

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DepEd slates NAT in March

The Department of Education (DepEd) is set to administer the National Achievement Test in March 2008, an annual assessment to determine what the students know, understand and are capable of doing at their level.

NAT for Grade Three is scheduled on March 4, 2008 while NAT for Grade Six will be given on March 6, 2008. NAT for Second Year High School will be administered on March 11, 2008.

NAT for Grade Six comprises five basic subjects, namely, Mathematics, English, Science, Filipino and HEKASI. Forty items are allotted for each subject, with a total of 200 items for the entire test.

Meanwhile, NAT for Second Year High School includes sixty items for each subject. In lieu of HEKASI, Araling Panlipunan will be given.

NAT has been administered to Grade Six and Second Year High School students in the last school years.

The last NAT results in Grade Six indicated marked improvements in the Mean Percentage Score (MPS) in English and Mathematics (12%) while Science also registered a strong 10% increase.

NAT for Grade Three includes Grammar and Reading Comprehension in English and Filipino, Science and Mathematics. This will replace the English and Filipino Reading Tests.

Education Secretary Jesli Lapus said, "We have to continuously assess our students' competency as a means to determine ways to further improve our education system."

He added, "We need to find ways to sustain improving performance of our students and develop appropriate intervention."

NAT for Grade Three will be taken by 1.9 million pupils in 37,800 schools while NAT for Grade Six will be taken by 1.7 million students in 37,400 schools. NAT for Second Year High School will be administered to 1.3 million students from 6,510 schools.

DepEd's National Education Testing and Research Center will be in charge of administering the test. It will conduct an Orientation Conference on the Administration of the Tests to Division Testing Coordinators.

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For more information on National Education Testing and Research Center (NETRC) please call Dr. Nelia V. Benito, NETRC Director at 631-2588.