

Republika ng Pilipinas
(Republic of the Philippines)
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON AT KULTURA
(DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE)
Manila

September 1, 1976

DEPARTMENT ORDER

No. 48, s. 1976

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS IN SCHOOL

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Coordinator, State Colleges and Universities
Schools Superintendents

1. Man has yet to learn to perfect his science and technology to control the forces of nature to his advantage. This reality has been brought to the fore by the strong earthquake and tidal waves which recently took a heavy toll in human lives and destroyed many buildings in Mindanao, and the big fires which hit crowded places in other areas of the country which likewise rendered hundreds of families homeless causing huge financial losses. It is important, therefore, that vigilance and preparedness be observed in all schools, considering the legally recognized roles in loco parentis of school heads, teachers, as well as the school itself.

2. As precautionary measures, the following guidelines are hereby prescribed for immediate compliance:

- a. Each school shall adopt its own rules governing safety measures and first aid provisions, and acquaint students, faculty and other school personnel therein with such school rules and provisions for their guidance in case of emergency brought about by fire, earthquake, typhoon, and other unforeseen events.
- b. School heads shall conduct periodic inspections, or cause periodic inspection to be conducted on their school plants and facilities or equipment, to determine and take such steps as may be deemed necessary to eliminate any hazards to students as well as school personnel.

- c. Periodic emergency drills should be conducted in every school, with the proper coordination and supervision of the school head, or his duly authorized representative, in order to insure an orderly and speedy exit from school building or campus in the event of fire, earthquake, or other unforeseen events.
 - d. Safety and first aid instructions should be given in all schools through a series of workshops, convocations, and/or to be integrated in appropriate subject areas. Students as well as school personnel should be taught the various technical services of fire departments and other social welfare agencies so that they can assist in times of emergency.
 - e. Safety emergency provisions such as fire extinguishers, adequate supply of water in cans, and other safety facilities or equipment, including first aid provisions, should be provided in accessible places within the school premises.
3. Inclosed are some worthwhile information which students as well as school personnel should be acquainted with, ~~relative to~~ safety measures in case of an emergency.
4. It is desired that this Department Order be given widest publicity possible.

(SGD.) JUAN L. MANUEL
Secretary of Education and Culture

Incl.: As stated

Reference:

N o n e

Allotment: 1-2-3-4--(D.O. 1-76)

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

ACCIDENTS
RULES & REGULATIONS
SAFETY EDUCATION

SAFETY MEASURES TO TAKE IN CASE OF
EMERGENCY

A. In case of any emergency -

Keep calm. Don't panic. Always strive to maintain presence of mind in case of emergency.

B. In case of earthquake -

- 1) Seek cover under or near a large piece of strong furniture if you are in a building.
- 2) Go to the accessible open space immediately until destruction is completely evaluated.
- 3) Watch out for falling debris, billboards, tumbling walls, loosened slabs, and broken live wires if you are in the street.
- 4) Keep away from narrow alleys between buildings, tall structures or walls, river banks, and precipice.
- 5) Stay away from unstable objects or structures like damaged walls and ceilings after the main earthquakes. Aftershocks could cause those weak structures to fall.
- 6) Guard against tidal waves at the seashore.

C. In case of fires -

- 1) Put off electric power and gas lines.
- 2) Walk fast, not run, towards the nearest fire exit in the building.
- 3) Move out of the building fast but in an orderly manner. Avoid rushing or pushing others.
- 4) Walk towards the Pedestrian Gate and keep driveway clear for fire trucks and other vehicles.
- 5) Watch out for broken live wires and falling debris from burning buildings.

D. Signals in case of emergency -

Emergency Alarm - 1 long blast, 1 short blast, 6 times

Evacuation Alarm - successive short blasts

All Clear Signal - 1 long continuous blast

