

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Department of Education and Culture
Manila

MAY 26 1975

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of the Secretary

May 23, 1975

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM
No. 68 s. 1975

GUIDELINES FOR THE OPENING OF CLASSES
FOR SCHOOL YEAR 1975-1976

To The Director of Public Schools,
The Director of Private Schools,
The Director of Vocational Education, and
The Coordinator of State Colleges & Universities:

1. The following guidelines shall be observed in the opening of classes for the school year 1975-1976:

a. All classes in all schools, public and private, shall open on June 2, 1975. The first two or three days from this date may be devoted to the organization of classes.

b. The entrance age for elementary school pupils is 7 years. Children who will be 7 years old during the first semester of the school year 1975-1976 are qualified to enter in school.

c. The presentation of a birth certificate shall be required upon enrollment in Grade 1 in all schools, public and private, effective the ensuing school year, pursuant to the provisions of Section 3 of Presidential Decree No. 601, as follows:

SEC. 3. Proof of birth registration a pre-requisite to school enrollment and allowance of tax exemption -
Henceforth, starting with the year 1975, the presentation of a birth certificate shall be a pre-requisite to enrollment in the first grade in all public and private schools in the country and allowance of tax exemption for dependents under the National Internal Revenue Code. (Under-
scoring supplied)

Failure to present a birth certificate or enrollment shall be ground for non-admission in school.

In this regard, paragraph 3 of Department Order No. 9, s. 1975, is hereby rescinded.

c. No child who meets the admission requirements shall be refused enrollment in public elementary schools.

In this connection, the following measures may be taken:

- 1) Enroll as many as 40 or more pupils per class.
- 2) Use the 4-3 or even the 1-1 plan in the intermediate grades.
- 3) Combine grades under one teacher.

d. As far as practicable, the scheduling of classes and the class teacher planning should conform to the provisions of Department Order No. 10, s. 1970. In case of shortage of classrooms, the emergency plan may be resorted to, whereby one classroom is used by one class in the morning and another classroom by another class in the afternoon.

2. In addition to the above-cited Department Order, attention is likewise invited to Department Order No. 43, s. 1970, relative to the school calendar for 1970-1971; as well as to all other existing pertinent regulations issued by this Office.

3. The Department Memoranda shall be given the widest publicity possible in the field.

(Sgd.) JUAN L. MARCEL
Secretary