

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
Republic of the Philippines  
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON  
Department of Education  
MAYNILA

MAR 20 1973

TANGGAPAN NG KALIHIM  
Office of the Secretary

March 16, 1973

DEPARTMENT ORDER  
No. 9, s. 1973

THE LANGUAGE POLICY IN PHILIPPINE EDUCATION

TO: The Director of Public Schools:  
The Director of Private Schools:  
The Director of Vocational Education: and  
Presidents of State Colleges & Universities:

1. In response to inquiries from various sectors regarding the language of instruction in all schools, colleges and universities in view of the provision of the 1972 Constitution, the following policy approved by the National Board of Education is hereby announced for the information and guidance of all concerned:

- a. Subject to exceptions in special cases as may be determined by the Secretary of Education and Culture, the vernacular of the locality shall remain the medium of instruction in Grades I and II with English and Pilipino as subjects.
- b. English shall be the medium of instruction starting Grade III. Pilipino shall be taught as a subject in order to develop the ability to speak, read, and write in this language.
- c. The use of Pilipino as medium of instruction from Grade III up in certain subjects where learning may be facilitated by the use of the said language, may be allowed provided the following conditions are met: (1) the teacher has the competence to teach in Pilipino; (2) there are adequate teaching materials and, (3) there is readiness on the part of the pupils to learn in Pilipino.

The National Board of Education supports the policy of developing a bilingual nation able to communicate in Pilipino as well as in English.

In compliance with the provisions of Section 3(2) of Article XV of the Constitution, steps shall continue to be taken towards the development of the national language as the medium of instruction. The National Board of Education has adopted the common national language to be known as "Pilipino". Compliance with this policy is strictly enjoined beginning School Year 1974.



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