

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Lapus assigns office for PTA concerns

Education Secretary Jesli Lapus has designated the Center for Students and Co-Curricular Affairs (CSCA), which is under DepEd's Office for Regional Operations, as the lead office in handling the concerns and activities of Parents-Teachers Associations (PTA).

Previously called Parents-Teachers-Community Associations (PTCA), the PTA will oversee that parents and teachers become more involved in the affairs of the school and focused on the welfare of the students.

He added, "The office will take the lead to make PTA transactions more transparent and its activities more responsive to the needs of the students and school."

PTAs are being organized in elementary and secondary schools to provide a forum for the discussion of issues and their solutions related to the total school program.

Lapus stressed that PTAs are very important partners of the school and a major player in educating the youth. "We enjoin parents and the whole community to take proactive stand as stakeholders in their children's education," he added.

Among the key issues currently being addressed by PTA is the "no collection" policy of DepEd.

The Education chief emphasized that "No collection of PTA contributions shall be done during the enrolment period. Likewise, no teacher or any school personnel shall be involved in such collection activities."

PTA may collect voluntary financial contributions from members and outside sources to enable it to fund and sustain its operation and the implementation of its programs which should benefit the students and school.

DepEd reiterated that non-payment of the contributions by the parent-member will not be a basis for non-admission or non-issuance of clearance to the child by the school concerned. The contributions shall be collected by the PTA Treasurer on a per parent-member basis regardless of the number of their children in school.

"CSCA had familiarity on the issues and concerns pertaining to PTA," explained CSCA Executive Director Joey Pelaez. "The move will ensure accountability and greater transparency in the PTA, particularly in issuing financial statements, which we plan to be made accessible to the members of school and community," he said.

PRESS RELEASE

PTAs are required to install a PTA Bulletin where announcements, approved resolutions, required reports and financial statements will be posted.

Membership in the PTA is limited to parents, or in their absence the guardian, of duly enrolled students, and the teachers in a given school.

Pelaez pointed out that PTAs are prohibited from interfering in the academic and administrative management and operations of school, while PTA officers and Board of Directors cannot collect salaries and honoraria. PTA officials cannot call upon students and teachers for purposes of investigation or disciplinary action.

He noted that CSCA will get continuous feedback with regards to the various concerns and activities of the PTAs and incorporate them in the drafting of policies.

“PTAs need not register with the Securities and Exchange Commission, but the school head need to recognize the PTA that will operate in the school,” added Pelaez.

A Division PTA Affairs Committee chaired by the Schools Division Superintendent will also be created to monitor activities of PTAs and compliance with reports and requirements.

Lapus directed CSCA to conduct information dissemination and monitor compliance of divisions and schools with new guidelines in the organization, activities, and policies of PTAs stated in DepEd Order No 54, series of 2009.

END

For inquiries, please contact the Office of the Undersecretary for Regional Operations at 633-7203 or the Center for Students and Co-Curricular Affairs at 631-8495 or 636-3603.

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