



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

06 FEB 2018

DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **017** s. 2018

2018 NATIONAL OBSERVANCE OF AUTISM CONSCIOUSNESS WEEK

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. The 2018 National Autism Consciousness Week will be observed from January 14 to 20, 2018 for children and persons with autism with the theme From Awareness to Acceptance, Accommodation and Appreciation. This is pursuant to Presidential Proclamation No. 711 entitled Declaring the Third Week of January and Every Year Thereafter as National Autism Consciousness Week.
2. The observance aims to develop awareness on the problems of persons with autism and promote a supportive environment that will enable them to live with dignity, function independently, and contribute productively to society.
3. All public, private and Special Education (SPED) Centers and schools with SPED programs for children and persons with autism are encouraged to undertake the following suggested activities:
 - a. Increase public awareness of children and persons with autism on the Inclusive Program under the prescribed K to 12 Basic Education Curriculum;
 - b. Media announcements, guestings, and press releases;
 - c. Issuance and circulation of Memorandum;
 - d. Serve as a vehicle of information on the continuing development of programs implemented to realize the rights and fundamental freedom of children and persons with autism through partnerships between public and private sectors; and
 - e. Recitation of *Isang Pangako* pledge during the flag raising ceremony of all government and non-government agencies on Monday, **January 15, 2018** which is cited below.

Isang Pangako

*Ako ay nangangakong kikilos
para mahinto
ang maling paggamit
ng salitang autistic
bilang kutya o katatawanan.
Isusulong ko
ang tunay na pagtanggap
at pagkalinga
sa mga taong may kapansanan,
sa tulong ng Maykapal.*

4. Moreover, the regional, schools division and the schools/offices are enjoined to conduct other appropriate innovative and creative activities, which will not entail cost and will not disrupt classes.
5. Suggested activities shall be in accordance with DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005 entitled Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith.
6. For more details, contact the **Bureau of Learning Delivery-Student Inclusion Division (BLD-SID)**, Department of Education (DepEd) Central Office, Bonifacio Building, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City with telefax no. (02) 631-9993.
7. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.



LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary

Reference:

DepEd Memorandum No. 5, s. 2016

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

CELEBRATIONS AND FESTIVALS
HEALTH EDUCATION
LEARNERS
SCHOOLS
SPECIAL EDUCATION