



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

Department of Education
DIVISION OF CAVITE
RECORDS SECTION
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DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **108**, s. 2016

PREPAREDNESS MEASURES FOR THE RAINY SEASON

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools Heads
All Others Concerned

1. The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAG-ASA) released a statement indicating that the onset of the rainy season associated with the Southwest Monsoon (locally known as the *Habagat*) is now in progress. Meanwhile, weak *El Niño* condition is present in the Tropical Pacific and is expected to end around the month of July though effects will be lingering, while *La Niña* conditions are favored to follow during the second half of 2016.
2. With this, the Department of Education (DepEd) enjoins all schools and field offices to observe **Preparedness Measures for the Rainy Season**. This is to ensure:
 - a. increased preparedness and safety of all school personnel and learners; and
 - b. safety of school properties, learning materials and vital school records from any possible occurrence of hazards to enable learners' continued access to education.
3. All staff of schools and offices are advised to do the following:
 - a. Ensure that school buildings can withstand heavy rain and strong winds. *Anchor the facilities built at ground level with guy wires to strengthen the stability of the structure;*
 - b. Identify a storage area for safekeeping of learning materials, teachers' manuals, vital records and equipment (fax, laptops, computers, photocopiers, TVs, VCRs, among other machines), preferably on an elevated room to ensure protection from rain or flood;
 - c. Turn off and unplug electrical equipment and appliances when not in use;
 - d. Equip school with first aid kits, flashlights, megaphones, and other necessary supplies that may be needed in times of emergencies. Ensure that these items can be easily located and accessed;
 - e. Prepare the classrooms for possible use as evacuation centers and ensure that the staff-in-charge of the keys are accessible;
 - f. Regularly conduct school disaster response-drills or simulations;
 - g. Post emergency hotline numbers in classrooms and offices;
 - h. Update database of student and their family contact details; and
 - i. Prepare contingency plan.

For the DepEd personnel and learners:

- a. Educate personnel and learners about weather disturbances, including typhoon signals rainfall warnings and possible effects and measures to undertake, using the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and PAG-ASA website;
 - b. Educate school children on preparedness for tropical cyclones, flood and other related hazards; and
 - c. Educate school children and their parents about health related effects resulting from the rainy season.
4. All are advised to observe strict compliance of DepEd Order (DO) No. 43, s. 2012 entitled *Guidelines on the Implementation of Executive Order No. 66, s. 2012* (Prescribing Rules on the Cancellation of Classes and Work in Governance Offices Due to Typhoons, Flooding, Other Weather Disturbances and Calamities).
5. All schools are encouraged to involve the students, their families and communities in preparing for disasters, for this is an effective method of raising their awareness and action about risk education.
6. All DRRM coordinators should maintain an open communication with school officials for any needed assistance. Immediate coordination and reporting of any untoward incident should be observed to provide timely and necessary support.
7. This Memorandum supports DO 83, s. 2011 entitled *Disaster Preparedness Measures for Schools*, DO 43, 2012 entitled *Guidelines on the Implementation of Executive Order No. 66, s. 2012* (Prescribing Rules on the Cancellation of Classes and Work in Government Offices Due to Typhoons, Flooding, Other Weather Disturbances and Calamities) and DM 35, s. 2016 entitled *Implementing Brigada Eskwela 2016* which seek to mainstream the implementation of DRRM in the systems and processes of the Department at all levels.
8. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


BR. ARMIN A. LUISTRO FSC
Secretary

References:

DepEd Order: (Nos. 83, s. 2011, 43, s. 2012)
DepEd Memorandum: (No. 35, s. 2016)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
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