

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Respect time: teachers, students urged

Workshops on how to be punctual and organized are slated to be given to elementary and high school students, including their teachers, in all public schools in the country, the Department of Education (DepEd) announced recently.

The activity will be conducted under an advocacy program called Project WATCH. DepEd has teamed up with JCI Senate Philippines and the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities (PACU) in this program which includes one-hour-a-week workshops aimed at addressing the bad reputation Filipinos have for habitual tardiness. WATCH stands for We Are Time Conscious and Honest.

"Through our schools, we can inject in the minds of our students the right outlook about time which can have a great impact on the value of work and productivity" DepEd Secretary Jesli Lopus explained.

Under the program, the participating institutions agreed to undertake national conferences, as well as a series of seminars and orientations on time management and planning for elementary and high school students to be conducted by the JCI Senate. This complements the students' existing subject curriculum.

Part of the program is the conduct of national competitions, symposia and fora for the students to imbibe the basic values of honesty and punctuality.

Both the DepEd and the PACU will sponsor oratorical contests, debates and essay writing contests to further promote "WATCH" among school administrators, officials, faculty members and ultimately, students. Information materials and tools on time management will also be distributed.

"We can pursue Project WATCH earnestly and consistently. This will have a profound effect on our society and our economy," Sec. Lopus said.

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