



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

11 FEB 2020

DepEd MEMORANDUM

No. **019**, s. 2020

AMENDMENT TO DEPED MEMORANDUM NO. 011, S. 2020

(Creation of a Task Force for the Management of Department of Education
Response to Novel Coronavirus Acute Respiratory Disease)

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

1. The Department of Education (DepEd) issues this amendment to DepEd Memorandum (DM) No. 011, s. 2020 to ensure streamlined response to the public health situation brought about by the global spread of the Novel Coronavirus Acute Respiratory Disease (2019-nCoV ARD).

2. The Policy Group of the DepEd Task Force nCoV is dissolved so that the Quick Response and Recovery Team (QRRT)-nCoV could take the lead in responding to the 2019-nCoV situation in DepEd, subject to the control and supervision of the Secretary.

3. Based on the foregoing, the composition of the **DepEd Task Force nCoV** is amended as follows:

Chairperson : **Undersecretary for Administration**
Vice Chairperson: **Assistant Secretary for Administration and Procurement**
Members : **Quick Response and Recovery Team members** (per DepEd Order No. 44, s. 2018) *with School Health Division as lead*

4. The functions of the Task Force as provided under item no. 4 of DM No. 011, s. 2020 is amended as follows:

- a. Cooperate with the Department of Health (DOH) and the *Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases in the Philippines* on overall Philippine government efforts on addressing the nCoV ARD;
- b. Coordinate with the DOH for the implementation of its guidelines in response to the situation, including any decision for school/office lockdown or suspension of classes/work in specific localities should a need arise;
- c. Monitor the situation in the Central Office, field offices, and schools and regularly meet for assessment and adjustments of existing policy issuances;
- d. Promulgate policy directives, subject to the review and/or approval of the Secretary, which may contain standard protocols in response to the nCoV ARD in DepEd offices and schools, as well as in activities organized, or participated in, by the Department, which may include travel restrictions if necessary;
- e. Set up a communication protocol and identify an official portal/platform for prompt dissemination of, and quick access to, relevant official information;

- f. Adopt information dissemination strategies and launch awareness campaigns on nCoV ARD and its prevention, control, and management to promote positive health behaviors, and address public fear and anxiety;
- g. Network and coordinate with other offices within DepEd, with relevant government agencies and organizations, and with local government units on resource generation, mobilization for public awareness campaigns, technical assistance, referral and treatment, and other needed support;
- h. Provide regular status updates and situation reports in the monitoring of the 2019-nCoV ARD in offices and schools; and
- i. Perform such other functions and activities as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Memorandum, or as the Secretary may direct.

5. The School Health Division, Bureau of Learner Support Services shall remain as the Secretariat of the Task Force.

6. Provisions in DM No. 011, s. 2020 inconsistent with this Memorandum are repealed, rescinded, or modified accordingly.

7. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.



LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary

Encl: N o n e

Reference: DepEd Memorandum (No. 011, s. 2020)
DepEd Order (No. 44, 2. 2018)

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