

Republika ng Pilipinas  
(Republic of the Philippines)  
MINISTRI NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS  
(MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS)  
Maynila

February 7, 1983

MECS O R D E R  
No. 7, s. 1983

AUSTERITY AND SIMPLICITY IN SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT  
EXERCISES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

To: Bureau Directors  
Regional Directors  
Schools Superintendents  
Presidents, State Colleges and Universities  
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities

1. Elementary and high school administrators and graduating class advisers in public and private schools and colleges are hereby reminded of the provisions of MEC Order No. 13, s. 1980, copy inclosed, enjoining all to observe austerity and simplicity in holding graduation exercises this year, in line with the nation's retrenchment policy.
2. It has come to the attention of this Office that many elementary and high school graduation exercises are being planned elaborately by graduating classes.
3. To be more explicit the following guidelines are listed hereunder for implementation:
  - a. Venues for the exercises should be selected on the basis of economy. Preferably the school premises which is less expensive should be the choice. Convention halls and theaters are expensive places for such exercises and if the pupils and students are to shoulder this expense it becomes a problem for the parents to meet.
  - b. Simple attire should be the rule. It is not necessary to have high school and elementary (kindergarten) graduates wear togas (caps and gowns) which have to be rented, bought or made to order.
  - c. Section 210 of the BPS Service Manual as quoted in paragraph No. 2 of MEC Order No. 13, s. 1980 prohibits the publication of school annuals. However, this is relaxed if expenses for the school annuals are subsidized by outside-of-school sponsors or if paid for by solicitation of advertisements. In no case should the graduates pay for this with their own or parents' funds.

4. Principals, district supervisors, schools superintendents and the regional directors shall be held responsible for any violation of these guidelines. In no case should they approve such activities.

5. PTA's are being discouraged from using the activities for graduation as means of securing funds for any purpose. PTA resolutions shall not be made the front for such expensive activities for graduation.

6. Immediate and strict compliance with this Order is desired.

(SGD.) ONOFRE D. CORPUZ  
Minister

Incl.:

As stated

Reference:

MEC Order: (No. 13, s. 1980)

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

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

GRADUATION  
OFFICIALS  
PUBLICATIONS  
RULES & REGULATIONS  
SOCIETY or ASSOCIATIONS  
UNIVERSITIES and COLLEGES

(Inclosure to MEC Order No. 7, s. 1983)

Republika ng Pilipinas  
(Republic of the Philippines)  
MINISTRI NG EDUKASYON AT KULTURA  
(MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE)  
Maynila

March 13, 1980

MEC ORDER  
No. 13, s. 1980

SIMPLICITY AND ECONOMY IN SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT  
EXERCISES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

To: Bureau Directors  
Regional Directors  
Schools Superintendents  
Presidents, State Colleges and Universities  
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities

1. In the face of rising prices of prime commodities and consistent with the retrenchment policy of the government, it is advised that this year's commencement exercises in both public and private schools be made as simple and as inexpensive as possible. School authorities and teachers should be instructed to discourage the wearing of costly attire by students during such exercises.
2. Attention is invited to Section 210 of the BPS Service Manual (Fourth Revision, 1960), which prohibits the publication of school annuals.
3. School officials and teachers are reminded to discourage the graduates from holding unnecessary social activities, including graduation dances and parties.
4. School officials and teachers are likewise reminded that no fees and donations should be solicited from students except when their collection is sanctioned by the regulations of the Bureau or has been duly approved by the Minister of Education and Culture. Of late, this Ministry has received many letters from parents and students about contributions proposed by the schools in connection with commencement exercises.
5. Compliance with this Order is desired.

(SGD.) ONOFRE D. CORPUZ  
Minister of Education and Culture

References: MEC Order: No. 7, s. 1979  
BPS Service Manual (Sec. 210, Fourth Revision, 1960)

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

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

GRADUATION	RULES & REGULATIONS
OFFICIALS	SCHOOLS
PUBLICATIONS	TEACHERS
	UNIVERSITIES and COLLEGES