



Tanggapan ng Kalihim
Office of the Secretary

DepEd Memorandum
No. **190**, s. 2004

April 27, 2004

Direct Line: 633-7208 / 7228
Fax: 636-4876
DETxt: 0919-4560027
E-Mail Address: osec@deped.gov.ph
Website: <http://www.deped.gov.ph>

**NEDA BOARD REVIEW OF BRIDGE PROGRAM IN
ENGLISH, SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS**

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

1. In March 2003, the NEDA Board Executive Committee approved the proposal of the Department of Education to implement a Bridge Program in English, Science and Mathematics for incoming first year high school students in public schools who are deemed inadequately prepared to cope with the academic demands of secondary education. This proposal was based on an analysis of national diagnostic and achievement tests administered to first year students which revealed significant learning gaps and the need for mastery of basic concepts and fundamental skills to enable students to fully benefit from the First Year Curriculum of secondary education.
2. Pursuant to the NEDA Board Executive Committee approval, the Department initiated the preparation of the various requirements for the implementation of the Bridge Program starting SY 2004-2005 including the curriculum, instructional modules, teacher training and the High School Readiness Test.
3. Recently the Department has been instructed by the NEDA Board through Secretary of Socio-Economic Planning Romulo Neri to present for its review and approval the implementation plans for the Bridge Program including its comparative advantage over other proposals to lengthen the basic education cycle. A final decision on its implementation or non-implementation will be made by the NEDA Board Executive Committee.
4. Pending the review and approval by the NEDA Board, the administration of the High School Readiness Test (HSRT) on May 24, 2004 will proceed as scheduled. The results of the HSRT will be used as one of the inputs to the discussions by the NEDA Board Executive Committee.

Please be guided accordingly.

EDILBERTO C. DE JESUS
Secretary