DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 402 s. 2019

June 7, 2019

PROMOTING ORAL HEALTH IN PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

To: Public Schools District Supervisors
    Elementary School Heads
    All Others Concerned

1. This is in reference to the DepEd Order No 73, s 2007 Promoting Oral Health in Public Elementary Schools, the 2006 National Health Survey (NOHS) conducting among children in the public elementary schools revealed that 97.1% of 6 years old and 78.4% of the 12 years old have dental caries.

2. In response to the perennial health problem, this Department, through the Health and Nutrition Center (HNC), Adopt - A - School (ASP) Secretariat and Colgate Palmolive Philippines, Inc. (CPP) shall vigorously pursue activities the enhance the development of oral health habits through daily toothbrushing drill, dental health services and education.

3. All pupils in all public elementary schools will brush their teeth at 7 o'clock in the morning before the start of classes to emphasize the importance of daily toothbrushing in schools.

4. Parents shall provide toothbrush and toothpaste in their child/children to ensure maximum participation of pupils during the toothbrushing activities.

5. The principals/school heads shall ensure the availability of toothbrushing through, toothbrushing paraphernalia, handwashing/water facilities and shall provide administrative support for an effective and sustainable toothbrushing activity.

6. At the school level, the principal/school head shall be fully accountable for the implementation of the program. The following activities shall be conducted:

   - Coordinate with the DHNS/ASP field coordinators for the schedule of school visitation
   - Prepare areas where examination/treatment will be conducted
   - Source out funds for medicine/dental supplies for the treatment of oral health problems
   - Take the lead in the advocacy of the program
   - Observe the UMDC operating procedures on site
   - Monitor the integration of Health and Nutrition concepts into the curriculum
   - Consolidate dental health data, in coordination with the health personnel, to serve basis for the planning and sourcing of adequate funds for oral health intervention
   - Accomplish all required forms
   - Submit implementation report to the district supervisor
   - Provide administrative support to ensure proper delivery of oral health services and conduct of health examination/treatment

Ends: memo

References: HNS

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:
Governance  Health  Memo
JAA - PROMOTING ORAL HEALTH IN PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
6/7/2019
7. For information and strict compliance.

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Office of the Schools Division Superintendent