

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS
UL Complex, Meralco Drive, Pasig, Metro Manila

January 5, 1993

DECS ORDER No. 2, s. 1993

**INCREASING THE NUMBER OF SECONDARY SCHOOL DAYS, TIME ALLOTMENTS AND
SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS IN THE NEW SECONDARY EDUCATION CURRICULUM**

To: Bureau Directors, Center Directors, Regional Directors, and School Superintendents
Heads of Chartered State Colleges and Universities
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities
Heads of Community Colleges and Universities and Vocational Schools

A. INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF SECONDARY CLASS DAYS

1. It is desirable to increase the amount of secondary student contact time during the school year, so that classroom instruction might be more effective. For this reason, the number of class days for the school year for all public and private secondary schools shall be increased from the present minimum of 185 days to a new minimum of 200 days, or an increase of 8 per cent.
2. The beginning of the school year shall be moved to the first Monday of June. The Christmas holiday break shall be reduced; however, no classes should be held the last two calendar days before Christmas, nor the calendar day immediately after the New Year. All class days should be completed before the end of March, although private schools may opt for later completion. A separate school calendar shall be subsequently issued for the school year.
3. Individual schools may, for the time being, determine how the additional 15 days shall be utilized, in terms of class activities, either through a expansion of existing subject matter, and/or enrichment through the provision of additional subject matter. Schools will be permitted to meet these minimum requirements by holding classes on Saturdays to offset lost days or by other acceptable arrangements, if they so prefer and with prior notice to the appropriate DECS office.

**B. INCREASE IN STUDENT CONTACT TIME IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AND TECHNOLOGY AND HOME ECONOMICS**

4. To further enhance the basic skills of high school students under the New Secondary Education Curriculum, modifications in the time allotment specifically in the areas of Science and Technology and Technology and Home Economics are hereby authorized, for both public and private secondary schools.
5. Science and Technology I through IV and Technology and Home Economics I and II shall be given a time allotment of 80 minutes daily, instead of the former 60 minutes. For the time being, the additional contact time in Science and Technology subjects shall be utilized on both an expansion and enrichment basis. In Technology and Home Economics, compensatory or reinforcement activities found at the end of every lesson of the Teacher's Manual shall be used to enrich experiential learning of students. In any case, the minimum number of student contact hours for the standard daily 40-minute period shall now be 133.3 hours for the school year (40 minutes x 200 days), instead of the previous 123.3 hours (40 minutes x 185 days).

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C. GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN VALUES EDUCATION INITIALLY FOR PRIVATE SCHOOLS

6. In addition, in line with the policy of liberalizing regulations for private educational institutions in both administrative and academic areas, certain modifications in the the New Secondary Education Curriculum specifically in the area of Values Education/GMRC will be authorized essentially for private secondary schools.

7. While the title of the subject series shall continue to be Values Education/GMRC, the subject content for all four curriculum years of Values Education shall be at the discretion of the individual school, and may include the teaching of religion, especially for sectarian schools.

8. Values Education/GMRC shall continue to be offered as a separate subject in the first and second years. In the third and fourth years, Values Education/GMRC may be substituted with additional English, Mathematics, or Science and Technology subjects. For this purpose, existing subjects in these areas may be stretched out, or alternatively new subjects may be evolved. Enclosed are suggested subject offerings in lieu of Values Education/GMRC III and IV.

9. Regional offices shall be informed of any modification adopted, and should be furnished copies of the desired learning competencies for the substituted or elective subjects.

10. The permissible changes mentioned in this section may also be availed of by selected pilot public secondary schools, particularly science high schools, by application to the appropriate schools superintendent and approval by the Regional Director concerned.

D. EFFECTIVITY

11. This Order shall take effect with the school year 1993-1994.



ARMAND V. FABELLA
Secretary

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(Enclosure to DECS Order No. 2, s. 1993)

Suggested Subject Offerings In Lieu
of Values Education/GMRC III and IV

Subject	Third Year	Fourth Year
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">: Introductory Statistics: Computer Science I: (Computer Applications): Trigonometry: Practical Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">: Advanced Statistics: Computer Science II: (Basic Computer Programming): Analytic Geometry: Mathematics Modelling: Calculus
Science and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">: Earth Science: Environmental Science: Advanced Biology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">: Geology: Astronomy: Advanced Chemistry
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none">: Journalism I: Technical Writing and Reporting: Communication through the Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">: Journalism II: Business English: Creative Writing