DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. 003 s. 2020

EMERGENCY MEASURES IN RESPONSE TO THE ERUPTION OF TAAL VOLCANO

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

1. The ongoing effects of the eruption of Taal Volcano, which started on January 12, 2020, resulted in massive evacuation of the local population to nearby cities and municipalities.

2. In the face of emergencies, the Department of Education (DepEd) is committed to reach out to the learners wherever they may be and ensure that their education proceeds.

3. After consultation with key officials of the DepEd in the affected regions, particularly DepEd Region IV-A, the Emergency Measures in Response to the Eruption of Taal Volcano below are instituted to address the dislocation of basic education learners from their school of origin, the significant safety concerns in other affected areas, and other implications of the eruption of Taal Volcano on school operations.

   a. All public schools where displaced learners from Region IV-A will seek to be accommodated are directed to accept these emergency transferees even with the unavailability or insufficiency of the required transfer credentials.

   b. In order to track the emergency transferees, the receiving schools shall collect and record the relevant learner information, including the full name, age, address, and Learner Reference Number (LRN), if known, school of origin, receiving school, and such other information that will assist in easy record reconciliation.

   c. Schools division offices (SDOs) with knowledge of evacuation centers within their respective areas are instructed to deploy available teaching and nonteaching personnel to conduct inventory of school-age children and, in consultation with the learners and their guardians, facilitate their endorsement to receiving schools or the organization of other appropriate modes of instruction delivery.

   d. Receiving schools and/or schools divisions shall conduct needs assessment to enable them to meet the requirements of the emergency transferees, including additional learning materials, teachers, psychological intervention, temporary learning spaces, and other special needs, and prepare a corresponding budget estimate for the provision of such needs.
e. All receiving schools and/or schools divisions shall submit to their respective SDOs the collected learners’ data, budgetary and in-kind requirements, and reports on actions taken, for consolidation and submission to their respective regional offices (ROs), and subsequently to the Office of the Secretary for any needed appropriate action. The said reports may include information on DepEd teaching and nonteaching personnel directly affected by the eruption of Taal Volcano.

f. The affected schools and schools divisions shall facilitate and coordinate the updating of school records once school operations in the affected areas have normalized.

g. The Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), in coordination with the relevant ROs and SDOs, shall continue gathering field reports to determine all other relief and rehabilitation needs for endorsement to and action by the appropriate DepEd offices.

h. The External Partnerships Service (EPS) at the Central Office is directed to mobilize support from the private sector to augment the resources coming from DepEd through the applicable mechanisms under existing laws, rules and regulations.

i. The Curriculum and Instruction (CI) Strand is instructed to provide Alternative Delivery Mode (ADM) materials, and the Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS) to make available online the Open Education Resources (OER) to concerned teachers and employees, especially in evacuation centers. Both should include learning and teaching materials on Taal Volcano, volcanic eruptions, volcanic ash, and other related information making this incident a learning opportunity for learners and teachers.

4. The Office of the Secretary shall continue to monitor developments arising from the eruption of Taal Volcano, coordinate with the DepEd Region IV-A and DepEd field units, and undertake other actions and initiatives needed.

5. For more information, please contact the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service, Room 201, 2nd Floor, Mabini Building, Department of Education Central Office, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City through email at drrmo@deped.gov.ph or at telephone nos. (02) 8635-3764 and (02) 8636-4997.

6. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary

Reference: None

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects

| CALAMITY | OFFICIALS | TEACHERS |
| LEARNERS | SCHOOLS   | TRANSFER |

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