

Republic of the Philippines

Department of Education REGION VII – CENTRAL VISAYAS Schools Division of Cebu Province

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

August 31, 2021

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. <u>335</u>, s. 2021

CONSISTENCY IN MAINTAINING THE CLEANLINESS, SAFE AND A HAZARD FREE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT AS WELL AS APPROPRIATE LANDSCAPING OF ALL SCHOOL(s) CAMPUSES

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
Chief Education Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors/District-in-Charge
Elementary/Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

- 1. This is to inform the field particularly public schools district supervisors and school heads that to maintain the cleanliness as well as in order to have a safe and a hazard free school environment, all concerned are hereby directed that such role or obligation must be done consistently and/or shall be maintained at all the times. As the saying goes: "cleanliness is next to godliness," thus, cleaning the school campus and/or maintaining to have a safe and a hazard free school surrounding, is a call of duty for every school head, and this should not be done in off-and-on undertaking, as it is in the mindset of some school heads that cleaning the school buildings and/or the campus vicinity shall only be done if there are visitors from other agencies who might visit the school or perhaps division personnel will come to the school for an evaluation.
- 2.In this view, school heads with the close supervision by the district supervisors, must take appropriate measures, as herein suggested;
- **2.1** schools may construct/create compost pits so that biodegradable or recyclable materials can still be used or properly disposed of;
- 2.2 if composting cannot be done in small schools, district supervisors must identify a school/s in the district that must maintain a composting facility so that small schools can bring the recyclable/reusable materials in that big or bigger school (sharing of responsibility and resources);
- 2.3 district supervisors in municipalities with limited garbage trucks, must plan of purchasing a multicab (or any type of vehicle) utilizing school board funds that can be used in bringing the biodegradable materials/recyclable materials to the composting sites of the selected schools in the district or to the town's garbage/materials recovery facility (if

there is are any);

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- 2.4 school/s heads must immediately ask permission from SDS thru the Division Property Custodian for the immediate disposable of demolished materials (electronic, steel, iron bars from demolished pre-fabricated buildings or any other scrap materials, etc.) to avoid so much eyesore in the school campus, and also to prevent the proliferation or increase of rats, snakes and other rodents in the school campus;
- 2.5 proper and appropriate landscaping in the school sites must be done at all the times in consonance to existing environmental laws (RA 9003, etc), thus, the school may seek the opinion of a license agriculturist, environmentalist or forester in the locality;
- 2.6 school heads may implement creative ways of minimizing and segregating wastes in every school in consultation with PTAs and other stakeholders in accordance to solid waste management and other environmental laws nationally or locally;
- 2.7 existing or on-going activities such as National Greening Program/Gulayan sa Paaralan and Sugbusog Programs shall be implemented by all schools regularly and with consistency rather than for compliance purposes; and
- 2.8 observance of health and safety protocols under existing IATF and DepEd policies and guidelines must be strictly adhered to at all the times in every school.
- 3. "Segregation and collection of solid waste shall be conducted at the barangay level specifically for biodegradable, compostable and reusable wastes: Provided, That the collection of non-recyclable materials and special wastes shall be the responsibility of the municipality or city (as per Section 10 of RA 9003, open/close quotation marks supplied)", however, schools need to take part on this matter, since protecting the environment and to have a balance ecology or to be in harmony with mother nature, is everyone's responsibility.
- 4. Division personnel especially the staffs from the Engineering Unit who constantly visit schools are directed to report to the SGOD Office if there are schools that are not COMPLIANT to the SPIRIT and INTENT of this directive so that appropriate technical assistance can be given to the concerned school head/s and/or district supervisors.

5. Wide dissemination of and strict compliance of this Memorandum is hereby directed.

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/ay/sgod/sds/2021

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