



SEP 05 2008

DepED MEMORANDUM
No. **416**, s. 2008

NATIONWIDE SEARCH FOR THE BEST SCHOOL FOREST PARK

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public Secondary Schools

1. The Department of Education, in cooperation with the Luntiang Pilipinas Foundation, Inc., will conduct the "Nationwide Search for the Best School Forest Park", which will commence on October this year and will end one year thereafter.
2. The objectives of the activity are to:
 - a. promote environmental awareness and raise the level of consciousness of high school students on the importance of preserving and protecting the environment for the benefit of the future generations; and
 - b. enjoy their active participation in the implementation of the various DepED curricula that promote awareness and concern for the environment through tree-planting, tree-growing and tree-caring activities in their respective schools.
3. The Search is open to all public secondary schools in the country. The guidelines, timetable, mechanics of the contest, management of various levels and application forms are enclosed.
4. The Division and Regional Offices are required to organize a Selection Committee which must initially evaluate the application forms and its attachments. Thereafter, they must recommend and submit the same to the DepED Central Office Secretariat for acknowledgement, confirmation of entry and issuance of the monitoring sheet.
5. All Regional Directors, Schools Division/City Superintendents and School Heads/Principals are enjoined to actively support the Search.
6. For inquiries, please contact Ms. Lorena C. Sarmiento and/or Ms. Roxanna T. Ladlad, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Special Projects and

Legislative Liaison, DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City at tel. nos. (02) 633-1940 or (02) 633-7224.

7. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.



JESLI A. LAPUS
Secretary

Encls.:

As stated

Reference:

None

Allotment: 1- -(D.O. 50-97)

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

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
SCHOOLS
SEARCH
STUDENTS

Maricar/Dm-Search for Best School Forest Park
09-01-08

GUIDELINES FOR 2008 NATIONAL SEARCH FOR THE BEST SCHOOL FOREST PARK

I. Objectives

- a. To promote environmental awareness and raise the level of consciousness of Filipinos on the importance of preserving and protecting the environment for the benefit of the future generations; and,
- b. To enjoin the active participation of the youth in the implementation of practical programs that promote awareness and concern for the environment, through activities in their respective high schools

II. Proponents and Implementing Agencies

Luntiang Pilipinas is a nationwide tree-growing program that seeks to create Forest Parks in urban areas such as in national and local government establishments, school grounds, church yards and along roadsides. Establishing School Forest Parks is a vital component of this strategic approach towards bringing the concept of environmental protection and preservation closer to the youth. This component of the greening of the Philippines movement was launched at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) on the occasion of its centennial celebration on 29 January 2001 which was attended by its administration officials, faculty, students, and non-teaching personnel. This was done in partnership with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).

The Foundation has envisioned itself, and continues to serve, as a catalyst in protecting and preserving the environment through the:

- ⇒ Creation of an atmosphere for sustainable Green Philippines;
- ⇒ Effecting change in values and attitudes through environmental education, information, and communication (EIC).

The *Department of Education* is mandated to provide quality and modern education to our youth and children, in order to develop their skills and talents to enable them to contribute to the nation's development process. At a time when our nation faces the adverse effects of the irreversible decline of the state of environment, DepEd serves a vital role in educating our youth on environmental awareness and on pursuing practical solutions to our environmental problems.

III. Project Description

The *Nationwide Search for the Best School Forest Park* is a competition among all public high schools nationwide which shall be enjoined to establish their own forest parks in their respective campuses. It will commence on the month of October, this year and will end one year thereafter.

IV. Mechanics

Participation Form

1. All interested high schools shall send their accomplished Participation Form.
2. Participation Forms may be sent by fax, email or post to the DepEd Central Office Secretariat not later than November 28, 2008.
3. Participation Forms may be downloaded from the websites of Luntiang Pilipinas and the Department of Education.
4. Upon receipt of participation forms, DepEd Central Office Secretariat shall recommend to LP which, in turn, will send acknowledgement letters, together with the Monitoring Sheet, to the concerned high schools, through its principals, thus signifying their formal entry into the competition.

Onsite School Forest Park

1. Each high school will identify their target school forest park inside the school which shall be at least 50 square meters.
2. These high schools may undertake tree-planting activity to initially establish their school forest parks, where they can plant fruit-bearing trees, hard wood species, or any other appropriate species as determined by the respective Municipal Agriculture Resource Officer or Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer. Schools shall use seedlings which are at least 2.5 feet in height in their tree-planting activities.
3. Schools may opt to include the proper supervision, control and management of these forest parks in its curricula for all secondary levels, or leave it under the supervision of an environmental school organization it may establish, or already established, as the case may be.

4. The school shall maintain proper documentation in the form of photographs and or videos to be submitted periodically every four (4) months to the DepEd Central Office Secretariat.
5. Apart from the planting of trees, students are enjoined to use their creativity and originality in designing and maintaining these school forest parks.
6. LP and DepEd Central Office Secretariat shall meet to conduct periodic evaluation and quarterly monitoring after two weeks from receipt of all quarterly documentations by the abovementioned secretariat.

Remote School Forest Park

7. If the School, due to its limitation in campus size, is not able to designate a specific area for a School Forest Park, but would like to participate in the contest, the high school administration may instead choose an area within 100meters in the vicinity of its campus where it can establish and maintain its own forest park.
8. Prior to this, the high school must secure the appropriate permits or certification from its local government unit indicating permission to use the said parcel of land to serve as its off-campus forest park.
9. These high schools may undertake tree-planting activity to initially establish their campus forest parks, where they can plant fruit-bearing trees, hard wood species, or any other appropriate species as determined by the respective Municipal Agriculture Resource Officer or Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer. Schools may use seedlings which are at least 2.5 feet in height in their tree-planting activities.
10. Schools may opt to include the proper supervision, control and management of these school forest parks in its curricula for all secondary levels, or leave it under the supervision of an environmental school organization it may establish, or already establish, as the case may be.
11. The school shall maintain proper documentation in the form of photographs and or videos to be submitted quarterly to the DepEd Central Office Secretariat.

V. Timetable

	<i>Deadline</i>
1 st Quarter (October to December 2008)	not later than 15 January 2009
2 nd Quarter (January to March 2009)	not later than 15 April 2009
3 rd Quarter (April to June 2009)	not later than 15 July 2009
4 th Quarter (July to September 2009)	not later than 15 October 2009
5 th Quarter (October to December 2009)	not later than 15 January 2010

12. Apart from the planting of trees, students are enjoined to use their creativity and originality in designing and maintaining these school forest parks.

VI. Criteria for Judging

1. Sustainability	-	25 %
a. adaptability of trees	-	15 points
b. impact to the environment , school and community	-	10 points
2. Number of trees/seedlings planted based on size of site	-	25 %
3. Creativity and aesthete		30%
a. uniqueness of the site lay-out	-	10 points
b. economical and reasonable cost in the selection of seedlings	-	10 points
c. viability and practicability	-	10 points
4. Students', Parents' and Community Involvement/Participation Planning, Monitoring and Supervision/		20 %
a. activities conducted enjoining the students to participate in the contest	-	15 points
b. activities conducted enjoining the parents and the community to participate in the contest	-	5 points

Total		100%
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VII. Awarding

1. Selection shall follow a two-level process: Regional and National;
2. Only one school forest park, from among the local public high schools which participated in the contest shall be chosen to represent the Region and shall be adjudged as the Regional Winner or National Finalist for the Region;
3. The Regional Selection Committee shall be composed of the Regional Directors as Chairpersons and the representatives from Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Agriculture (DA), and Luntiang Pilipinas as members.
4. The Regional Winners or National Finalists shall, in turn, compete for the Grand Prize. All documents shall be forwarded to, received by, the DepEd Central Secretariat on or before the date of the Final Judgment of Entries which will be announced later in the contest but which must not be later than 15 January 2010 , after the launching of this Search.
5. The National Selection Committee shall be composed of the Secretaries of the Departments of Education, Environment and Natural Resources, Interior and Local Government, and Agriculture or their duly authorized representatives and the Executive Director of the Luntiang Pilipinas.
6. The National Selection Committee shall review al the documents of regional winners and conduct an ocular validation and inspection of the top five(5) winners in their respective areas.
7. The decision of the National Selection Committee shall be FINAL and IRREVOCABLE.

VIII. Prizes

Prizes will be provided by Sen. Loren B. Legarda

- a. Regional winners will win a computer laboratory (20 PC units)
- b. Grand winner will receive a Computer Laboratory plus School Building

VIII. Secretariat

1. Chairman, Department of Education
2. Co-Chairman, Luntiang Pilipinas Foundation
3. Members:
 - a. Office of the Assistant Secretary for Special Projects and Legislative Liaison
 - b. Representative of the Department of Agriculture
 - c. Representative of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
 - d. Bureau of Secondary Education



NATIONWIDE SEARCH FOR BEST SCHOOL FOREST PARK Participation Form

Name of Public Secondary School: _____

Address _____

Principal's Name: _____ Division: _____

Region _____

Contact Person: _____ Contact No/s.: _____

Proposed location of School Forest Park: ___ In School ___ Off School

Existing no. of trees, if any:

Species and height of existing trees, if
any: _____

Target No. of seedlings to be planted: _____

Proposed seedlings to be planted (type of seedlings): _____

Submit this duly accomplished form together with the following supporting documents:
_____ Lay-out _____ Location map _____ Photos

* **For Off-School Forest Park participants only**, the abovementioned requirements, plus the following:

___ Permit to Use Land Area from the owner, if privately owned, and from appropriate government agency if public land

___ Sketch indicating proximity of proposed site to the school campus



Intent to Participate

We hereby acknowledge our collective duty to promote environmental awareness among our young people and the urgent need to raise the level of consciousness of our students on the importance of preserving and protecting the environment for the benefit of the future generations. We therefore manifest our intention to participate in the **Nationwide Search for the Best School Forest Park** as our contribution towards this advocacy and, in doing so, we shall commit to comply with the guidelines, rules and regulations of the competition.

Date Accomplished

Signature over Printed Name of the Principal

Signature over Printed Name of Designated Contact Person

Noted by:

School Division Superintendent

Duly Verified By:

Signature over Printed Name of PENRO/MENRO

Address _____

Contact No. _____

Reminders:

1. Competition Guidelines and Participation Forms may be downloaded from www.deped.gov.ph and www.luntiangpilipinas.com.ph
2. Participation Forms may be sent by fax, email or post to the Dep-Ed Central Office Secretariat.
3. Deadline for submission of Participation Forms is on or before **Friday, November 28, 2008.**