



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY
GOVERNANCE AND FIELD OPERATIONS



OUGFO No. 2022-03-____
MEMORANDUM
21 September 2022

TO: REGIONAL DIRECTORS and BARMM Minister of Education

FROM: **ATTY. REVSEE A. ESCOBEDO**
Undersecretary
Governance and Field Operations

SUBJECT: **UPDATES ON THE NATIONAL KICKOFF OF OPLAN
KALUSUGAN SA DEPED (OK SA DEPED) AND LAUNCH OF
HEALTHY LEARNING INSTITUTIONS (HLI)**

This Office, through the Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), provides additional information on the conduct of the National Kickoff of *Oplan Kalusugan sa DepEd (OK sa DepEd)* and Launch of Healthy Learning Institutions (HLI), as previously communicated through OUGFO Memorandum No. 2022-03-0158 titled *National Kickoff of Oplan Kalusugan Sa Deped (OK sa DepEd) and Launch of Healthy Learning Institutions (HLI)* and OUGFO Memorandum No. 2022-03-024 titled *Strengthening School Health Support for SY 2022-2023*.

1. The activity is scheduled on **September 26-29, 2022**, inclusive of travel time.
 - a. Participants will be billeted at **Hotel Rembrandt**, Tomas Morato Avenue Diliman, Quezon City, where an orientation-workshop on HLI is also scheduled on **September 27, 2022**.
 - b. The actual kickoff/launch will be held in **Quirino High School**, Molave St. Project 3, Quezon City, on **September 28, 2022**. Transportation will be provided to the participants from Hotel Rembrandt to Quirino High School and vice versa.
 - c. Attached is the updated Activity design (**Annex A**) and the Complete Staff Work (CSW), with the latest proposed program of activities for the kickoff/launch proper (**Annex B**).
2. The Regional Office (RO) is given the prerogative to finalize its list of participants for the activity, provided that the personnel identified in the previous memoranda are prioritized (e.g., Chief of the Education Support Services Division (ESSD), the school health and nutrition [SHN] personnel, and a selected Nurse II from one of the Schools Division Offices (SDOs) under the RO).

- a. In case the personnel identified are not available to participate in the activity, the RO may identify other health personnel from the SDOs to complete the slots allotted for the RO.
 - b. ROs are requested to advise participants identified to pre-register at <https://bit.ly/OKDKickoff2022> on or before September 23, 2022.
 - c. It is clarified that the funds downloaded for the transportation expenses of the field participants cover both those from the RO and those from the SDO, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations. ROs are requested to augment for costs that may not be sufficiently covered by the downloaded funds. The Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) is requested to charge the travel expenses of their participants to local funds, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.
 - d. Board and lodging of personnel from DepEd ROs and SDOs, and from BARMM will be covered by BLSS-SHD from September 26 (check-in, first meal: lunch) to September 29 (check-out, last meal: a.m. snacks).
3. The following are requested from the ROs as part of the preparations for the activity:
- a. Prepare a 5-minute (maximum), 4-slide, presentation on their implementation of *OK sa DepEd* covering the following (from SY 2021-2022):

Slide No.	Content of Presentation
1	Major accomplishments/best practices
2	Major partnerships
3	Major challenges faced
4	Ways forward (including projected activities for FY 2023)

The PowerPoint presentations shall be submitted to okd@deped.gov.ph on or before September 26, 2022.

- b. Consolidate issues, concerns, and recommendations from field SHN personnel that may be raised to the ExeCom during the scheduled consultative workshop on September 28, using the template below:

Area	Issues/Concerns	Recommendations
Program implementation		
HR concerns		
Others		

Note: There will be no direct presentation to the ExeCom but there will be a deliberation and further consolidation of the specific issues, concerns, and recommendations to raise to the ExeCom during the consultative workshop with them.

- c. Request field personnel to submit action photos of *OK sa DepEd* program implementation through this link: bit.ly/oksadepedphotos.

4. Participants are discouraged from attending the activity if they are exposed to a COVID-19 positive or if they experience flu-like symptoms.

For questions and concerns, please contact Belinda C. Beltran, Nutritionist-Dietitian III, or Gian Erik M. Adao, Education Program Specialist II, BLSS-SHD, through (02) 8-632-9935 or email at blss.shd@deped.gov.ph .

Annex A

Updated Activity Design

Time	Sept 26	Sept 27	Sept 28	Sept 29
AM	Travel Time	OK sa DepEd x HLI Program Updates and Directions (Regional and CO Presentation)	<i>(Travel to Quirino High School)</i> Ceremonial Kickoff of <i>OK sa DepEd</i> and Launch of HLI (With School Tour)	Check-out (12:00 p.m.)
Lunch Break				
PM	Registration and Check-in (2:00 p.m.) <i>(Hotel Rembrandt)</i>	Capacity Building and Orientation on HLI Deliberation/ Consolidation of Field Issues, Concerns and Recommendations	Consultative Workshop with Regional SHN Personnel <i>(Travel back to Hotel Rembrandt)</i> Closing	Travel Time

Annex B

Complete Staff Work on the National Kickoff of *OK sa DepEd* and Launch of HLI

(September 28, 2022)

I. Overview of *Oplan Kalusugan sa DepEd*

Launched through DepEd Order No. 28, s. 2018, *OK sa DepEd* is the convergence of the Department's health and nutrition initiatives for their effective and efficient implementation at the school level, in partnership with various stakeholders. It currently focuses on strengthening and harmonizing the various components of the following flagship and support programs coordinated by BLSS-SHD:

Program	Description
School-Based Feeding Program (SBFP) and other Nutrition Support Programs	<p>Through the SBFP, hot meals/nutritious food products and milk are provided to selected learners from Kindergarten to Grade 6 to improve classroom attendance and encourage learners to go to school every day.</p> <p>The SBFP is implemented alongside the Nutrition Support Program, which is a combination of policies, standards, activities, and interventions designed to promote and maintain the nutritional well-being of learners, covering school nutrition services (deworming, weekly iron folic acid supplementation, nutritional assessment and diet counseling), school gardens, and nutrition education, supported by enabling mechanisms such as healthy food environment and sanitation, partnerships and linkages.</p>
National Drug Education Program (NDEP) and Comprehensive Tobacco Control	<p>NDEP is comprehensive educational program which provides for a holistic approach to the problem of drug abuse by collaborating with all sectors under a unified, scientific, research-based, and responsive procedure.</p> <p>In support of NDEP is the Comprehensive Tobacco Control Program which focuses on ensuring the implementation of relevant provisions from the global treaty Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, as well as national tobacco control laws, and issuances.</p>
Adolescent Reproductive Health Program (ARH)	<p>ARH aims to strengthen DepEd's delivery of its mandates under Republic Act 10354, or the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012.</p>
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in Schools (WinS)	<p>WinS focuses on the promotion of a clean and safe school environment and correct hygiene practices among learners. It is a comprehensive, sustainable, and scalable school-based program that sets the basic requirements and standards on five key elements: water, sanitation, hygiene, deworming, and health education.</p>
Medical, Dental, and Nursing Services	<p>Medical doctors, dentists, and nurses nationwide ensure the delivery of or access to medical, dental, and nursing services of learners.</p> <p>Medical and nursing services include health examination, treatment, and/or referral of learners; conduct of hearing screening, vision screening, and color vision testing; school-based immunization, in coordination with the DOH; weekly iron folic acid supplementation; and deworming.</p>

Program	Description
	<p>Dental services include promotive, preventive, and curative services such as oral examination and oral urgent treatment (e.g., tooth extractions, filling, and oral prophylaxis, as needed), application of fluoride varnish, dental health education, tooth brushing drills, and distribution of hygiene kits (toothbrushes and toothpastes).</p> <p>Medical and dental clinics have also been established/refurbished and the medical and dental supplies have been provided in selected schools.</p>
School Mental Health Program	Added as a flagship program late in 2018, the School Mental Health Program focuses on mental health promotion in schools, pursuant to RA 11036 or the Mental Health Act, and its IRR: (1) raising awareness on mental health issues; (2) identification and provision of support and services for individuals at risk; and (3) facilitating access, including referral mechanisms of individuals with mental health conditions to treatment and psychosocial support.

II. Overview of Healthy Learning Institutions (HLI)

In 2022, DepEd entered into a partnership with the DOH and other agencies concerned for the strengthening of schools under the basic education sector as healthy learning institutions (HLI), through the **DSWD-DepEd-CHED-LEB-TESDA-DILG JAO 2022-0001** titled *Guidelines on Healthy Settings Framework in Learning Institutions*.

Pursuant to Section 30 of Republic Act 11223 or the Universal Health Care Act, the JAO operationalizes the designation of schools as healthy settings, based on standards set by the DOH and DepEd. The HLI framework is based on the World Health Organization's (WHO) six pillars of a health-promoting school.

The framework, which is currently being pilot-tested in 273 last-mile elementary schools in eight provinces and one city, is intended to be adopted as the framework for *OK sa DepEd*.

Descriptions of the interventions per pillar of the HLI framework are as follows:

Pillar	Description
Healthy School Policy	Integration into school planning documents and strategies such as the Annual Implementation Plan, School Improvement Plan, and School-Based Management
Physical School Environment	Investments in physical resources and infrastructural improvements that would allow students to practice healthy behaviors at school; as well as IEC materials to provide information on healthy habits and nudge them to practice these
Social School Environment	Guides for teachers to practice healthy behaviors in the school setting; and, recommendations for clubs that will allow students to hone health seeking and health promoting behaviors outside class
Links with the Community	Onboarding and health-education workshops with parents and guardians to allow them to build trust and healthy communication practices with their children and reinforce health behaviors and habits learned in the classroom at home
Health Skills and Education	Integration of health-related competencies, topics, materials, and activities in school lessons inside and outside health as a subject
Access to Health Care	Development of referral networks within the school and between the school and the local government unit

III. National Kickoff of *OK sa DepEd* for SY 2022-2023 and Launch of HLI

An annual activity for *OK sa DepEd*, the **national kickoff** ceremonially signals the field implementation of *OK sa DepEd* and the flagship programs for the School Year. Field health personnel are gathered, and the Secretary and/or ExeCom members concerned are invited to provide strategic directions on matters related to school health and nutrition. The national kickoff also serves as a venue to provide updates and directions on the implementation of *OK sa DepEd* for the school year, as well as to showcase the selected practices of the regions and partnership opportunities for school health.

Before the pandemic, national kickoffs were held in Makati City (2018) and in General Santos City (2019).

This year, the national kickoff will be held at Quirino High School, Quezon City, on September 28, 2022, Wednesday, with the theme: *“Pinalakas na Oplan Kalusugan sa DepEd, Pinatatag na Healthy Learning Institutions.”*

The theme leads to the highlight of this year’s kickoff which is the **Launch of HLI** where the Secretary of Education and the OIC-Secretary of Health are invited to attend and deliver their messages.

There will be a presentation on *OK sa DepEd* while an AVP on HLI created by the Department of Health (DOH) will also be shown. The AVP will feature some last-mile schools included in the 2022 HLI Pilot, their current situation, their health needs, and their aspirations in relation to HLI. The proposed program of activities (as of September 20, 2022) is summarized below:

9:00 – 9:05 a.m.	Preliminaries	SDO Quezon City
9:05 – 9:08 a.m.	Welcome Message	WILFREDO E. CABRAL <i>Regional Director, DepEd NCR</i>
9:08 – 9:11 a.m.	Message	MA. JOSEFINA “JOY” BELMONTE <i>Mayor, Quezon City</i>
9:11 – 9:14 a.m.	Message	FRANZ PUMAREN <i>District Representative, 3rd District, QC</i>
9:14 – 9: 19 a.m.	Statement of Purpose and Presentation of <i>OK sa DepEd</i>	ATTY. REVSEE A. ESCOBEDO <i>Undersecretary</i> Governance and Field Operations
9:19 – 9:25 a.m.	AVP on HLI	DOH Health Promotion Bureau
9:25 – 9:27 a.m.	Unveiling of the <i>OK sa DepEd x HLI</i> Tarpaulin	
9:27 – 9:32 a.m.	Message	DR. MARIA ROSARIO S. VERGEIRE <i>Office-in-Charge, Department of Health</i>
9:32 – 9:42 a.m.	Message	SARA Z. DUTERTE <i>Vice President and Secretary</i>
9:42 – 9:45 a.m.	Closing Message	FRANCIS CESAR B. BRINGAS <i>Assistant Secretary</i> Governance and Field Operations
9:45 – 9:50 a.m.	Photo Ops of School Health Personnel with the Secretary	(Five batches of selected participants, 10 participants per batch)

Note: Messages of support from agencies that are signatories to the JAO will be shown after the photo ops, and will be posted on DepEd’s social media accounts.

The two heads of agencies will also be invited to check around health- and nutrition-related facilities and activities in the school:

Facility to visit	Requested activity
NDEP corner/teen hub	To pose with learners doing NDEP and ARH activities
School garden	To pick/harvest vegetables
Handwashing facilities	To wash hands with selected learners
School clinic	To appear alongside OIC Secretary of Health who will inoculate a learner, a teacher, and a parent in a ceremonial COVID-19 vaccination (with PinasLakas signages visible on the background)
Guidance office	To pose with learners/guidance advocate in the office
Feeding area	To pose with learner-beneficiaries; taste/hold milk and nutritious food products

Luncheon fellowship and consultative workshop with field SHN personnel are also scheduled after the ceremonial *OK sa DepEd* kickoff and the HLI launch to provide a venue to consolidate and raise the issues, concerns, and recommendations of SHN personnel with the current management.

Invited participants are the Chiefs of the Education Support Services Divisions (ESSDs) of the Regional Offices (ROs), the regional school health and nutrition (SHN) personnel (Medical Officer IV, Dentist III, Nutritionist-Dietitian II), and selected nurses from selected Schools Division Offices (SDOs). Five (5) SHN personnel from BARMM have also been invited.