REQUEST FROM THE NATIONAL DAIRY AUTHORITY

To Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools Districts Supervisors
School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. This is in reference to the Unnumbered Memorandum from Atty. Alberto T. Escobarte, CESO IV, Department of Education Regional Director, dated March 4, 2019, regarding the request for product certification from the National Dairy Authority (NDA), an attached agency of the Department of Agriculture and partner in Nutrition Program in providing fresh milk to our learners and giving livelihood opportunities to dairy farmers.

2. As stated in DO 13, s 2017, all manufactured food products with Nutrition facts to be sold in school canteen must be evaluated using the Nutritional Facts Table and it is the responsibility of the school heads to plan and develop the school’s healthy menu and accordance with the guidelines.

3. The Office enjoins the school heads, school canteen in charge and the food safety coordinators re-evaluate the Nutritional Facts of the NDA products particularly the chocolate flavored milk bars. Let us consider the product to be sold in school canteens if the sugar and the contents is within the acceptable levels.

4. Immediate and wide dissemination of the Memorandum is desired.

Winnie E. Batoon, Ed.D.
Officer-In-Charge
Office of the Schools Division Superintendent
MEMORANDUM

To: Schools Division Superintendents
   Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
   All Others Concerned

Subject: REQUEST FROM THE NATIONAL DAIRY AUTHORITY

Date: March 4, 2019

Attached is the Unnumbered Memorandum from Dir. Rizalino Jose T. Rosales, Director IV, Bureau of Learner Support Services, regarding the request for product certification from the National Dairy Authority (NDA), an attached agency of the Department of Agriculture and partner in Nutrition Program in providing fresh milk to our learners and giving livelihood opportunities to dairy farmers.

It is stated in DO 13, s. 2017, that all manufactured food products with Nutrition Facts to be sold in school canteens must be evaluated using the Nutrition Facts Table and it is the responsibility of the school heads to plan and develop the school’s healthy menu in accordance with the guidelines.

This Office recommends to re-evaluate the Nutrition Facts of the NDA products particularly the chocolate flavored milk bars by the school heads, school canteen/nutrition in-charge and the district food safety coordinator. Let us consider the product to be sold in school canteens if the sugar and fat content is within the acceptable levels.

Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

ATTY. ALBERTO T. ESCOBARTE, CESO IV
Regional Director
MEMORANDUM

FOR : Atty. ALBERTO T. ESCOBARTE
Regional Director, DepEd RO XI

Dr. ALLAN G. FARNAZO
Regional Director, DepEd RO XII

FROM : RIZALINO JOSE T. ROSALES
Director IV

SUBJECT : REQUEST FROM THE NATIONAL DAIRY AUTHORITY

DATE : 18 February 2019

This has reference to the Letter dated January 24, 2019 from the National Dairy Authority (NDA) regarding their chocolate-flavored milk.

It may be mentioned that a number of food manufacturers have similarly wrote to DepEd requesting for product certification, to which DepEd emphasized that there exists no need for DepEd to certify any food product, being bereft of any authority. Under Section V.E.4.b. of Department Order No. 13, s. 2017, it is stated that it is the responsibility of the schools to plan and develop the school's healthy menu in accordance with the guidelines. It appearing that the producers of milk and milk products are dairy farmers, it is respectfully recommended that this request from the NDA be directed to the schools for their proper evaluation and action.

Attached is the letter from NDA for ready reference.
February 18, 2019

Ms. MARILYN B. MABALE
Administrator
National Dairy Authority
Diliman, Quezon City
Fax No. 926-8847

Dear Administrator Mabale:

Greetings!

This has reference to your letter dated January 24, 2019. It may be mentioned that a number of food manufacturers have similarly wrote to DepEd requesting for product certification, to which DepEd emphasized that there exists no need for DepEd to certify any food product. In connection with this, attention is respectfully invited to the pertinent provisions of DECS Order No. 28, s. 2001 entitled "Prohibiting the Commercialization of the DECS Organization through Endorsements and Accreditation of Goods and Services."

Moreover, under DepEd Order No. 13, s. 2017, school heads are instructed to develop their respective menu of food and beverages for selling in school canteens. They are likewise guided by the said DepEd Order in classifying which food and beverages may be sold every day, once or twice a week, or not to be served at all. Hence, no certification is necessary as long as food products have nutrition facts where the school administrators can base their evaluation. However, considering that the producers of the milk and milk products are dairy farmers, your letter was endorsed to DepEd Regions XI and XII recommending that your concern be directed to the schools for their proper evaluation and action. Attached is the Memorandum for Regions XI and XII for ready reference.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

RIZALINO JOSEPH ROSALES
Director IV

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City