

~~Republika ng Pilipinas~~
(Republic of the Philippines)
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON AT KULTURA
(DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE)
Manila

August 16, 1977

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM
No. 169, s. 1977

IMPROVING PUPIL ATTENDANCE

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Coordinator, State Colleges and Universities
Schools Superintendents

1. Available statistics indicate that out of the total number of pupils who enter elementary school, 43 per cent attend a few years, then drop out.
2. Toward improving pupil attendance, and increasing the literacy rate, an all-out effort on the part of regional directors, schools superintendents, supervisors, principals, teachers and parents is hereby enjoined.
3. The following measures/strategies are suggested to improve pupil attendance:
 - a. Strengthening guidance and counselling services to help classroom teachers identify potential dropouts so that early measures may be taken.
 - b. Strengthening linkages between parents and teachers through regular home visits and/or educational dialogues scheduled for each school, e.g. first Friday of the month.
 - c. Designing a program of incentives for class attendance which may include an Attendance Book, where a certificate of attendance is awarded upon presentation of an excellent attendance "passbook."
 - d. Occasionally bringing the school where potential dropouts are likely to be, e.g., to the farm during the harvest season.
 - e. Encouraging teachers to innovate "strategies of attraction", and rating them on their holding power, e.g. takes personal interest in all her wards, teaches them well by making learning situations relevant to their lives and

encourages them to be present everyday by making her teaching and her classroom strongly attractive.

- f. Improving the school environment: the social-emotional climate of classrooms where love and kindness pervade; where school administrators are deeply concerned with the welfare of the learners; where better facilities encourage pupils to get involved in school work and school activities; where the school library provides the atmosphere conducive to studying and learning from books.

4. It is requested that the contents of this Memorandum be discussed and pursued in monthly meetings.

5. It is desired that this Department Memorandum be widely disseminated.

(SGD.) JUAN L. MANUEL
Secretary of Education and Culture

Reference:
None

Allotment: 1-2-3-4--(D.O. 1-76)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

ADMISSION or ENROLLMENT
ATTENDANCE
PROGRAM, SCHOOL
PUPILS
SCHOOLS