

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION | OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY



PRESS RELEASE

DepEd inks pacts with educ partners, receives donations for learners

PASIG CITY, August 20, 2017 – Department of Education (DepEd) Secretary Leonor Magtolis Briones expressed her gratitude toward various education partners for always putting high value and extending help and assistance to the education sector.

The Education Chief conveyed this during the ceremonial turnover of donations for learners and signing of Memorandum of Agreements (MOA) with DepEd partners on August 10, 2017 at the *Bulwagan ng Karunungan*, DepEd Central Office in Pasig City.

"DepEd is feeling very blessed and spoiled because we are always number one whenever a business industry or a foundation wants to give something—they immediately think of teachers, learners, and school buildings before anything else," Briones said.

"But as the good book says, while we feel very blessed and happy because we receive so much from you, I'm sure that you are even more blessed and even happier. It is said, it is more blessed to give than to receive," Briones added.

Moreover, DepEd External Partnerships Service (EPS) Director Margarita Ballesteros mentioned that DepEd is always facing massive challenges in carrying out its responsibilities. She further underscored the vital roles of education partners in helping address these challenges.

"It's no exaggeration to say that our committed partners will continue to play a crucial role in helping the Department in the implementation of our priority programs that benefit tens of thousands of young eager minds in schools nationwide," Ballesteros pointed out.

Donations, assistance from partners

Furthermore, the various education partners offered a wide array of efforts and assistance to DepEd for the betterment of the educational system of the country.

Cosmotech Philippines has donated Hylex Sound Systems to 30 selected public schools in the country under its *Tunog ng Kabataan, Ating Pakinggan* project.

Megawide Foundation has partnered with DepEd for the Megawide Center for Excellence Adopt-a-School Program, which handles the donations of technical-vocational supplies and materials for selected public schools in Metro Manila. Megawide also donated 500 backpacks with school supplies for displaced Marawi learners.

Tulay Foundation, Inc., together with Solar Entertainment and LST Development Corporation, partnered with DepEd for the Early Intervention Program for Special Education (SPED) Students, which aims to provide services to and address specific needs in a particular SPED Center School.

Food Safety and Hygiene Academy of the Philippines (FoodSHAP) committed to provide free trainings and exams to all public school officials, canteen operators, supervisors, and medical officers, to help control food poisoning incidents and develop a food safety culture among the public schools in the Philippines.

Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) partnered with DepEd for their participation in the *Brigada Eskwela*, and celebration of its Community Relations Month, Read-A-Book Activity and *Seryeng Pangkarunungan Para sa mga Bata*.

On the other hand, Nestle Philippines committed to accommodate students from Accountancy, Business and Management (ABM), and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) tracks for 80 hours of work immersion. Nestle targets to accommodate 100 students—20 students in each Nestle site (Cabuyao, Laguna; Canlubang, Laguna; Tanawan, Batangas; Lipa, Batangas; and Cagaya de Oro).

Cebuana Lhuillier Foundation established 66 DepEd-Cebuana Lhuillier Alternative Learning System (ALS) Centers, and recently donated canned goods and slippers for displaced Marawi learners.

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