

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
Republic of the Philippines
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON AT KULTURA
Department of Education and Culture
Maynila

TANGGAPAN NG KALIHIM
Office of the Secretary

June 26, 1975

DEPARTMENT ORDER
No. 19, s. 1975

ASSISTING STUDENTS SUSPECTED OF
USING PROHIBITED OR REGULATED DRUGS

To: All DEC Regional Directors,
Division/City/School Supts.,
and the Coordinator, State
Colleges and Universities:

1. In view of the seeming resurgence of the drug menace in this country as shown in the increasing incidence of drug abuse among students and youths, particularly in the Greater Manila Area, and the increase in the number of Marijuana plantations discovered, as well as the possibility that the Philippines will become a transshipment center of dangerous drugs, there is an imperative need to implement vigorously the provisions of Section 28 of Republic Act No. 6425, otherwise known as the Dangerous Drugs Act of 1972, to wit:

"Section 28. Heads Supervisors and Teachers of Schools. - For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of Articles II and III of this Act, all school heads, supervisors and teachers shall be deemed to be persons in authority and, as such, are hereby vested with the power to apprehend, arrest or cause the apprehension or arrest of any person who shall violate any of the said provisions. They shall be considered as persons in authority if they are in the school or within its immediate vicinity, or beyond such immediate vicinity if they are in attendance at any school or class function in their official capacity as school heads, supervisors or teachers."

"Any teacher or school employee who discovers or finds that any person in the school or within its immediate vicinity is violating any provision of Articles II and III of this Act shall have the duty to report the violation to the school head or supervisor who shall, in turn, report the

matter to the proper authorities. Failure to report in either case, shall after due hearing, constitute sufficient cause for disciplinary action."

2. For this purpose, the following rules and regulations are adopted:

a. Each homeroom teacher in secondary schools and instructors and professors in each post-secondary subject shall report immediately to the head of the school concerned students suspected of using prohibited and regulated drugs. A consolidated weekly report of the names of suspects should be submitted to this Office.

b. Upon order of the school head concerned, guidance counsellors shall conduct or cause to be conducted a recorded interview of each suspect. Records of interviews shall be kept highly confidential and shall be made available only to representatives of the Department of Education and Culture upon request. The consolidated weekly report of the names of suspects and the names of suspects already interviewed together with appropriate comments and recommendations should be submitted to this Office by heads of schools.

c. It shall be the duty of the guidance counsellor to render appropriate assistance and advice to students affected by drugs until such services are no longer necessary.

d. Students who need assistance and advice, but refuse deliberately to receive such assistance or follow such advice of the guidance counsellor or of those duly authorized by the Secretary of Education and Culture shall be subject to disciplinary action, or be reported to competent authorities, after consultation with their parents or guardians, for proper disposition under the provisions of R.A. No. 6425 otherwise known as the Dangerous Drugs Act of 1972 and the rules promulgated by authority of said Act.

e. Teachers, instructors or professors, school heads and other school officials duly authorized to perform duties in connection with drug abuse who refuse deliberately to perform such duties will be subject to disciplinary action.

f. At the end of every semester, a report of students affected by drugs and the action taken against them by the school concerned shall be submitted to this Office.

4. To oversee the implementation of the aforementioned provisions of the dangerous Drugs Act of 1972, a Drug Action Committee has been created composed of Undersecretary of Education and Culture as Chairman, the President of Drug Abuse Research Foundation, Inc. as Vice-Chairman and Secretariat, the President of the Philippine Association of School Superintendents or his duly authorized representative and the President of Coordinating Council of Private Educational Associations, Inc. or his duly authorized representative, as Members.

4.5. Every school shall create an advisory body on drug problems to be composed of the head of the school, the guidance counsellor, the PTA president, a priest or minister, the president of the faculty club, the school physician, and such other prominent citizens as may be necessary.

5. 6. It is requested that the contents of this Department Order be disseminated immediately to all concerned for strict compliance.

(SGD.) JUAN L. MANUEL
Secretary

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dated by P.O. 64/55

