

PRESS RELEASE

Free breakfast for better school performance

Public school students from Oranbo Elementary School in Pasig City will receive free breakfast meals from sauce and condiments company NutriAsia in the next six months to improve student nutrition and school performance.

“Breakfast feeding is among the projects of the Department of Education (DepEd) to increase participation rate among our students while addressing the incidence of drop-outs and malnutrition,” explained Education Secretary Br. Armin Luistro FSC.

“Studies have shown that there are many children who come to school on an empty stomach. Learning is severely affected when students are hungry which, in turn, results to poor school performance and eventual dropping out,” added Luistro.

At 7:00am from August 2010 to January 2011, personnel from the NutriAsia Group will serve public school children with warm breakfast before they start classes. Rice meals with choice of vegetables, pork, or fish will be served along with fruits and milk-choco or choco drinks.

“We appeal to parents to help us sustain the feeding program at home,” said NutriAsia President and COO Noel Lorenzana in a launching held recently at Oranbo Elementary School. “We have seen positive results from feeding programs and we would like to have that same result in our program – improved weight of children and higher achievement levels.”

Gabay sa Kalusugan Feeding and Nutrition Program is NutriAsia’s joint project with DepEd that costs some P5 million. Their target beneficiaries for this year are 700 Grade 1 to Grade 3 pupils from three schools in Luzon, one in Cebu and one in Davao.

Parents, school personnel, and NutriAsia employees will work together to feed these children everyday. A nutritionist will also be around to see if the serving size is right and has nutritional content. Each beneficiary’s weight and height will be measured periodically and the grades closely watched by their class advisers.

Present during the launching is Oranbo Barangay Captain Richard Pua and DepEd Pasig City Schools Division Superintendent Florentina Lizano. Pua thanks NutriAsia for the program that he believes will help children of his constituents stay in school.

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