

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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More schools go hi-tech with help of DepEd savings

Savings posted from previous computerization programs of the Department of Education (DepEd) were used to buy computer laboratory packages that will benefit 200 more public schools – 100 elementary and 100 high schools - in sixteen regions.

The savings were derived from the department's efforts to come up with cost-effective technologies that were not covered by previous computerization programs of the government.

DepEd Secretary Jesli Lapus said that "DepEd's computerization program lays the foundation for our learners to be connected to the rest of the world, and endow them with skills required from a 21st century learner."

To further optimize the cost allotted for the project, a wireless connection will be utilized to eliminate the cost for manually networking the computers in a laboratory.

A computer laboratory package includes one personal computer as server, ten units of personal computer as workstations for students, eleven units of uninterruptible power supply, one wireless broadband router, and one color printer.

A lecture and hands-on training on basic software and hardware installation and troubleshooting will likewise be provided to teachers in every school.

The computers have been insured by the Government Service Insurance System against fires, typhoons, theft, and floods. These units are also covered by a three year-warranty and can be repaired on-site.

The Education Chief added that "with DepEd's diligent efforts to optimize the budget, more public schools will get computer laboratory packages with high-end specifications but at a low cost-per-unit."

Recipient public high schools underwent a validation process conducted by DepEd's Technical Service team, the implementing office of the department's computerization program, and the Bureaus of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Technical Service Director Mari Paul Soriano said that "this program is crucial to the Secretary's vision of providing education to all Filipinos anytime, anywhere. Under his watch, and through this program, all public high school students will learn the relevant skills that will put them at par with our ASEAN countries."

These 200 recipient schools have stable, continuous supply of electricity, and are assured of support from the local government. All have specialist-teachers who can devote their time to teaching Computer classes, English, Science, and Mathematics.

The DepEd Computerization Program is a component of DepEd's Information Communication Technology for Education or ICT4E.

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