions and services in the first 1000 days as mandated by Republic Act No. 11148 or the *Kalusugan at Nutrisyon ng Mag-Nanay Act of 2018*.
4. All DepEd offices and schools are enjoined to participate in meaningful undertakings, which will highlight the importance of good nutrition in addressing stunting and obesity through focusing on the First 1000 days among children while improving resistance against diseases in times of pandemic. DepEd offices may also conceptualize creative activities for learners and their families utilizing online and other platforms. It is reiterated that such activities after July 10, 2021 are no longer part of the school calendar per DepEd Order No. 012, s. 2021 titled, **Amendment to DepEd Order No. 030, s. 2020 (Amendment to DepEd Order No. 007, s. 2020, School Calendar and Activities for SY 2020-2021)**.

RA 11148 : "Kalusugan at Nutrisyon ng Magnanay Act"

RA 11148 was enacted into law last 29 November 2018 as " An Act Scaling Up the National and Local Health and Nutrition Programs Through A Strengthened Integrated Strategy for Maternal, Neonatal, Child Health and Nutrition in the First One Thousand (1000) Days of Life, Appropriating Funds Therefore, and for Other Purposes". Generally, the policy aims to scale up nutrition intervention programs in the first one thousand (1000) days of a child's life, and allocate resources in the sustainable manner to improve the nutritional status and address the malnutrition of infants and young children from zero (0) to two (2) years old, adolescent females, pregnant, and lactating women to ensure growth and development of infants and young children. This will provide a comprehensive, sustainable, multisectoral strategies and approaches to address health and nutrition problems of newborns, infants and young children, pregnant and lactating women, and adolescent females by providing policy environment, evidence-based nutrition interventions, and institutionalized first 1000 days program in all development plans of both the national and local government.

The policy also mandated the Department of Health, the National Nutrition Council, Department of Agriculture, in coordination with other national government agencies, local government units, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders to create the implementing rules and regulation of the policy. It shall cover all nutritionally-at-risk population, with focus on pregnant and lactating women, all Filipino children who are newly born up to two years of age. The policy should also prioritized population living in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDAs), unserved and underserved communities such as the indigenous people, areas with high prevalence of malnutrition, persons in the vulnerable sectors, and those communities affected by a crisis or arm conflict.

RA 11148 also identifies all the services needed for the first 1000 days of life, from prenatal check-ups, immunization of pregnant and children, dietary supplementation programs for the target groups, training of health and nutrition workers, provision of other health and nutrition services, psychosocial stimulation, and provision of other assistance that each stakeholder may offer. It also clarifies the role of each national government agencies and partners in the implementation of the program. - EMArcinue

5. At the national level, the Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division (BLSS-SHD) and the Public Affairs Service (PAS) are tasked to launch online activities in DepEd social media platforms in support of the campaign.
6. Key messages, references, and resources related to the celebration may be accessed at the National Nutrition Council's official website www.nnc.gov.ph. Resources that will be developed by the BLSS-SHD and PAS may be accessed at <https://bit.ly/2021nutrimonth>.
7. The report and pictorials on the highlights of the celebration of the Nutrition Month at the regional and division levels shall be incorporated in the consolidated *OK sa DepEd* progress and accomplishment reports for submission by the regional health and nutrition personnel to the BLSS-SHD. The same can be sent to NNC regional offices.
8. While July is designated as Nutrition Month, actions to achieve the objectives of the celebration are expected to be sustained throughout the year.
9. For more information, please contact the **Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division**, 3rd Floor, Mabini Building, DepEd Central Office, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City through email at blss.shd@deped.gov.ph or at telephone number (02) 8632-9935.
10. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary

References:

DepEd Memorandum No. 082, s. 2019
DepEd Order No.: (030, s. 2020)



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To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects

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