SEP 1 4 2005

DepED MEMORANDUM
No. 2 6 8 , s. 2005

SCHOOL HEALTH MONTH CELEBRATION

To: Undersecretaries
        Assistant Secretaries
        Bureau Directors
        Directors of Services/Centers and Heads of Units
        Regional Directors
        Schools Division/City Superintendents
        Heads, Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools

1.   In compliance with Presidential Proclamation No. 471 dated September 22, 1994 and pursuant to DepED Memorandum No. 148, s. 2005 (School Celebrations of Significant Events), the School Health Month will be celebrated in the month of October with the theme *"Malusog na Simula para sa Bright Child"*. This underscores the importance of a healthy start for each child for better academic performance.

2.   The celebration seeks to:

    a. increase awareness on the importance of good health and nutrition in developing a "Bright Child";
    b. intensify health care delivery to the school populace;
    c. promote child-friendly activities, programs and projects toward creating a safe and healthy school environment; and
    d. strengthen partnership among the family, school and community for the development of the "Bright Child".

3.   Regional directors and schools division/city superintendents shall instruct all DepED health and nutrition personnel to undertake the following activities in the schools:

Health and Nutrition Services
❖ Continue the implementation of the National UMDC Project to cover Grades 4-6 public school children nationwide;
❖ Institute interventions for visual and hearing ailments, undernutrition, anemia, intestinal helminthiases and other infections found among children;
❖ Continue the Breakfast Feeding Program for identified recipients to address the high prevalence of "short-term-hunger";
❖ Refer cases to appropriate health agencies; and
❖ Create a database for UMDC.

<u>Health Promotion</u>
- ❖ Intensify advocacy on the prevention and control of diseases; and
- ❖ Conduct orientation conferences on the "Bright Child" Program among parents, teachers, and non-teaching personnel.

<u>Resource Mobilization and Advocacy</u>
- ❖ Coordinate with other GOs and NGOs for their continuing assistance to UMDC and their intervention phase; and
- ❖ Initiate sourcing of additional funds, medical and dental supplies and manpower to augment existing resources for the school health and nutrition programs/projects.
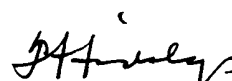
<u>Environmental Sanitation and Healthful Living</u>
- ❖ Intensify the anti-dengue drive through information dissemination on the nature of dengue fever and its prevention and control, continuous monitoring of dengue cases, institution of a prevention alert system in schools, creation of clean-up brigades; and
- ❖ Campaign for a clean, green, safe, and drug-free school environment.

4.   The regional/division health and nutrition units/sections, in coordination with other GOs and NGOs, shall take the lead in planning activities in their respective areas of assignment.   They   are   also   expected   to   mobilize   local   health professionals/chapters/organizations for the delivery of health and nutrition services to the pupils and teachers.

5.   It is desired that a brief consolidated narrative and pictorial report on the School Health Month Celebration be integrated by the Regional Health and Nutrition Units in their 4th Quarter Report. Please submit to the Health and Nutrition Center, DepED, 5th Floor, Mabini Bldg., DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City.

6.   Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

FE A. HIDALGO
Undersecretatry
Officer-in-Charge

Reference:
    DepED Memorandum: (No. 148, s. 2005)

Allotment: 1- -(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the <u>Perpetual Index</u>
    under the following subjects:

    BUREAUS & OFFICES
    CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS
    HEALTH EDUCATION

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