

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DepEd: Not only IQ, also EQ

Next to improving the intelligence quotient of students, the Department of Education is also focusing on enriching the emotional quotient of learners even as the department strengthens the teaching of the richness of our cultural heritage.

Education Secretary Jesli Lapus said DepEd is now enriching the elementary curriculum with the integration of social emotional learning (SEL) in character education (Edukasyong Pantao). Through this, pupils are expected to develop self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making.

“These skills are expected to facilitate academic achievement and develop well-rounded, wholesome individuals,” added Lapus.

“Developing lifelong learners in a fast-changing world calls for continuous refinement in education,” he stressed. He noted that elementary curriculum will also strengthen values on nationalism and love of cultural heritage while learning will be made more interactive, experiential and ICT-enabled.

The inclusion of SEL in the elementary curriculum is aligned with the Education For All (EFA) thrust that aims to upgrade the quality of basic education by 2015.

The guidelines on SEL and the teaching of Edukasyong Pagpapakatao at Sibika at Kultura/HEKASI that focuses on demonstrating nationalism and love of cultural heritage are contained in DepEd Order No. 71 series of 2009.

Natural songs, folk dances, poems, folklores, other literature and customs and traditions that enrich the Filipino culture will be embedded in the school environment.

The guidelines also stipulated that the Pambansang Awit (Lupang Hinirang) be sung properly following the 2/4 time signature in 57 seconds.

Moreover, the memo also prescribed that “Talk Less and Learn More” shall be the prevailing practice in instruction. This can be attained through experiential, interactive, and cooperative learning and utilization of ICT mode of instructions.

Team teaching for Grades I – III and IV – VI will be encouraged using the expertise of teachers in the learning areas assigned. Team leaders in the area will be the recipients of summer training and scholarship programs.

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