



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region XI
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF DIGOS CITY

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 473, s. 2020

October 6, 2020

DESIGNATION AS OPLAN BALIK ESKWELA (OBE) FOCAL PERSON

To: **AIRON M. ALEJANDRO**
Planning Officer III

1. Pursuant to DepEd Memorandum No. 14, s. 2020 entitled “Oplan Balik Eskwela 2020” and DepEd Memorandum No. 53, s. 2020 “Joint Implementing Guidelines on the 2020 Brigada Eskwela and Oplan Balik Eskwela Relative to the Covid – 19 Situation”, you are hereby designated as the Oplan Balik Eskwela Division Focal Person.
2. As such, you shall perform the following tasks:
 - 2.1 Gather and consolidate data related to enrollment, teacher need, classroom and other facilities;
 - 2.2 Respond to issues and concerns related to preparations for the opening of classes;
 - 2.3 Provide input and guidance to the schools to ensure smooth opening of classes;
 - 2.4 Coordinate with the Curriculum Implementation Division (CID) in responding to issues and concerns related to the implementation of the Division Basic Education – Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP).
3. Perform other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned.
4. For your guidance and compliance.

CRISTY C. EPE
Schools Division Superintendent

Encls: DM 14, 2020; DM 53, 2020

References: DepEd Order

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:
DESIGNATION OBE FOCAL PERSON

SBO:
6 October 2020

DepEd Schools Division of Digos City
RECORDS SECTION
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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

04 FEB 2020

DepEd MEMORANDUM

No. **014** s. 2020

2020 OPLAN BALIK ESKWELA

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Minister, Basic, Higher, and Technical Education, BARMM
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education (DepEd) will launch the National **Oplan Balik Eskwela (OBE) for School Year (SY) 2020-2021** on May 25, 2020, 8:00 a.m. at the *Bulwagan ng Karunungan*, DepEd Central Office (CO), Pasig City. The OBE is DepEd's annual initiative to engage agencies, organizations, and other stakeholders in preparation for the opening of the SY. This will run from **May 25 to June 5, 2020**.

2. The OBE is part of the Department's efforts to ensure that learners are properly enrolled and able to attend school on the first day of classes. The OBE aims to address problems, queries and other concerns commonly encountered by the public at the start of the school year.

3. This year, OBE has the following components:

a. **Convergence.** The Department shall coordinate with the following government agencies involved in school opening matters to assemble the annual OBE Inter-Agency Task Force (OBE-IATF):

- i. Department of Energy (DOE);
- ii. Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG);
- iii. Department of Health (DOH);
- iv. Department of National Defense (DND);
- v. Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH);
- vi. Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD);
- vii. Department of Trade and Industry (DTI);
- viii. Department of Transportation (DOTr);
- ix. Manila Electric Company (MERALCO);
- x. Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS);
- xi. Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA);
- xii. Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA);
- xiii. Philippine National Police (PNP);
- xiv. National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC); and
- xv. Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO).

Shh

- b. **Command Conference.** A Command Conference among the DepEd officials, partner agencies from the public and private sectors, media, and other stakeholders will be held at the *Bulwagan ng Karunungan*, DepEd CO on **May 25, 2020**.
- c. **Communication.** DepEd shall provide the public with important information through press releases, media interviews, website posting, updates on the official DepEd Facebook and Twitter accounts, and other available media.
- d. **Client Assistance.** An OBE Public Assistance Command Center (PACC) shall be set up at the central, regional, and schools division offices through its Public Affairs Unit (PAU).

- i. **Functions of the OBE-PACC**

The OBE-PACC shall serve as an information and complaints processing and routing mechanism. It shall perform the following functions:

- (1) Receive, process, and respond to simple queries, information requests, and complaints from the general public, including those forwarded by other DepEd offices;
- (2) Assist in the dissemination and clarification of DepEd policies, programs, projects, and processes, particularly those relevant to the opening of classes;
- (3) Correctly identify and coordinate with the concerned DepEd offices on complex concerns that will require the specific offices' appropriate action; and
- (4) Monitor, document, and submit reports on all issues and concerns received by the OBE-PACC, including the action taken.

- ii. **Services of the OBE-PACC**

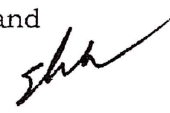
Each OBE-PACC shall ensure that the following are available to the public for the duration of OBE:

- (1) Hotlines;
- (2) Email, social media (Facebook, Messenger, Twitter), and Text Messaging Service;
- (3) Walk-in Assistance; and
- (4) Legal Assistance (if applicable).

- iii. **Composition of OBE-PACC at the CO**

The DepEd CO OBE-PACC shall be set up on **May 23, 2020, Saturday** at the *Bulwagan ng Karunungan*, DepEd CO. The following offices/units are enjoined to actively participate and assign representative(s):

- (1) **Office of the Secretary Leonor Magtolis Briones**
 - (a) Internal Audit Service
 - (b) International Cooperation Office
 - (c) Public Affairs Service



- (2) **Office of the Undersecretary Jesus L.R. Mateo**
 - (a) Planning Service
 - (b) Field Operations
(jointly with OIC-Undersecretary Revsee A. Escobedo)
 - (c) Bureau of Human Resource and Organizational Development
 - (i) Human Resource Development Division
 - (ii) Organization Effectiveness Division
 - (iii) School Effectiveness Division
- (3) **Office of the Undersecretary Diosdado M. San Antonio**
- (4) **Office of Assistant Secretary Alma C. Torio**
 - (a) Bureau of Curriculum Development
 - (b) Bureau of Learning Delivery
 - (c) Bureau of Education Assessment
 - (d) Bureau of Learning Resources
 - (e) Teacher Education Council Secretariat
 - (f) Literacy Coordinating Council Secretariat
 - (g) Indigenous Peoples Education Office
- (5) **Office of OIC-Undersecretary Revsee A. Escobedo**
 - (a) Field Operations
(jointly with Undersecretary Jesus L.R. Mateo)
 - (b) Bureau of Human Resource and Organizational Development
 - (i) Personnel Division
 - (ii) Employee Welfare Division
- (6) **Office of Undersecretary Annalyn M. Sevilla**
- (7) **Office of OIC-Assistant Secretary Ramon Fiel G. Abcede**
 - (a) Finance Service
 - (b) Education Program Delivery Unit
- (8) **Office of Undersecretary Alain Del B. Pascua**
- (9) **Office of Assistant Secretary Salvador C. Malana III**
 - (a) Administrative Service
 - (b) Information and Communications Technology Service
 - (c) Bureau and Learner Support Services
 - (d) Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service
- (10) **Office of Undersecretary Josephine G. Maribojoc**
- (11) **Office of OIC-Assistant Secretary Rhoan G.L. Orebia**
 - (a) Legal Service
 - (b) Sites Titling Office
- (12) **Office of Undersecretary Tonisito M.C. Umali**
 - (a) Legislative Liaison Office
 - (b) External Partnerships Service
 - (c) Project Management Service
- (13) **Office of Assistant Secretary G.H. S. Ambat**
 - (a) Alternative Learning System Program and Task Force
- (14) **Office of Assistant Secretary Salvador Malana III**
 - (a) Procurement Management Service



5. The OBE implementation shall be under the general supervision of the **Office of the Secretary with Undersecretary and Chief of Staff, Nepomuceno A. Malaluan, and Undersecretary Jesus L.R. Mateo** as co-chairs and the **Public Affairs Service Director June Arvin C. Gudoy**, as vice-chair of the *Oplan Balik Eskwela 2020*.

6. All expenses incurred during this activity shall be charged to General Administrative Support Services (GASS) Funds, and the payment for the services of the concerned personnel during the OBE, in addition to their regular workload, shall be charged to OSEC Funds for CO personnel, and to local funds for regional and schools division personnel, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

7. All DepEd personnel are enjoined to support this activity to ensure the smooth opening of classes.

8. For more information, contact:

The Office of the Secretary-Public Affairs Service

Department of Education Central Office

DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City

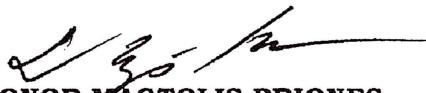
Telephone Nos.: (02) 8636-1663; (02) 8633-1942

Telefax No.: (02) 8634-0222; (02) 8638-8641

Mobile Phone No.: 0919-456-0027; 0995-921-8461

Email Addresses: action@deped.gov.ph; beverly.berame@deped.gov.ph

9. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary

Encl.:

As stated

Reference:

DepEd Memorandum No. 029, s. 2019

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

ADMISSION
BUREAUS AND OFFICES
CAMPAIGN
CENTER
COMMITTEES

LEARNERS
MEETINGS
OFFICIALS
PROJECTS
SCHOOLS

**2020 DepEd Oplan Balik Eskwela (OBE)
Public Assistance Command Center**

May 25 to June 5, 2020

7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

TERMS OF REFERENCE

A. Teleresponders

1. Attend to callers with queries, complaints, problems or request, concerning school opening and other education matters;
2. Provide immediate appropriate actions/solutions for issues/concerns received from callers;
3. Refer complaints/cases that need immediate investigation to the Legal Team if necessary; and
4. Submit the required daily monitoring and afternoon reports to the Secretariat for consolidation and evaluation.

B. Email and Text Messaging Service and Social Media (Facebook, Messenger, Twitter and Instagram)

1. Reply/respond to messages received and print the messages if necessary;
2. Refer complaints/cases that need immediate investigation to Legal Team if necessary; and
3. Submit the required daily morning and afternoon reports to the Secretariat for consolidation and evaluation.

C. Walk-In Assistance

1. Attend to issues/concerns/complaints of walk-in clients;
2. Prepare endorsement letters/communications to school concerned;
3. Provide information needed by the clients; and
4. Submit the required daily morning and afternoon reports to the Secretariat for consolidation and evaluation.

D. Legal Assistance

1. Provide immediate resolution to complaints that are classified as urgent;
2. Conduct on-the-spot investigation and monitoring of schools as the need arises; and
3. Submit the required daily morning and afternoon reports to the Secretariat for consolidation and evaluation

E. Secretariat and Monitoring

1. Oversee and supervise the daily operations of the activity;
2. Prepare the daily reports for the Secretary's information based on the submitted reports of the teams;
3. Make print and video documentation;
4. Gather and consolidate data from the different committees and generate daily reports;
5. Document and finalize the 2020 Oplan Balik Eskwela Narrative Report;
6. Provide the technical needs of the team; and
7. Assist all teams if necessary.

F. Media Relations

1. Set and coordinate schedules for press conferences;
2. Prepare media advisories, invites and briefers of the activity for the Executive Committee and stakeholders;
3. Facilitate the press conference and assist the media;
4. Attend to media requests for data interviews; and
5. Coordinate with the partners and stakeholders.

G. Logistics and Support

The Logistics and Support Team shall be composed of the following sub-committees:

1. Finance

- Handle OBE financial requirements.

2. Food

- Take charge of the food to be served during the two-week conduct of OBE and all OBE activities.

3. Physical Arrangement/ Set-Up, Security, Sound System and Transportation

- Set up the OBE Command Center at the Bulwaan ng Karunungan following the floor plan;
- Maintain the cleanliness and orderliness of the OBE Command Center; and
- Ensure peace and order during the OBE.

4. Registration and Attendance

- Record all guests and participants in OBE, and take daily attendance of committee members.

5. Supplies and Equipment

- Provide the materials and equipment needed for OBE.



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

28 MAY 2020

DepEd MEMORANDUM

No. **053** s. 2020

**JOINT IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES ON THE 2020 BRIGADA ESKWELA
AND OPLAN BALIK ESKWELA RELATIVE TO THE COVID-19 SITUATION**

(Amending Thereby DepEd Memorandum No. 032, s. 2020 titled *2020 Brigada Eskwela*
Program Implementing Guidelines, and DepEd Memorandum No. 014, s. 2020 titled
2020 Oplan Balik Eskwela)

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Minister, Basic, Higher, and Technical Education, BARMM
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. Relative to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak, the Office of the President has issued Presidential Proclamation No. 922, s. 2020 declaring a state of public health emergency throughout the Philippines. In response to the public health emergency, and guided by the issuances on the management of COVID-19 by the Office of the President, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases in the Philippines (IATF-EID), and the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Education (DepEd) developed a Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP) for the guidance of all DepEd units. Titled **Learning Opportunities Shall be Available: The Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan in the Time of COVID-19**, the BE-LCP lays down the direction for basic education in the coming school year, and shall be operationalized on a rolling basis through implementing issuances, programs, and activities at all governance levels of DepEd.

2. As articulated in the BE-LCP, *Brigada Eskwela* (BE) and *Oplan Balik Eskwela* (OBE), the annual activities of DepEd to prepare for the school opening shall be reconfigured to fully assist the preparation of stakeholders for the coming school year. *Brigada Eskwela* and *Oplan Balik Eskwela* will be undertaken from **June 1, 2020 to August 29, 2020**.

3. Pursuant to this and in consideration of the relevant regulations for the management of COVID-19, DepEd issues this **Joint Implementing Guidelines on the 2020 Brigada Eskwela and Oplan Balik Eskwela Relative to the COVID-19 Situation** (copy enclosed) which amends relevant provisions of DepEd Memorandum (DM) No. 032, s. 2020 titled **2020 Brigada Eskwela Program Implementing Guidelines**, and DM No. 014, s. 2020 titled **2020 Oplan Balik Eskwela**.

4. The approved theme for the 2020 *Brigada Eskwela* as provided under DM No. 032, s. 2020, *Pagpapanatili ng Bayanihan Tungo sa Kalidad na Edukasyon para sa Kabataan*, shall now be the theme for the joint implementation of the 2020 *Brigada Eskwela* and *Oplan Balik Eskwela*. The slogan for this year's conduct of BE and OBE shall be, *Bayanihan sa Paaralan*. With the aim of promoting sustainable and safe



living, the slogan highlights the application of knowledge and convergence of efforts to address the required health standards and social issues at home, in school, and in the community in the context of COVID-19.

5. The required health standards involves following social distancing measures and practicing proper hygiene consistent with the IATF health protocols, DOH health standards, local and national quarantine rules, and all other relevant protocols as detailed in DepEd and DepEd Task Force COVID-19 issuances. To date, the latest applicable national guidelines are contained in DOH Administrative Order No. 2020-0015 dated April 27, 2020, providing for the Risk-Based Public Health Standards for COVID-19 Mitigation, and the Amended Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as approved by the IATF at its 39th Meeting held on May 22, 2020. Copies of the Guidelines are attached as Annex A and B, respectively.

6. The implementation of BE and OBE includes the engagement of stakeholders and addressing problems, queries, and other concerns in preparation for the start of classes. The specific amendments and implementation adjustments and plan of action of *Brigada Eskwela* and *Oplan Balik Eskwela* are provided in **Enclosure No. 1** in Items A and B, respectively.

7. The traditional concept of *Brigada Eskwela*, which involves physical cleaning, painting, repainting, and doing minor repairs will no longer happen in May. Unless otherwise provided by another DepEd issuance, it may still be done during the two weeks before the opening of classes in public schools on August 24, 2020, depending on the prevailing local risk classification and community quarantine guidelines. If allowed, schools shall strictly comply with protocols on social distancing and implement precautionary measures consistent with the IATF health protocols, DOH protection protocols, local quarantine rules and all other relevant protocols provided in DepEd and DepEd Task Force COVID-19 issuances.

8. The new concept of *Brigada Eskwela* shall focus on preparations and strengthening partnership engagement to ensure that learning continues even in the time of COVID-19. The activities shall highlight partnership initiatives that complement the Department's efforts to ensure that quality basic education will continue despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, and to implement the BE-LCP. Details of the mandated partnership activities and stakeholders engagement are provided in **Enclosure No. 2**.

9. Under *Oplan Balik Eskwela*, DepEd shall set up the Public Assistance Command Center (PACC) at the Central Office, with its counterparts at the regional and schools division offices through its Public Affairs Unit (PAU). *Oplan Balik Eskwela* shall continue to address frequently asked questions by parents and learners in relation to enrollment, attendance, and other relevant DepEd policies, rules, and regulations on class opening.

10. In partnership with *Brigada Eskwela*, *Oplan Balik Eskwela* shall focus on an information campaign on the implementation of the LCP. The National *Brigada Eskwela* and *Oplan Balik Eskwela* Media/Online Kick-Off Program, which shall be hosted by DepEd Region VI, shall be held on **June 1, 2020**. The details of the Kick-Off Program shall be the subject of a separate DepEd issuance.

11. All other provisions stated in DM No. 032, s. 2020 and DM No. 014, s. 2020 shall remain in full force and effect, unless otherwise amended or rescinded.

12. For more information, please contact the following:

Brigada Eskwela

External Partnerships Service
Ground Floor, Mabini Bldg.,
Department of Education Central Office
DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Telephone Nos.: (02) 8638-8637, (02) 8638-8639
Email Address: externalpartnerships@deped.gov.ph

Oplan Balik Eskwela

Office of the Secretary-Public Affairs Service
Department of Education Central Office
DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Telephone Nos.: (02) 8636-1663, (02) 8633-1942
Email Address: depedactioncenter@deped.gov.ph

13. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary

Encls.:

As stated



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References:

DepEd Order No. 07, s. 2020
DepEd Memorandum: (Nos. 032 and 014, s. 2020)

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

AMENDMENT
BUREAUS AND OFFICES
CAMPAIGN
COMMITTEES
LEARNERS
OFFICIALS
POLICY
PROGRAMS
SCHOOLS

Briefer on DepEd's Oplan Balik Eskwela

May 31, 2011 (<https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/2011/05/31/briefer-on-deped%e2%80%99s-oplan-balik-eskwela/>).

What is Oplan Balik Eskwela?

Oplan Balik Eskwela (OBE) is an annual campaign initiated by the Department of Education (DepEd), in coordination with other agencies, communities, and interest groups, and held to prepare for the opening of the school year. It aims to ensure that students are properly enrolled and able to attend school during the opening of classes.

It seeks to address common problems encountered during school openings. It was first launched in 2005.

What are the efforts undertaken during Oplan Balik Eskwela?

OBE addresses various school opening concerns, e.g.,

- Traffic
- Safety and security
- Price monitoring of school supplies
- Medical and emergency services
- Preparation of school buildings and roads
- Public transportation
- Supply of utilities in schools
- Weather outlook
- Local Government Unit coordination and support

It is carried out through *convergence* with other agencies, communities and other interest groups; *information dissemination* through a media campaign, public service announcements from the DepEd, and *Information and action centers* established in the DepEd Central, Regional, and Division offices.

Who are involved in Oplan Balik Eskwela?

The following agencies are key in the organization of the multisectoral task force for school opening:

- DepEd – Lead agency
- DPWH – completion of classrooms being constructed; clearing of road obstruction
- DTI – price stability of school supplies
- DOTC – public transportation
- DOH – dissemination of health guidelines
- DILG – involvement of local government and barangays in school opening preparations
- PNP – crime prevention
- PAGASA – weather updates
- MMDA – traffic management in Metro Manila
- MWSS – no water interruption
- Manila Water – no water interruption
- MERALCO – no power interruption; assistance in rewiring public schools

What is the expected impact of Oplan Balik Eskwela?

The main objective of the campaign is the *smooth opening of classes*. The following has been realized since OBE was first launched: Among others, the Improvement of traffic flow; quick response to school-opening queries from parents and school authorities; the minimization of confusion during enrollment; the prompt readying of classrooms and school facilities; regulation of school-supply prices; and a decrease of criminal incidences around the vicinity of schools.

For information and questions on enrollment and opening of classes, you may access/ call the following:

MAIN HOTLINE:

(+632) 636-1663

OTHER HOTLINE NUMBERS:

633-1942	634-0222
636-4880	635-0552
637-4211	635-6550
638-7529	635-9817
638-7530	637-3743

DepEd text messaging service

0919-4560027

Email Address:

action@deped.gov.ph

[deped.gov.ph](http://www.deped.gov.ph/) (<http://www.deped.gov.ph/>).

Related: [DepEd launches Oplan Balik Eskwela 2011](#)
(<http://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/2011/05/31/deped-launches-oplan-balik-eskwela/>).

 State Of the Nation Address 2016

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[House of Representatives](http://www.congress.gov.ph/) (<http://www.congress.gov.ph/>),
[Supreme Court](http://sc.judiciary.gov.ph/) (<http://sc.judiciary.gov.ph/>),
[Court of Appeals](http://ca.judiciary.gov.ph/) (<http://ca.judiciary.gov.ph/>),
[Sandiganbayan](http://sb.judiciary.gov.ph/) (<http://sb.judiciary.gov.ph/>).