



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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MAR 07 2003



DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **79**, s. 2003

BRIGADA ESKWELA
NATIONAL SCHOOLS MAINTENANCE WEEK

To: Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
District Supervisors
Heads, Public Elementary and Secondary Schools

1. On May 19-23, 2003, the Department will be holding the National Schools Maintenance Week – a week-long event to encourage local communities and parents to volunteer time to do minor repairs on their children's schools in order to get these ready for the start of SY 2003-2004 (June 9, 2003).
2. *Brigada Eskwela* is a purely voluntary effort. Principals and Teachers-in-Charge are encouraged but not required to organize a local school maintenance week. Information on the program is attached to this Department Memorandum.
3. For schools interested in participating in the program, please fill out the statement of interest form and return this to the Office of the Undersecretary, Finance & Administration at telefax no. (632) 631-9640. Information on the entire effort will be shared with the country based on these submissions.
4. Posters on the effort will be sent directly to regional and division offices within a week for posting in each school.

The dissemination of this Memorandum to all schools, principals and teachers-in-charge is desired.


EDILBERTO C. DE JESUS
Secretary 

Encl.:

As stated

Reference:

None

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

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

CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS
PROGRAMS
SCHOOLS

BRIGADA ESKWELA
National Schools Maintenance Week
May 19-23, 2003

Department of Education

Statement of Interest Form

We are interested in being a part of the National Schools Maintenance Week.

SCHOOL:
ADDRESS:
DISTRICT:
DIVISION:
PRINCIPAL OR TEACHER-IN-CHARGE:
PRESIDENT/HEAD OF THE PTCA:

Mail to the Office of the Undersecretary, (Finance & Administration) or send by fax to (632) 631-9640.

NATIONAL SCHOOLS MAINTENANCE WEEK
Department of Education
Philippines

Proposal

I. INTRODUCTION

The limited budget of the Department of Education compromises the proper maintenance and repair of schools nationwide. As a result, individual schools face the reality of aging infrastructure, increasingly dilapidated structures and, in some cases, abandoned facilities that could pose safety hazards to students and pupils.

Can local communities – PTCAs, LGUs, local school boards and the local private sector – contribute resources in the form of cash, kind and volunteer time towards the maintenance and minor repair of *their* schools?

The National Schools Maintenance Week will be an annual program to organize local communities *at the school level* to come together for *one week* (5 days) in May *before* the start of the school year in order to do minor repair and maintenance of school facilities to get these schools ready for the start of the school year.

II. GOAL

Thousands, if not millions, of parents and local volunteers converging on their children's schools nationwide for one week in May contributing their time and community resources to repair and prepare schools for the opening of classes in June.

Consider this:

- *If 4000 schools (10% of all schools) join the effort with 100 parent-volunteers per school, a total of 40,000 volunteers contributing up to 200,000 man-days would have helped repair and maintain our schools.*
- *And, if these 4000 schools raised an equivalent of P10,000 each in in-kind donations (paint, cement, wood, other building materials), a total of P40 million would have gone into our schools as "community MOOE"*

III. ORGANIZATION

1. **The School** is the key to the success of the initiative. Every school is encouraged to organize its own effort. (The success of the school project is a function of *your* interest. The more effort the PTCA extends, the more success for *your* school.)
 - (a) The leadership of the principal (school head) is key. Without leadership, no community volunteer effort can be mounted.
 - (b) The involvement of the PTCA is critical.
 - (c) The support of the local school board may be important (but not necessarily critical).
2. **The District Supervisor** should help prime the local school board to support the effort with resources.
3. **The Division Superintendent** should provide the moral support to encourage schools to organize their own efforts.
4. **The Regional Director** should market (social marketing) the program all over, priming the regional media on the potential of doing much for schools.
5. **The National Department** shall organize the national media in support of the program.

IV. TIMETABLE

To prepare for the school opening on Monday, June 9, 2003, the National Schools Maintenance Week shall be held from *May 19 – 23, 2003*.

V. BUDGET

The National Department has no budget for individual schools. The Department shall use its current public affairs budget to project and advertise the program nationwide in support of schools.

A Guide to Organizing the School Effort

A. INTRODUCTION

*Join us in getting our school:
ready for the new school year
2003-2004!*

*Volunteer for the National
Schools Maintenance Week
May 19-23, 2003*

B. WHAT CAN WE DO FOR OUR SCHOOL?

1. Focus on doing minor repairs

- Paint the roofs (adds two or more years to the life of the roof)
- Cement existing footpaths and drains
- Repair leaking water pipes
- Repair comfort rooms and toilets
- Paint exterior walls of classrooms
- Repair or replace ceiling boards
- Repair, refinish or repaint chairs, desks, furniture
- Clean-up the gardens
- Repair or replace broken windows, jalousies, doors
- Replace school signs
- Any other types of repairs needed to be done

C. HOW TO ORGANIZE THE EFFORT

The principal or school head must lead the *voluntary effort*.

1. In February, organize through the PTCA. Look at areas within the school that the local community can repair. Make a list of what needs to be done and what materials would be needed.
2. In March, recruit parent volunteers through the PTCA.
 - 2.1 Are there parents who are carpenters, plumbers, masons, architects, engineers among school parents who could volunteer time to organize specific work teams?

- 2.2 Approach local businesses for donations in kind (paint, cement, wood, etc.)
- 2.3 Talk to local civic organizations and present the school maintenance plan to be done during the NSMW
- 2.4 Approach the local school board or LGU for additional resources to help augment the voluntary effort.
3. In April, the Principal and the PTCA should organize the work groups
 - 3.1 Appoint work teams and team leaders
 - 3.2 Agree on specific tasks per team per day
 - 3.3 Organize the logistics: Where will donations-in-kind be stored? When can donations-in-kind be delivered? Who will be responsible for accepting and safeguarding donations-in-kind? Who will be responsible for ensuring that work teams have the necessary materials?
4. During the National Schools Maintenance Week (May 19 – 23, 2003)
 - 4.1 Document the effort: Photographs before and after the effort. (Send these to the Office of the Undersecretary, Finance & Administration with your stories)
 - 4.2 On the last day, celebrate the community/*bayanihan* effort!
5. In October, the Department of Education shall recognize the most innovative NSMW projects at the Educators' Congress

D. WHO CAN HELP?

- Parents (most important)
- Local business
- Local school board
- Local community
- All interested parties

E. WHAT RESOURCES WILL WE NEED?

- A little bit of donated MATERIALS (i.e. paint, cement, lumber, tiles, other building materials)
- A lot more of volunteer TIME.
- A whole lot of community SPIRIT.
- NO CASH!

VI. CONTACT

**Be a part of *Our*
National Schools Maintenance Week
Effort.**

To join, contact:

Principal/School Head