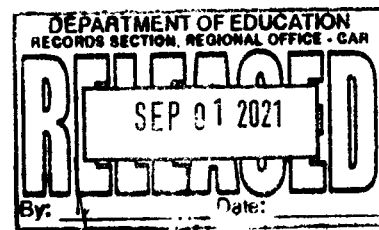




Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
Cordillera Administrative Region



August 31, 2021

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM  
No. 375.2021

**2021 BRIGADA ESKWELA IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES**

TO: OIC- Assistant Regional Director  
Chiefs/Heads of Functional Divisions/Units/Sections  
Schools Division Superintendents  
Division Chiefs/Heads of SGOD/CID /Units /Sections  
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads  
All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education (DepEd) in its commitment to ensure that education must continue amidst the challenges and uncertainties of face to face classes brought about by Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID -19 Pandemic), shall formally open School Year (SY) 2021-2022. Pursuant to Republic Act No.11480, the approved opening of classes is on **September 13, 2021 SY 2021-2022**.
2. In preparation for the opening of classes the Brigada Eskwela Program shall be implemented from **August 3 to September 30, 2021** with focus on collaboration and strengthening partnership engagements that complement DepEd efforts to implement the Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP) and to ensure the delivery of quality basic education notwithstanding the COVID -19 Pandemic .
- 3 The slogan of Brigada Eskwela , ***Bayanihan para sa Paaralan*** shall be adopted as the theme for this year to emphasize the country's collective efforts in promoting collaboration for safe living and addressing social issues and concerns in schools, at homes and in the community.
4. The National Virtual Kick-Off Program was held last August 3, 2021 hosted by the Schools Division of Tagum City in Region XI and our Regional kick-off Program was earlier held last **June 22, 2021** at Datakan Elementary School, Kapangan, Benguet attended by SDO-Mt Province, SDO-Kalinga, SDO-Baguio and SDO-Benguet. After the National Kick-Off some schools and Division offices launch the Brigada Eskwela.
5. The Implementation of Brigada Eskwela shall comply with the required health standards which include following social distancing measures and practicing proper hygiene consistent with the Inter -Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Disease (IATF) health protocols, Department of Health (DOH) health standards, local and national quarantine rules and all other relevant protocols as detailed in DepEd and DepEd Task Force COVID-19 issuances.





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6. The traditional concept of Brigada Eskwela, which involves physical cleaning, painting, repainting and doing minor repairs, will still not happen during Brigada Eskwela implementation period this year. However, considering the schools are being used in the preparation of the learning packets, including the picking up and returning of the same by the parents, physical cleaning and disinfection may be allowed during the two weeks before the opening of classes in public schools, depending on the prevailing local risk classification and community quarantine guidelines. If allowed, the 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.
7. The Brigada Eskwela activities shall focus on preparations and highlight partnership initiatives that complement the BE-LCP among efforts. This will ensure that quality basic education will continue despite the challenges posed by COVID-19 situation.
8. Other important information such as schedule of activities, vacation service credits and recording of donated items are stipulated in items 8, 9 and 12 respectively of the attached Deped Memorandum No. 048, s 2021.
9. Further the **Brigada Pagbasa**, as part of Brigada Eskwela is an after-school reading program that envisions bringing together education partners and experts to help all learners read and become functionally literate. The **Brigada Pagbasa** will serve as a platform to synergize efforts and resources to address education related challenges especially on literacy and numeracy. It will also create opportunities for all stakeholders to contribute possible solutions to the current gaps in the country's education system, especially in equipping the learners with 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.
10. In preparation for the implementation of Brigada Pagbasa, the Division Partnership Focal Persons (DPFPs) are encouraged to conduct inventory of school reading program with partnership components that may be part of Brigada Eskwela, the detailed guidelines for the implementation of Brigada Pagbasa shall be provided in a separate issuance.
11. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is required.

  
**ESTELA L. CARIÑO EdD, CESO III**  
Director IV/ Regional Director

